examination in like manner of any witness or witnesses may be comfor either party, shall appear to the said Court to have mitted. acted fraudulently, either in the manner of contracting the engagement upon which the recovery shall have been 5 had or in evading the satisfaction thereof, or if in causes arising ex delicto, the defendant shall neglect to pay the damages and costs recovered in any such action; or if such defendant or defendants shall refuse to make a full discovery of all his or their lands, tenements, goods, 10 chattels, credits and other effects, (and to assign to the plaintiff or plaintiffs, the whole or such part thereof as the said Court shall direct, in or towards the satisfaction of the judgment obtained in the said suit), then, and in either of the said cases, it shall and may be lawful for the said 15 Court to commit such defendant or defendants to the Common Gaol of any County until he or they shall comply with the order of the said Court, or finally for such period, not exceeding one year, as the said Court shall think reasonable in punishment of the fraudulent conduct 20 of which they shall adjudge such defendant or defendants to have been guilty, or in punishment of the cost for which damages shall have been awarded if they shall deem it proper so to do: Provided always, that such commitment Proviso. shall not operate as a discharge of the said judgment, 25 but the same shall continue in force in like manner as if the defendant or defendants had not been committed: And provided also, that it shall and may be lawful for the Court wherein any such recognizance of bail shall have Proviso. been entered in term time, or for a Judge thereof in 30 vacation, after any defendant or defendants shall have submitted to any such examination as aforesaid, or in case no such examination shall be had, within three months after judgment shall have been signed in any such cause, when defendant shall be in custody for want of bail, then 35 upon hearing the parties, to order in their discretion an exoneratur to be entered upon such bail-piece and that the defendant shall thenceforth be discharged from custody and all future imprisonment on such judgment.

V. And be it enacted, That should any person have Persons im-40 been or hereafter be committed to prison upon any prisoned for contempt in attachment or other process issued by any Court of Law not paying or Equity, for a contempt or otherwise in not paying costs, acc., may be exor any other sum of money directed or decreed to be paid amined. by such Courts respectively, it shall and may be lawful 45 for such person to give notice to the party at whose instance such attachment or other process shall have issued, that application for his discharge will be made to the Court or a Judge thereof, whence such attachment or other process shall have issued, whereupon it shall be 50 lawful for the party at whose instance he shall have been committed as aforesaid, within ten days after the service of such notice, to examine such defendant or any witness vivà voce, or to exhibit interrogatories to such person so