

confined to such goods or effects as are exposed to view, or can be come at.

They are indeed called Agents, and are named by the parties, but they are certainly very different from the persons usually understood under that denomination. They are in reality appointed by the Prize Act for certain special purposes. They are rather officers of the Court than agents of the parties. To the Court of Admiralty they give security, and that not a security in each particular case, but a general security for the due performance of their general duties. They are under the controul and direction of the Court as of its proper authority, independent of any act, or motion of the Captors. The parties have no controul over the property in their hands, they cannot take it out, or direct the disposal of it, but according to the restrictions of the Act. Nor can they give any authority to him to retain it in his hands, after the expiration of the time limited. And they are not Agents for the Captors only, but for all other persons interested—they are Agents as well for Greenwich Hospital as for the Sailors.

3. I think there is some weight likewise in the observation made by the Solicitor General, that a sailor, coming here, for a short time, in His Majesty's Service, can scarcely be the person intended by the Act, under the description of an *absent or absconding debtor*—To be absent, or to abscond, implies a previous residence, and how can a person be considered as a resident who accidentally visits this harbour in one of His Majesty's Ships, and has nothing like a domicile within the Province?

In the cases of *Sill v. Boswick*, and *Hunter v.*

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