

1699

BILL.

An Act to exempt the Tools or Implements of any Householder's Trade or Calling, and the Wearing Apparel, the Bedding, and other Furniture necessary for the use of his Family, from seizure and sale under Execution for Debt; and to prevent the property thus exempted from being pledged or sold in liquidation of Debts contracted for Intoxicating Drinks.

WHEREAS intemperance, fraud, theft, and other degrading crimes and vices, oftentimes have their origin in that extreme poverty or destitution, which shuts out hope, begets despair, breaks up families, and increases pauperism; and it is the duty of a wise and paternal Government, while equitably and impartially enforcing the obligation of contracts, to keep ever in view that a want of sympathy with the people weakens any State in its hour of danger: And whereas the limit beyond which it is oppressive, unjust, and at variance with all sound policy to permit the decree of the Judge to be enforced against the personal property and effects of the debtor, is that which leaves in possession of the family such necessary wearing apparel, food, fuel, furniture, bedding, and tools or implements of a trade or calling, the want of which would probably reduce the household to want and misery: And whereas in cases where either the husband or the wife becomes habitually intemperate, it is manifestly unjust to permit all the furniture and effects of the family to be sold for debt, thus increasing the difficulties of the innocent party, and violating the Christian rule to do as one would be done by: And whereas life and property become insecure, and the pillars upon which civilization and order rest are weakened, when a portion of the people become impoverished, demoralized and discontented, while looking for aid or forbearance in their day of adversity: Be it therefore enacted, &c.,

That the fourth chapter of the Acts passed by the Legislature of the late Province of Upper Canada, in the 11th year of the reign of King George IV., March 6, 1830, being "An Act for the relief of Indigent Debtors," shall be and is hereby repealed.

Act of U. C.
11 G. 4, c.
4 repealed.