

the same be done at least *Seven Days* before the Sitting of the *Court*, and the said *Court* is hereby impowered to proceed on Issue joined to inquire into the Merits of both Accounts, before one and the same Jury, and on the Verdict of the Jury to award Costs as they shall find, whether for the Plaintiff or Defendant. And where the Action shall be commenced on any *Bond, Bill, Note or Agreement in Writing*, the Defendant may in like Manner file his Receipt or Discharge for part or the Whole, according as he hath made Payment. *Provided*, such *Receipt or Discharge* be in Writing, signed by the Plaintiff or his Attorney, lawfully impowered to receive the same, and the Court is hereby impowered to proceed to examine in to the Merits of the same, in the same manner as in Book Accounts, between the Plaintiff and Defendant, and Equitably to reduce all such Bonds, Notes, Bills, and Writings Obligatory to the just Debt with Interest, Damages and Cost, according to the Nature of such Writing, Deed or Instrument, and the Jury are hereby impowered to give their Verdict accordingly.

And be it further enacted, That this Act shall Continue and be in Force for the Term of *Two Years* from the publication hereof, and until the End of the Session of the *General-Assembly*, then next following.

Publish'd According to Law, the 5th Day of July 1766.



An Act Concerning Bail.

Be it enacted, by the Commander in Chief, the Council and Assembly, That in all Causes wherein a Creditor shall not proceed by Attachment, but by Arrest of the Body of the Debtor, the Debtor or his Attorney may file Common Bail for the appearance