

6. The registrar shall have the care and custody of all papers and books; and in case of the death, sickness, or continued absence of the registrar, the judge may appoint and swear into office, some fit person to officiate in his stead, until the standing registrar shall be able to resume his duty, or until a new one be duly appointed.

7. The registrar shall number estates consecutively, 1, 2, 3, &c., and shall keep a book of acts containing a short abstract of the proceedings of the court, and a book of decrees properly indexed. He shall provide a seal for the court, having engraved thereon the name of the county and the words "In bankruptcy." Decrees shall be filed and registered. Oaths administered to assignees on entering office, shall be subscribed in writing.

8. All persons of full age and capable by law of making contracts, may be made or become bankrupts, but no person shall become or be liable to be made bankrupt, unless it appear, under oath, that his debts exceed £200. Nor shall any person be compelled to become bankrupt for anything done 60 days previously to petition filed in that behalf.

9. If any person liable to become bankrupt, shall abscond, absent himself from, or conceal himself within the province, shall remain abroad, suffer himself to be arrested for any debt not due, procure himself to be arrested, or his real estate or goods to be attached or levied upon, or make any fraudulent conveyance of his real estate or goods, with intent to defeat or delay his creditors; shall lie in prison or remain on jail limits for debt 21 days; or being in prison, or on such limits for debt, shall remain there 21 days after detainer lodged against him, or shall procure a summons to issue upon a petition praying for relief as an insolvent debtor, he shall be deemed to have committed an act of bankruptcy.

10. Preferential assignments, voluntary gifts, confessions of judgment, warrants to confess judgment, and all kinds of securities, given with intent to prefer creditors, by persons whose estates are insolvent, or given in contemplation of insolvency or bankruptcy, shall be deemed and held acts of bankruptcy, and shall, in proceedings under this act, be held void as against creditors.

11. A bona fide conveyance in writing, of any person's real estate and goods to trustees, for the benefit of creditors, without preference, shall not be deemed an act of bankruptcy, if such writing be at the same time signed by such trustees, witnessed by an attorney at law or a justice of the peace, and public notice