ACTS

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

O F

His MAJESTY'S PROVINCE

O F

NEW-BRUNSWICK,

PASSED IN THE YEAR 1795.



FREDERICTON:

Printed by CHRISTOPHER SOWER, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty. 1795.

Olee. Aug. 14., 1906.

Georgii III. Regis

Magnæ Britanniæ, Franciæ & Hiberniæ,

TRICESIMO QUINTO.

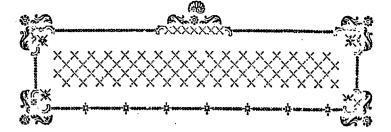
Province of NEW-BRUNSWICK, begun and holden at FREDERICTON on the TWELFTH day of FEBRUARY, Anno Dominio 1793, in the THIRTY-THIRD Year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the THIRD by the Grace of GOD, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, KING, Defender of the Faith, &c.

And from thence continued by several prorogations, to TUESDAY the THIRD day of February 1795; being the THIRD Session of the SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY convened in the said Province:



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ANNO TRICESIMO QUINTO.

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. I.

An ACT for the more EASY and SPEEDY RECOVERY of SMALL DEBTS.



E IT ENACTED, ly the Lieuten- Adlersoften, ant Governor, Council and Assembly, That from and after the passing of this act, all actions of debt, detinue, account, covenant, trespass, and trespass on the case, wherein the and fum due, or thing demanded shall not ex-

ceed the value of three pounds, shall be and hereby are made cognizable before any Justice of the Peace of any county in this province; and every such Justice shall be and hereby is respect- who is impresively authorised and impowered to hear, try and determine all mitche ince fuch causes and actions according to law and equity; and shall and may hold a Court for the tryal thereof, and is hereby vefted with all fach power and authority for the purpose aforefaid time rough as as is usual in Courts of Record in this province, and shall fign could be all processes to be issued out of such Court; and surther that issued to be issued out of such Court; and surther that issued to be issued out of such Court; and surther that issued to be iss

mons or Warrant to the Conflable of the varish where the Defendant dwells,

commanding him (if a Summons) to fum-mon the Defendant to appear at a time nor lefs than ten days from iffuing the fame-(and if a Warrant) to take and bring the Defendant . forthwith before fuch Juffice-

Upon return of the Summons, if duly ferred, or bringing the Defendant before the Justice by Warrantthe Justice to proceed to hear the cause-and give Judgment in four days thereafter.

Firft process against Freeholders to be by Summons which shall be ferved ten days before the return.

Conflable ferving fuch Summons to indorfe thereon the time and manner of fervice. If the Defendant does not appear at the time and place ap-pointed, and it shall appear that the Summons was duly ferved, the Justice to proceed to try the cause in the faine manner as if he had apwas ferved by Leaving a copy

every fuch Justice of the Peace, upon application to him made for the recovery of any fuch debt, damages or demands, shall issue a Summons or Warrant as the case may require, directed to the Constable or other proper officer of the town or parish where the Defendant dwells or can be found, commanding him, when a Summons is issued, to summon the Defendant to appear before such Justice at a certain time and place in the same Summons to be expressed, not less than ten days from the time of iffuing fuch Summons, to answer the Plaintiff of the plea in the same Summons to be mentioned; and when a Warrant is iffued then commanding the Constable or other officer to take the Defendant and bring him or her forthwith before such Iustice to answer the Plaintiff of the plea in the same Warrant to be mentioned; and upon the return of fuch Summons if the fame be duly ferved, or upon bringing the Defendant before fuch Justice by virtue of any such Warrant, the same Justice shall proceed to hear and determine the allegations and proofs of the parties, Plaintiff and Defendant, and within four days thereafter give judgment thereon in fuch manner as shall appear to him to be agreeable to law and equity, together with costs of suit as hereafter allowed.

II. And be it further enacted, That the first process against all Freeholders and Inhabitants having families (except as hereafter is excepted) shall be by Summons, which shall be served at least ten days before the time of appearance mentioned therein, by reading the fame Summons to the Defendant and delivering to him or her a copy thereof when required, if he or she shall be found, and if not by leaving a copy thereof at his or her house or place of abode, in the presence of some one of the family of fuitable age and discretion, who shall be informed of the contents thereof; and the Constable or officer serving fuch Summons, shall upon the oath of his office, indorse thereupon the time and manner he executed the same, and sign his And in case the Defendant does not appear at name thereto. the time and place appointed in fuch Summons, and it shall appear, by the return indorfed thereon, that the Summons was duly served upon the person of the Desendant in the manner aforesaid, and no sufficient reason shall appear to the Justice why the Defendant does not appear at the time appointed, then the faid Justice who issued the said Summons shall proceed to hear, try and determine the cause in the same manner as if the Defendant had appeared; but if such Summons was served peared.
If the Summons only by leaving a copy thereof at the house or place of abode of the Defendant as aforesaid, and the Defendant does not

appear

appear at the time and place appointed in fuch Summons, and at the Defendno sufficient reason shall appear to the Justice why the De-bode, and he fendant does not appear, then the faid Justice shall iffice a at the sime arwarrant against such Defendant in the manner asoresaid, and reason beassignproceed as above directed, unless the Plaintiff shall elect to editerefor then have a new Summons against such Desendant. And in all iffue a Warrant, cases where sufficient reason shall appear to the Justice why where sufficient reason shall appear the Defendant does not appear at the time and place appointed pear for the Defendants not appear in the Summons, the Justice shall give the Defendant such jearing, the further time as he shall think reasonable, and at such time as suther time. fo given, the Justice shall and may proceed as aforesaid.

ant's place of athe Juffice to Where fufficient

III. PROVIDED ALWAYS, and be it further enacted, That in all cases where a Warrant shall be issued by first and upon virtue of this act, and upon service therof the Justice who issued the same shall be absent or unable to hear and try the cause, it shall and may be lawful for the Constable or other officer the coufe the ferving fuch Warrant, to carry the Defendant before the next the the De-Justice of the county where the Justice who issued the Warrant shall reside, and such other Justice shall take cognizance who shall try of, and hear, try and determine the cause in the same manner ashe could or might have done, if he had iffued the Warrant by virtue of which the Defendant shall be taken; but in all other In all other cases where any process shall be issued in pursuance of this act to be tryed beand served on the Defendant for any debt or demand of what iffuing the pronature foever, the cause shall be tried before the Justice who cess. The Defendant first issued such process and not before any other Justice; and having any dethe Defendant if he or the has any account or demand against Plantiff nay the Plaintiff in such action shall and may plead and set off the plead and fet off the the fame. fame against the debt or demand of the Plaintiff.

When a Warrant Stall beilfervice the Juitfame be abient or unable to try Confiable to fendant before the next Justice the caule.

cafes the cause.

IV. And be it further enasted, That if any Plaintiff or his or Plaintiff provher Attorney to applying for process shall prove upon oath, to that if process the fatisfaction of the Justice, that if such process be by Sum- he will be in mons against any such Freeholder or Inhabitant having a family, his demandthe Plaintiff will be in danger of losing his debt or demand thereby, then the Justice shall issue a Warrant in such manner as is not above directed.

ing upon oath be by fummons

V. And be it further enacted, That where the parties shall Parties may 2agree to enter an action before any Justice, without any process, action without the Justice shall proceed to trial in the same manner as if a process. Summons or Warrant had iffued.

VI. And be it further enacted, That, in all cases where a when a War-Warrant shall be issued, if the Plaintiff or Defendant shall require fued, if either

party require Ionger time for tryal and give fecurity for his appearance, the Justice may, שפשה בשנים Lewn on affidavit, adjourn the tryal.
If the Plaintiff be a non-refident, and give fecurity to pay fuch fum 25 may be awarded he may have a Warrant. If an zijournment be made without the Plaintiff's confent, the Defendant to give fecurity for his appearance and in default to pay the debt and colls.

a longer time then is first appointed by the Court to try the faid cause, and will, if required, give sufficient security to appear and fland trial on fuch other day as shall be appointed, then the Justice is hereby impowered, upon sufficient cause shewn on affidavit, to adjourn the trial of fuch cause to any day he Shall judge most convenient. PROVIDED ALWAYS. That where the Plaintiff, in any cause or action to be brought by virtue of this act, shall be a Non-resident of the county, and shall give fecurity to pay such sum as shall be awarded in case judgment shall be given against him, that then he may have a Warrant returnable immediately. And if any adjournment be made without the confent of the Plaintiff, then the Defendant shall give sufficient security for his or her personal appearance on the day to which such adjournment shall be made, and in default of fuch appearance to pay the debt and costs if judgment shall be given, against him or her; and in default of giving fuch security the Justice shall proceed to trial without an adjournment.

Lither of the parties to a fuit atter iffue joined and he ore tryal may demand a Ju:y-

Venue.

Confiable to return a panel of the Jury-

Jurora not appracing or not being approved, Conflable to return others in their flead-

VII. And beit further enacted, That in every action that shall hereafter be brought by virtue of this act, it shall and may be lawful for either of the parties to the fuit, or the Attorney of either of them, after issue joined (and before the Court shall proceed to enquire into the merits of the cause) to demand of and the Justice, the faid Court that such action be tried by a Jury; and upon upon such demand, to iffue a fuch demand the faid Justice holding such Court is hereby required to iffue a Venire directed to any Conftable or other proper officer of the town or parith where the faid cause is to be tried. commanding him to fummon three good and lawful men being Freeholders of fuch town or parith where the faid cause is to be tried, and who shall be in no wife of kin to the Plaintiff or Defendant nor interested in such suit, to be and appear before fuch Justice issuing such Venire, at such time and place as shall be expressed in such Venire to make a Jury for trial of the action between the parties mentioned in the faid Venire; which Constable or officer shall, at the return of the faid Venire, return a panel of the names of the Jurors he shall so summon by virtue thereof, and the faid perfons appearing, and approved by the Court, as indifferent, shall be the Jury who shall try the cause-PROVIDED ALWAYS, That where any of the persons returned in said panel do not appear, or appearing are not approved of as indifferent by the Court, that in such case the said Constable or other proper officer shall be directed by the faid Justice holding such Court immediately to summon and make a return of the name or names of some other person

person or persons duly qualified as aforesaid, who appearing and being approved of as aforesaid, shall, together, with the persons first summoned, appearing and approved as aforesaid, be the Jury to try the cause, to each of whom the faid Justice shall administer the following oath, viz. "You Juro" a oath, " do fwear that You will well and truly try the matter in differ-

" ence between Plaintiff and

" Defendant, and a true verdict will give according to the evi-" dence. So help you GOD."—And after the faid fury have taken the oath aforesaid they shall sit together and hear the several proofs and allegations of the parties, which shall be delivered in public in their presence; and to each of the witnesses on the faid trial the faid Justice shall administer the following oath, viz. " You do fuear that the evidence You shall give in this Wincelles outh.

" matter in difference between Plaintiff and " Defendant shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but " the truth. So help You GOD "-And after hearing the After tryal the proofs and allegations the Jury shall be kept together in some together until convenient place until they all agree upon a verdict; and for thy same upon which purpose a Constable shall be sworn, and to whom the Constant to atfaid Justice shall administer the following oath, viz. "You bis oath.

" do fwear that You will, to the utmost of Your ability, keep " every person sworn on this Inquest together in some private and " convenient place without meet or drink, You will, not suffer

" any person to speak to them, nor speak to them yourself unless " by order of the Justice, unless it be to ask them whether they

" have agreed on their verdict, until they have agreed on their " verdict. So belp You GOD."-And when the Jurors have Tary to deliver agreed on their verdict they shall deliver the same to the Justice, the justice in in the fame Court, who is hereby required to give judgment count. thereupon, and to award execution in the manner herein after

agree to allow of fuch evidence.

directed .- PROVIDED ALWAYS, That no eath of No cath of the either party, or ex-parte affidavit of any other person shall be alje te afhänig lowed or given in evidence in any fuch action unless the parties to bear was, unicls by canlent.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That every person impanel- Every surror led as a Juror, or subprena'd as a witness, who shall not appear really gorden to large or appearing shall refuse to serve, or to give evidence in any take, to have, fuch action, shall forfeit and pay for every such default or re- triorenation fufal (unless some reasonable cause be proved on oath to the ten faitings) fatisfaction of the faid Court) fuch fine or fines, not exceeding the fum of ten thillings, as the faid Court shall think reasonable to impose; and the said Court is hereby authorised and required to be leveled ty to issue a Warrant, to any Constable or other proper officer, warrant, to any constable or other proper officer,

tles of the offender; and for want thereof the offender to be committed to

to levy the same on the goods and chattels of the offender, and for want thereof, to take and convey him or her to the Gaol of the county wherein the offence shall have been committed. there to remain until he or she pay such fine, together with the costs attending the same; and the Keeper of such Gaol is hereby commanded to keep such offender in safe custody in such Gaol until such fine together with the costs shall be paid— PROVIDED ALWAYS, That no fuch fine or fines. faall be imposed unless oath shall first have been made before the Court, by some credible person, that such Juror or Witness, fo in default, hath been lawfully fummoned or subpæna'd as a-Fines to be paid forefaid: All and every of which faid fines, when recovered, shall be delivered by the faid Court to the Overseers of the Poor of the town or parish where the same shall be levied.

No fine to be impofed unleis eath be made that the de . faulter has been fummorej.

to the Overfrers of the Poor-

If the Constable do not levy execution in this. ty days, and in ma days thereafter pay the debt and coffs,

er if he do not take the body, in cale no goods er chattels be found, within thisy crys—

Such Confable thall be iiab.e for the amount of the execution.

This act not to extend to actions, in which the title of lands shall come in question, or of affault, or flander.

In actions of trespass wherein the Defendant shall p'ead title, fuch plea to be committed to writing and delivered to the Plaintiff, who may profecute for such trespals in any Court . having cogai-Zance thereof-

IX. And be it further enacted, That in case any Constable. or other proper officer, to whom any execution shall be delivered, shall not, within thirty days after receiving such execution, levy the same on the goods and chattels of the person as gainst whom such execution shall be granted, and in ten days thereafter pay the debt and costs so levied into the hands of the Inflice who issued the same, or in case of his death or removal from office, to the person in whose favor the execution was granted; or if no goods nor chattels can be found whereon to levy, then if the faid Constable or other officer shall not take the body of the person again? whom such execution was granted, if to be found, within thirty days from the receipt of such execution aforesaid, then, and in every such case, the said Constable or other officer shall be holden to pay the amount of such execution, to be recovered by an action of debt with costs by the person in whose favor such execution was granted in which case execution shall issue forthwith—PROVIDED AL-WAYS, That neither this act nor any thing herein contained shall be deemed or construed to extend to any action wherein the title of any lands shall in any wife come in question, or to any action of affault and battery, or of flander.

X. And be it further enacted, That when in any action of trefpass to be brought by virtue of this act, the Defendant or Defendants shall justify on a plea of title, the Defendant or Defendants shall commit such plea of justification to writing, and having figned the fame in the presence of such Justice, shall deliver such plea to the Justice, who shall then counterfign the fame and deliver it to the Plaintiff; and that it shall and may be lawful to and for fuch Plaintiff or Plaintiffs to commence and profecute an action for fuch trespass against any

fuch Defendant or Defendants in any Court having cognizance of the same; and if such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall recover any and if he recodamages in such action, the Defendant or Defendants shall be Defendant to liable to pay to fuch Plaintiff or Plaintiffs double costs; and on every fuch trial to be had for fuch trespass, the plea signed by fuch Defendant or Defendants shall be conclusive evidence that the Defendant or Defendants relied on his, her or their title to justify such trespass; and that every Justice to whom a plea The Justice, beof justification shall be tendered, shall, before he shall receive such plea, exact from the Defendant or Defendants, together with one sufficient surety, a Recognizance in the sum of twenty pounds, conditioned that if such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall commence a suit, before the next Court having cognizance thereof, for the recovery of such damages for such trespass, fuch Defendant or Defendants shall appear and put in Special Bail in such Court within twenty days after the first day of the then next term of the faid Court; and that in every case, in and in case of which such plea shall be tendered and the Defendant or Defendants shall not forthwith enter such Recognizance, the Just- wire. ice shall proceed in the same manner as if such plea had not been tendered.

ver damages the pay dississiffs

fore plea is received, to exact with ferety in

XI. And be it further enacted, That where, in any town or Where no conparish, no Constable or other proper officer shall be chosen or appointed he be appointed, or the Constable or other proper officer be absent, abient, or where or where a process shall be issued against such Constable or against him the other proper officer of any town or parish, that, then and in next parish to fuch cases, the Justice, upon application made, shall and famemay direct the process or execution to the Constable or other proper officer of the next adjoining town or parish living nearest where the Defendant dwells or can be found who is hereby required to execute the same.

fiable mall be

XII. And be it further enacted, That when any process The confiable shall be issued by any Justice, by virtue of this act, the Con- cess in person, cess in person stable of the town or parish to whom such process shall be directed, shall proceed agreeable to this act and execute such procefs, in his own proper person, unless the Justice who issued fuch process shall (at the request of the Plaintiff) judge it expedient to depute fome other proper person who will voluntarily undertake to execute the same without see or reward; but no perfon shall be so deputed to impanel or summon a Jury.

ice, at the Plaintiff's requeft, depute tome other per-

but no perfon te be deputed to impanel a Jury.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That no greater or other costs

faftice's fees.

Witneffes fees. Conftables fees.

cofts shall be allowed: taxed, or taken in actions brought by virtue of this act then the following: Justice's fees.—A summons four pence: Warrant and Affidavit nine pence: Judgment nine pence; Subpæna for each witness four pence; Venire Facias to fummon a Jury nine pence; Execution fix pence: every subpæna'd witness attending and sworn one skilling: Constable or other proper officer for ferving a Warrant or Summons, norifying the Plaintiff to trial, or ferving an execution, mileage for one mile or under one skilling, for every mile more three pence-PROVIDED. That on all precepts, to be iffued by virtue of this act, the fees for ferving be computed only from the place of abode of the Defendant, or where he shall be found, to the place where the precept is returnable; ferving every Execution for every pound fix pence; fummoning every Jury one shilling: Juror's fees-For all causes tried one shilling per man; when fummoned and attending and not trying the cause six pence per man; to the Constable or other person serving a Subpoena fix pence for a mile or less, and three pence for every other mile for each witness.

furor's fees.

Fees for ferving Subperna.

No judgment to be removed by writ of Error, nor Certionari allowed unlefs the party applying therefor do, within thirty days after judgment, make affidavit of reasonable cause to remove such judgments.

Affidavit may be made before a Judge of the Supreme Court or a Commissioner for taking Affidavits.

No execution epen judgment to be flayed by certiorari, if the party, obtaining fuch judgment, give fecurity to reflore the debt &c. in cafe the fame betweefed.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That no judgment, order or proceeding whatfoever to be had or made by virtue of this act, shall be removed by any Writ of Error or False Judgment: and further that no Justice of the Supreme Court shall grant or allow any Certiorari or other process to remove any Judgment order, or proceeding whatfoever, to be had by virtue of this act unless the party, applying for such Certiorari, shall within thirty days after such judgment given, make affidavit satisfying fuch Justice of the Supreme Court that there is reasonable cause for granting such Certificati to remove such judgment. either for error therein or for some unfair practice of the Justice who shall have tried the cause, which shall be particularly specified in the faid affidavit, and which affidavit may be made before one of the Justices of the Supreme Court, or before one of the Commissioners for taking affidavits to be read in the Supreme Court, and such affidavit shall be left with the Justice of the Supreme Court who may allow such Certifrari, in order that the adverse party may obtain a copy thereof: And if any Certiorari or other Writ shall de granted or issued otherwise than is above mentioned the same shall be void and of none effect. And further that no execution upon any judgment to be given by virtue of this act shall be prevented or stayed, by any Certiorari or other writ, in case the party in whose favor such judgment shall be given shall give such security as may be satisfactory to the Justice by whom such Judgment thall be given,

be given to restore the debt or damages, for which such judgment shall be obtained with the interest and costs, in case such judgment shall be reversed; and if any judgment to be given by virtue of this act shall be removed into the Supreme Court, by Certiorari or otherwise, and be there confirmed, then the party procuring such Certiorari shall pay to the adverse party all costs of defending such suit in the Supreme Court to be taxed, and the party intitled to such costs shall and may have execution for the fame, out of the faid Supreme Court, against the body or goods and chattels of the party who ought to pay the same; but if such judgment shall be reversed then the party procuring fuch Certiorari shall in like manner recover his or her costs to be taxed and recovered as aforefaid.

If any judgment be removed by cciticiari into the Surreme Court, and there continued, the party procuring the certiciari to pay ali cofis ;

but if the judgment be severted the party procuring the certiorari to reco. z cofts.

XV. And be it further enacted, That in all causes to be If the Defendbrought in pursuance of this act, if the Defendant or Defend- refuse or neglect ants in such suit or action shall neglect or resuse to plead and give in evidence, his, her or their account or demand if any he. the or they have against such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, then the Defendant or Defendants to neglecting or refuting to plead and give in evidence his, her or their accounts or demands as aforefaid, shall for ever thereafter be precluded from having or maintaining any action or actions against such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs for the recovery of such account or demand or any part PROVIDED ALWAYS, That where the ballance found to be due to the Defendant exceeds the fum of three pounds, the Defendant shall not be precluded or barred from recovering his account or demand against such Plaintiff in any other Court of Record having cognizance of the fame.

ant in ang fuit to plead and give in evidence his account or frail be rieclud. ed from main-taining an action against the' Plaintist for the

Where the ballance found to be que to the Defendant excceds 31. he may bring in action to the ser the fame in any other Court --

In case the Defentant fhall make oath that he cannot pro-Cirato tila for dence, the Juftice to politions the trial.

Delendant gire ment be given

XVI. And be it further enacted, That in case the Defendant shall make oath that he or she cannot, for want of some material evidence or witness, safely proceed to trial, the Justice shall in such case postpone the trial for such reasonable time as want of eviwill enable the Defendant to procure such evidence or witness. PROVIDED, such time shall not exceed three months. And PROVIDED ALSO, That fuch Defendant or De- Provided the fendants before he, she or they shall be intitled to have the tri- feculty to apal postponed as aforcsaid, shall give security to the said Justice pear and pay the damages and to appear and answer the said action, and to pay the debt and costs is judgedamages and costs in case judgment shall be given against him, against him. her, or them-PROVIDED ALSO, That in any fuit Either party reor action to be brought by virtue of this act, if either the questions an ad-Plaintiff or Defendant shall request an adjournment, he shall not be institled thereto unless not be intitled thereunto, unless the party requesting such ad- (having seen

journment

the demand of the adverse party) he exhibit his demand or state the nature thereof.

journment (after having feen the account or demand of the adverse party) shall, if required, exhibit his or her account or demand, or state the nature thereof as far forth as may be in his or her power to the satisfaction of the Justice before whom the cause is to be tried, any thing in this act to the contrary notwithstanding.

No.perion to be allowed to plead or counsel in any action to which he is nota party, uniels he shall swear. that he has not taken any fee for the fame-

XVII. And be it further enacted, That no person whatsoever shall be permitted by any Justice to prosecute, defend, plead, or counsel in any suit or action, to be tried by virtue of this act, to which such person is not a party, unless such perfon fo offering or appearing to profecute, defend, plead, or give counsel as aforefaid shall previously swear before such Justice that he has not received or taken any fee or reward for the fame, either directly or indirectly, nor any other person to or for his use, and that he will not, directly or indirectly, receive or take any fee or reward for the same, either by himself, or by any other person to or for his use.

The jurifdiction of the Clerk's Court taken away-

The aft for regulating the Courts of Law for the trial of caules to the pealed-All fums of money not exceeding 31, to be fued for and recovered before a Justice of the Peace-

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That from and after the paffing of this act, all jurisdiction, power, authority, sees and rights given to, or exercised by any Clerk or Clerks of the Clerk's Court, and every of them, be fully and absolutely taken away and determined: And that an act made and passed in the twenty sixth year of His Majesty's reign intituled " An Act for the Re-" gulating the Courts of Law established in the several Counties for value of 4cf. re- "the Trial of Causes to the Value of Forty Shillings," be and the fame is hereby repealed; and that, from and after the passing of this act, all and every fum and fums of money not exceeding three pounds to be fued for and profecuted in any Court of Record by virtue of any law of this province, shall be and are hereby made cognizable before any one Justice of the Peace in the manner aforesaid, and in no other Court whatsoever .-

The Clerks Court in the City of St. John to have cognizance of actions of debt, fec. not exceeding gi.

The preceeding Section only to extend to the city of St. John-

XIX. And be it further enacted, That the Clerk's Court in the City of Saint John shall be authorized and enabled to hold. plea and take cognizance of all causes of debt, detinue, account, covenant, trespass, and trespass on the case, not exceeding the fum of three pounds.-

PROVIDED ALWAYS, That nothing in this act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to the City of Saint John, the preceeding Section of this act only excepted.

Limitation of the set.

XX. And be it further enacted, That this act shall continue and be in force two years and no longer.

CAP. II.

CAP. II.

An ACT to REGULATE the TERMS of the Sittings of the INFERIOR COURTS of COMMON PLEAS in this Province, and to ENLARGE the JURISDICTION of the fame, for the SUMMARY TRIALS of CER-TAIN ACTIONS.

INTHEREAS the enabling the Justices of the several In- Preamble. ferior Courts of Common Pleas in this province to hold four terms in the year will tend to the more speedy and easy administration of justice-

I. Be it therefore enacted, by the Lieutenant Governor, Coun- Two additional cil and Assembly, That there shall be true additional terms in year for the sittings of the said Inserior Courts of Common Pleas in the feveral counties at the times following, to Common Pleas. wit: For the county of Westmorland on the third Tuesdays of April and October; for the county of Charlotte on the second Tuesdays of July and December; for the county of York on the fecond Tuesdays in April and October; for the county of Sunbury on the third Tuesdays in April and October; for Queen's county on the fourth Tuesdays in April and OSober; for King's county on the first Tuesdays in May and November; at which said terms no Jury shall be summoned to attend.

AND WHEREAS, doubts have arisen whether the juris- Preamble. diction of the faid Inferior Courts of Common Pleas extended to any other causes then those in which the parties were Inhabitants of the county and where the promife was made or other cause of action arose immediately within the county in which the fuit was brought-AND WHEREAS, it is deemed advisable to extend the jurisdiction of the said Inferior Courts of Common Pleas to as that they may have cognizance of causes where the sum or thing in contest may exceed the value of fifty pounds.

II. Be it further enacted, That the jurisdiction of the said The jurisdiction Courts respectively shall be considered to extend to all transitory courts to extend actions

to all actions arikag in any other countyexcept where the Titles to lands come in question and to have a concurant jurifdiction with the Supreme Court.

May iffue Subponas, which shall be of the fame validity to compel the appearance of witnelles as if iffued from the Court in the county where the witnels relides. The Defendant in any fuit commenced in either of the Inferior Courts of Common Pless, in which the thing In contest erceeds 101. may remove the fame into the Supreme Court, before it shall be determined, and either party may bring a Writ of Error 2fter judgment if excceding 101. The Defendant may be held to bail on affidavit where the cause

actions and all other actions ariting within any other place or county (except where the title to lands come in question) and shall in those cases, except as aforesaid, have a concurrent jurisdiction with the Supreme Court of this province—And that the faid Justices of the Inferior Courts of Common Pleas be and hereby are impowered to iffue Subpænas for any witness or witnesses residing in any of the counties within the said province. And that all Subpænas so issued from the said Justices of the faid Inferior Court of Common Pleas shall be of the same validity to compel the appearance of the witness or witnesses as if fuch Subpœna or Subpœnas had been issued from the Inferior Court of Common Pleas in the county where the witness PROVIDED ALWAYS, That or witnesses reside. it shall and may be lawful to and for any Defendant or Defendants in any fuit to be commenced in either of the faid Inferior Courts of Common Pleas, in which the fum or thing in contest exceeds the sum of ten pounds, to remove the same suit before it shall be determined into the said Supreme Court by Habeas Corpus; and after any fuit shall be determined and the amount of the judgment shall exceed the sum of ten pounds it shall and may be lawful for either party to bring a Writ of Error upon the faid judgment to remove the fame into the faid Supreme Court.

III. And be it further enacted, That in cases where the Plaintiff's cause of action shall amount to upwards of three pounds and affidavit thereof made and filed, the Defendant of action exceeds or Defendants in such suit may be held to bail as has been heretofore accustomed.

Where the Plaintiff refides in any other county-affidavit may be made before any Justice of the Supreme Court, or of the Common Pleas in the county where the Plaintiff refides, or Commillioner for taking affidavits Sic.

three pounds.

IV. And be it further enacted, That in cases where the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs refide in any other county than that in which the fuit is intended to be commenced, the affidavit to hold to bail may be made either before the Chief Justice or other Justice of the Supreme Court, or any Justice of the Common Pleas of the faid county in which the same Plaintiff or Plaintiffs refide, or any Commissioner appointed for taking affidavits to be read in the Supreme Court for the same county; and in all cases the affidavit to hold to bail may be made before the officer who iffues the process or his deputy.

Preamble.

AND WHEREAS, it has been found by experience that the present mode of practice in the prosecution of suits in the faid Inferior Court of Common Pleas and the Mayor's Court of the city of Saint John where the fum or thing in con-

test

test has not exceeded the sum of ten pounds has been attended with an expence that does not bear a reasonable proportion to the faid fum or thing in contest-

V. Be it therefore enacted, That, from and after the passing The Common Pleas of this act, the faid Courts are hereby respectively impowered in and Mayor's all actions of debt, actions of assumpsit, and actions of trover and John, in all actconversion brought before them, the sum total whereof shall ions not exceednot exceed ten pounds, to proceed in a furninary way by the to proceed in a furninary way to examination of witnesses in open Court or other legal evidence, to try the cause, try the merits of fuch causes wherein no dilatory plea shall be admitted, and to determine therein according to law or equity, and make up judgment; unand make up Judgment accordingly unless such cause shall be less the cause be put to issue by a Jury in which case such cause shall be continued put to issue by to the next stated term—PROVIDED ALWAYS, That Where the cause the next stated term—PROVIDED ALWAYS, That Where the cause where the cause shall be determined by the said Court the first mined at the term, the faid Court shall grant a stay of execution for three Court to grant a months or until the next term.

VI. And be it further enacted, That, in the faid causes, the to be inserted in bill of complaint or declaration shall be inserted in the writ, a the writ, a copy of which to be copy of which shall be served on the Desendant or Desendants served on the who shall at the term to which the writ is returnable or within is to put in ball twenty days after put in bail or enter his or their appearance in or enter an appearance in perspect & 6 the faid actions, and if he or they intend to defend the fame, the General Iffile the General Issue and give a copy thereof to the faid Plain- be tried at the tiff or Plaintiffs Attorney, and the faid cause shall be tried and next term, undetermined by the Court or Jury at the next succeeding term, put off the trial for want of eviunless upon application made by either party and sufficient cause dence. shewn by assidavit the Court may think proper to put off the trial on account of the absence of a material witness; and in If the Defendcase the Desendant or Desendants shall not at the term to which and do not a the writ is returnable or within twenty days after as aforesaid, file the General Issue in the said cause and give to the said Plaintiff or Plaintiffs Attorney a copy thereof, that then judgment the General Ifmay be entered by default in the faid causes at the next succeeding term and the Court affels the damages as has been heretofore accustomed.

VII. And be it further enacted, That the Prefiding Justice in the faid Courts respectively shall fign the entry made in the minutes of the faid Courts of the judgments so given in every cause determined in a summary way either by the Court or Jury as aforesaid; a copy of which certified by the Clerk under feel of the the Seal of the Court shall be evidence of the said judgment in all Courts within this province.

flay of executi-

The declaration . Defendant, who fue, the caufe to

the return of the writ or within twenty days thereafter file be entered by

The prefiding Justice to lign the entry of judgment in the minutes, a copy of which certified under the Court to be evidence in all Courts in the province.

Juffices Feet.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That the fees attending the profecution of fuits determined in a fummary way by the Court as aforefaid, shall be as follows: To the Justices—Upon filing the writ two skillings; for trial and judgment and taxing costs three shilling; taking bail if at his chambers two shillings; To the Clerk for figning and fealing the writ and filing the

Clerk's Fees.

præcipe ene shilling and six pence; for filing the assidavit for bail four pence; for filing the writ and entering the cause one shilling and fix pence; for final judgment two shillings; for entering the Defendant's appearance and filing plea one shilling and fix-Attorney's Fees. pence; To the Attorney, -For writ, præcipe, affidavit and declaration eleven shillings and eight pence; if no bail required then ten shillings; and in all causes that do not go to a Jury for all other proceedings until final judgment eight shillings and four pence; To the Sheriff and Crier the fame fees as in other cases in this Court.

The proceedings in fuits, already commenced,

not to be altered

IX. PROVIDED ALWAYS, and be it further enacted. That the proceedings in any fuit already commenced and depending in either of the faid Courts of Common Pleas shall not be altered by any thing contained in this act, relative to the trial of causes in a summary way; but that it shall and may be lawful for the faid Courts respectively to proceed in the faid causes to final judgment and execution as has been heretofore accustomed any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in any wife notwithstanding.

the Courts to proceed in fuch caules to final judgment.

All writs that may be iffued before the 1ft. of April next, returnable at the Summer terms, made returnable at the additional terms

and all causes continued over at the last terms to be confidered as continued over to the additional terms. The Courts to proceed in fuch causes at the additional terms as they might have Come at the Summer terms.

X. And be it further enacted, That the several writs and proceffes already issued or that may be issued before the first day of April next, out of either of the faid Courts of Common Pleas returnable at the next Summer terms of the faid Courts respectively, shall be, and the same are hereby deemed and considered as returnable at the additional term of the faid feveral Courts which intervenes between this time and the faid Summer terms, and that all causes which stand continued over at the last terms of each of the faid Courts, shall be, and the same are hereby confidered as continued over to the faid additional terms of each of the faid Courts which next happens, and it shall be lawful for the faid Courts respectively, to proceed in the said causes at the faid next additional term, in the fame manner as it might have been lawful for the faid Justices to have proceeded in the same at the next summer terms of the said Courts, had this act not been made any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in any wife notwithstanding.

CAP. III.

An ACT in addition to an Act intituled "An Act for the better Ascer-"taining and Confirming the Bound-

" aries of the feveral Counties within

"this Province, and for fubdividing

"them into Towns or Parishes."

HEREAS, the boundaries of the towns or parishes Presentes V of Westfield, Sussex, Springfield and Kingston as established in and by an act made and passed in the twenty sixth year of HIS MAJESTY's reign, intituled " An Act for the better " Ascertaining and Confirming the Boundaries of the several " Counties within this Province, and for subdividing them into "Towns or Pariflees," have been found inconvenient.

I. Be it therefore enacted, by the Lieutenant Governor, Council The parities of Westingle, Sufand Assembly, That, from and after the passing of this act, the weshield, Suffer, Springfield faid towns or parishes of Westfield, Suffer, Springfield and in Kingstoun-in Kingstoun-Kingston in King's county shall be bounded and limited respectively in the manner herein after described, any thing in the faid recited act to the contrary notwithstanding, that is to say: The faid town or parish of Westfield to be bounded on the Boundaries of North, South and West by the northern, southern and western boundary lines of the county, and on the East by a line running from the mouth of a creek which discharges into the Long-reach at Devils Head, North-west to the northern line of the county, and South-cast to the rear line of the lots fronting on the north-west shore of Kennebeckacis Bay, thence South-west to the north-eastern line of lot number twenty eight granted to Dennis Coombs, thence South-east to the southern line of the county including Kennebeckacis Island: The faid town or parish Boundaries of of Suffex to be bounded on the North and East by the northern and eastern lines of the county, on the West and South by a line beginning at the mouth of Halfway-brook on the river Kennebeckacis and running North to the northern line of the county and South to the center of the Weston or cleared road, thence South, seventy six degrees East to the southern line of the county, thence along the fouthern line of the county to the fouth eastern angle thereof: The said town or parish of Spring- Boundaries of field to be bounded on the North by the northern line of the Springfield.

county

county, on the West by the upper or eastern line of the Chaloner's lot number seven and the prolongation thereof North West to the northern line of the county, then following Bellisle Bay up-stream until it comes opposite to a designed road between number one and number eighteen of the lots on the South-east fide of the faid bay, and following the faid defigned road and the rear of the faid lots to the division line between lots number fifteen and number fixteen in the back fettlements and along that division line to the designed road running through the faid fettlements and dividing the two ranges of lots, and on the South by the last mentioned road and its prolongation to the parish of Sussex: And the said town or parish of Kingston to be bounded on the North by Bellifle bay and the Long-reach, on the West by the parish of Westfield on the South by the Kennebeckacis bay and river until it comes to the lower or fouth-western line of Isaac Ketchum's lot number thirty four in the Kingston grant, and on the East by the parish of Springfield and the faid line of lot number thirty four and its prolongation to the faid parish of Springfield including Long Island.

Boundaries of King con.

Parish of Norton

II. And be it further enacted, That all that tract of land in King's county bounded on the North by the parish of Springfield, on the East by the parish of Sussex, on the South by a line running along the center of the Westmorland road, and on the West by the parish of Kingston and the lower or south-west line of lot number fourteen granted to John Fritch on the South-East side of the river Kennebeckacis and the prolongation of the said line to the center of the Westmorland road be one distinct town or parish distinguished by the name of Norton.

Parish of Green-

III. And be it further enacted, That all that tract of land in King's county bounded on the North by the northern line of the county, on the West by the parish of Westfield, on the South by the Long-reach and Belliste bay, and on the East by the parish of Spring field, including the Islands in the Long-reach and mouth of Belliste bay, be another distinct town or parish distinguished by the name of Greenwich.

Parish of Hampton IV. And be it further enacted, That all the remaining tract of land in King's county bounded Westerly, Northerly, and Easterly by the Kennebeckacis bay and river, the parishes of Norton and Sussex, and Southerly by the Southern line of the county, including Darling's Island, be another distinct town or parish distinguished by the name of Hampton; all which said lines

of the faid towns or parishes herein before mentioned are to be confidered as lines run by the magnet and not otherwise, except where they are limited and bounded by the lines of the county.

CAP. IV.

An ACT for PRESERVING the BANK of the RIVER SAINT JOHN, in front of the Parish of LINCOLN in the County of Sunbury.

THEREAS, the pasturing of Neat Cattle, Horses, Preambles Sheep, Goats or Hogs, in the Spring and during the Summer season, on the slope of the bank of the river Saint John along the interval lands in the parish of Lincoln, both prevents the growth and occasions the destruction of bushes which contribute greatly to bind the foil and preserve it from being washed away during the freshes.

I. Be it enacted, by the Lieutenant Governor, Council and Every person, Assembly, That from and after the passing of this act, every passuring interperson, who pastures interval land in the said parish or any part on the river, to thereof fronting on the said river, shall keep up a sence along on his own front the front of the land so pastured of the legal height, or at least -fufficient to confine his Neat Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Goats or Hogs within the same; and that if he do neglect to keep up and if he neglect fuch fence as aforesaid his Neat Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Goats, the feet when or Hogs shall be liable, when found trespassing on the slope of found on the the said bank, to be impounded and dealt by according to the liable to be improvisions of an act made and passed in the twenty fixth year of pounded. HIS MAJESTY'S reign, intituled, " An Act for preventing " Trespasses."

AND WHEREAS, Horses and Cattle frequently go Presmble. from Fredericton and other places down on a long and narrow tongue of low interval land extending to and terminating at the mouth of the river Oromocto, and from thence spread along the bank of the aforesaid river Saint John throughout the extent of the faid parish.

Commissioners of Highways to erect a Swing Gate across the public road,

II. Be it further enacted, That the Commissioners of Highways in the faid parish shall, from and after the passing of this act, be impowered, and they are hereby directed to erect one flrong Swing Gate across the public road on the upland adjoining the faid tongue of interval, either, on the lot now belonging to Thomas Knox, Esquire, or on that now belonging to and occupied by Lemuel Wilmot, Esquire, as to them in their discretion shall seem most convenient, and to keep the same in repair; the expence of which erection and repairs they are hereby authorifed to defray by ordering an affestiment to be made for the faid purposes on the owners or occupiers of the faid lands as above described by the parish assessors.

and to defray the expence by an affeliment.

Limitation.

III. And be it further enacted, That this act shall continue and remain in force for five years and no longer.

CAP. V.

An ACT to continue feveral ACTS that are near expiring.

The act for relief against Abfconding Debters; the act in addition thereto

the act to autherife the Pro-prietors of If-lands to make regulations for their improvement, and the

act to regulate the fale of Goods at Auftion-

continued to the first day of March 1798.

I. TE IT ENACTED, by the Lieutenant Governor, Council and Assembly, That an act made and passed in the twenty fixth year of HIS MAJESTY's reign, intituled " An Act for Relief against Absconding Debtors," also an act made and passed in the twenty eighth year of HIS MAJESTY'S reign, intituled " An Act in addition to an Act intituled An Act ' for Relief against absconding Debters," also an act made and pasted in the twenty seventh year of his HIS MAJESTY's reign, intituled " An Act to authorife the respective Proprietors of cer-" tain Illands in the River Saint John and other Rivers in " this Province to make Rules and Regulations for their better "Improvement and Cultivation," and also an act made and passed in the twenty sixth year of HIS MAJESTY's reign, intituled " An Act to regulate the Sale of Goods sold at Public " Auction or Out-cry-" and by an act, made and passed in the twenty ninth year of the same reign, continued in full force until the first day of March in the year of our LORD One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Five, be further continued: And the faid acts are hereby continued and declared to be in full force until the first day of March which will be in the year of our LORD One Thousand Seven Hundred and II. Ninety Eight.

II. And be it further enacted, That an act made and passed in The act to prethe twenty fixth year of HIS MAJESTY'S reign intituled "An the Sale of Da-"Act to prevent Frauds in the Sale of Damaged Goods im-"ported into this Province," and by an act made and passed in the twenty eighth year of the same reign continued in full force until the first day of March in the year of our LORD One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Two; and by an act made and passed in the thirty second year of the same reign continued in full force until the first day of March in the year of our LORD One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Five; be further continued: And the faid act is hereby continued and continued to the declared to be in full force until the first day of March which 1798. will be in the year of our LORD One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Eight.

maged Goods

III. And be it further enacted, That an act made and pass- The act to imed in the twenty eighth year of HIS MAJESTY's reign intituhed " An Act to impower the Justices of the Sessions in several Markets and "Counties in this Province to make such Regulations respecting Ferries," " Markets and Ferries within such Counties as may be found ne-" ceffary," and by an act made and passed in the thirty third year of the same reign continued in full force two years and no longer; be further continued: And the faid act is hereby continued combined to the and declared to be in full force until the first day of March 17.98. which will be in the year of our LORD One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Eight.

CAP. VI.

An ACT to provide for the Support of BEACONS to be erected for better fecuring the navigation of PAS-SAMAQUODDY BAY, and build-SLIP in the Harbour of SĂINT ANDREWS.

THEREAS, it is necessary and expedient for the greater security of the navigation of Pallamaquoddy Bay, that provision should be made for the erection and support of Beacons or Landmarks to be crected by fuch Commissioners as His Excellency

lency the Lieutenant Governor shall appoint, or the major part of them, at the following places, viz. One on the fouth eaftern point of Saint Andrews Island, a second on the extremity of Indian Point, a third on the Sand Spit called Sandy Island, and a fourth on the bar which runs from the town of Saint Andrews to Saint Andrews Island.

AND WHEREAS, it is further expedient, for the more fafe and easy landing at all times of tide in the harbour of Saint Andrews, that provision should also be made for building and repairing a Slip or Landing-place, to be built by fuch Commissioners in the said harbour, running from high to low water mark on the Flats in front of the Public Landing.

I. Be it enacted, by the Lieutenant Governor, Council and

Assembly, That from and after the time it shall be certified un-

From the time it shall be certified to the De-Justices of the Court of Common Pleas, that Beacons are erected there be granted to His Majisty on all inward bound veffels, entering Paffamaquoddy Bay, one half penny per ton,

and on all coafting veffels 1/3 each time they enter the faid bay.

Mafters of veffels refufing to pay fuch tonnage to forfeit a fum not exceeding 51.

der the hands of the Justices of the Inferior Court of Common puty Province
Treasurer by the
Pleas in the county of Charlotte, or the major part of them, to the Deputy Province Treasurer for the said county, that such Beacons are erected by Commissioners appointed as aforesaid, there be, and hereby are granted to HIS MAJESTY his Heirs and Successors for the building, erection and support of such Slip and Beacons the following duties of tonnage on all inward bound vessels entering Passamaquoddy Bay within Decr Island of the following descriptions and at the following rates, viz. on all veffels (coafting veffels excepted) one half penny per ton for every ton they respectively admeasure agreeable to register; and on all coasting vessels one shilling and three pence for each time they arrive in Pallamaquoddy Bay aforesaid.

> II. And be it further enacted, That every master of such ship or vessel who shall refuse or neglect to call upon the Deputy Province Treasurer and pay to him such tonnage within forty eight hours after his arrival shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding five pounds to be fued for and recovered before any two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace and applied for the purpose of erecting such Slip and Beacons.

The Commissioners to receive from the Deputy Treaforer the monies to be colicted.

III. And be it further enacted, That the Commissioners to be appointed as aforefaid to superintend and complete the erecting of the faid Slip and Beacons or the major part of them, shall have power and authority to call upon the Deputy Province Treasurer for such sum or sums of money as he shall from time to time have collected, excepting the amount of five per cent which it shall be lawful for such Deputy Treasurer to retain in full for his wouble in collecting the same.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the faid Commissioners shall at the first court of General Sessions of the Peace in the said county of Charlotte yearly render an account to the Justices of the faid Sessions of the monies from time to time received and expended by them under this act, and shall also, on completing the faid Slip and Beacons, pay the ballance (if any) remaining in lance in their their hands into the county Treasury for the purpose of defray- hands into the ing the expences of keeping in repair fuch Slip and Beacons.

The Commissito the Court of

County Treasu-

V. And be it further enacted, That if any person or persons Any offender shall take away, cut down, destroy or desace either of the said stroying the said Beacons, such offender or offenders shall on due conviction feit a sum not thereof by the eath-of one or more credible witness or witnesses exceeding 201. before any two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace forseit and pay a fum not exceeding twenty pounds to be applied as aforefaid, and on failure of payment thereof or want of goods or chattels whereon to levy, such offender or offenders shall be committed by such Justices to the county Gaol for a space not exceeding three months.

VI. And be it further enacted, That this act shall continue Limitation. in force for the term of five years and no longer.

CAP. VII.

An ACT further to continue an Act intituled "An ACT for raising a REVENUE in this Province."

I. BEITENACTED, by the Lieutenant Governor Council and Assembly, That an act made and passed in the thirty third year of HIS MAJESTY's reign, intituled " An Act for raifing a Revenue in this Province," and by an act, The act for made and passed in the thirty fourth year of His MAJESTY's reign intituled " An Act to continue an Act intituled, An Act for raifing a Revenue in this Province," declared to be continued in full force until the first day of April which will be in the year of our LORD One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Five and no longer; be further continued: And the continued to the fame is hereby continued in full force until the first day of April 1768. 1796. which will be in the year of our LORD One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Six, and no longer; except for the recovery of any of the penalties inflicted in and by the fixteenth Section of the faid act.

raising a Reve-