



WESTERN AUSTRALIA.
ANNO VICESIMO SEPTIMO
VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. X.

AN ORDINANCE for preventing Frauds upon Creditors
by Secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels.
[15th July, 1863.]

WHEREAS Frauds are frequently committed upon Creditors
by secret Bills of Sale of personal Chattels, whereby Persons
are enabled to keep up the Appearance of being in good Circum-
stances and possessed of Property, and the Grantees or Holders of
such Bills of Sale have the Power of taking Possession of the
Property of such Persons, to the Exclusion of the rest of their
Creditors: Be it therefore enacted by His Excellency the Governor
of Western Australia and its Dependencies, by and with the Advice
and Consent of the Legislative Council thereof as follows:—

Preamble.

1. Every Bill of Sale of personal Chattels, made either absolutely
or conditionally, or subject or not subject to any Trusts, and whereby
the Grantee or Holder shall have Power, either with or without

Bills of Sale to be void
unless the same or a Copy
thereof be filed within 21
Days

Registration of Bills of Sale.

Notice, and either immediately after the making of such Bill of Sale or at any future Time, to seize or take Possession of any Property and Effects comprised in or made subject to such Bill of Sale, and every Schedule or Inventory, and every Defeasance or Condition or Declaration of Trust which shall be thereto annexed or therein referred to, or a true Copy thereof, and of every Attestation of the Execution thereof, shall, together with an Affidavit of the Time of such Bill of Sale being made or given, and a Description of the Residence and Occupation of the Person making or giving the same, or, in case the same shall be made or given by any Person under or in the Execution of any Process, then a Description of the Residence and Occupation of the Person against whom such Process shall have issued, and of every attesting Witness to such Bill of Sale, be filed with the Registrar Master and Keeper of Records of the Supreme Court, within Twenty-one Days after the passing of this Ordinance or after the making or giving such Bill of Sale, otherwise such Bill of Sale shall, as against all Assignees of the Estate and Effects of the Person, whose Goods or any of them are comprised in such Bill of Sale, under the Laws relating to Bankruptcy or Insolvency, or under any Assignment for the Benefit of the Creditors of such Person, and as against all Sheriffs' Officers and other Persons seizing any Property or Effects comprised in such Bill of Sale in the Execution of any Process of any Court of Law or Equity authorizing the Seizure of the Goods of the Person by whom or of whose Goods such Bill of Sale shall have been made, and against every Person on whose Behalf such Process shall have been issued, be null and void to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, so far as regards the Property in or Right to the Possession of any personal Chattels comprised in such Bill of Sale, which at or after the Time of such Bankruptcy, or of filing the Insolvent's Petition in such Insolvency, or of the Execution by the Debtor of such Assignment for the Benefit of his Creditors, or of executing such Process, (as the case may be) and after the Expiration of the said Period of Twenty-one Days, shall be in the Possession or apparent Possession of the Person making such Bill of Sale, or of any Person against whom the Process shall have issued under or in the Execution of which such Bill of Sale shall have been made or given, as the case may be.

Defeasance or Condition
of every Bill of Sale to be
written on the same Paper
or Parchment.

2. IF such Bill of Sale shall be made or given subject to any Defeasance or Condition or Declaration of Trust not contained in the Body thereof, such Defeasance or Condition or Declaration of Trust shall, for the Purposes of this Ordinance, be taken as Part of such Bill of Sale, and shall be written on or attached to the same Paper or Parchment on which such Bill of Sale shall be written,

27° VICTORIÆ, No. 10.

Registration of Bills of Sale.

before the Time when the same or a Copy thereof respectively shall be filed, otherwise such Bill of Sale shall be null and void to all Intents and Purposes, as against the same Persons and as regards the same Property and Effects, as if such Bill of Sale or a Copy thereof had not been filed according to the Provisions of this Ordinance.

3. THE said Officer of the said Court shall cause every Bill of Sale, and every such Schedule and Inventory, Defeasance, Condition, and Declaration of Trust; and every such Copy filed in his said Office under the Provisions of this Ordinance, to be numbered, and shall keep a Book or Books in his said Office, in which he shall cause to be fairly entered an alphabetical List of every such Bill of Sale, containing therein the Name, Addition and Description of the Person making or giving the same, or in case the same shall be made or given by any Person under or in the Execution of Process as aforesaid, then the Name, Addition and Description of the Person against whom such Process shall have issued, and also of the Person to whom or in whose favor the same shall have been given, together with the Number and the Dates of the Execution and Filing of the same, and the Sum for which the same has been given, and the Time or Times (if any) when the same is thereby made payable, according to the Form contained in the Schedule to this Ordinance, which said Book or Books, and every Bill of Sale or Copy thereof in the said Office, may be searched and viewed by all Persons at all reasonable Times, paying to the Officer for every Search against one Person the Sum of Sixpence and no more: and that in addition to the last mentioned Book, the said Officer of the said Court shall keep another Book or Index, in which he shall cause to be fairly inserted as and when such Bills of Sale are filed in Manner aforesaid, the Name, Addition, and Description of the Person making or giving the same, or of the Person against whom such Process shall have issued, as the case may be, and also of the Person to whom or in whose favor the same shall have been given, but containing no further Particulars thereof, which last mentioned Book or Index all Persons shall be permitted to search for themselves, paying to the Officer for such last mentioned Search the Sum of One Shilling.

Officer of Court to
a Book containing Particulars of each Bill of Sale

4. THE said Officer shall be entitled to receive, for his Trouble in filing and entering every such Bill of Sale or a Copy thereof as aforesaid, the Sum of One Shilling and no more.

Officer entitled to
of 1s. for filing Bill of Sale

5. ANY Person shall be entitled to have an Office Copy, or an Extract of every Bill of Sale, or of the Copy thereof filed as aforesaid, upon paying for the same at the like Rate as for Office Copies of Judgments in the said Supreme Court.

Office Copies or Extracts
to be given on payment
for Copies of Judgments

27° VICTORIÆ, No. 10.

Registration of Bills of Sale.

Satisfaction may be entered

6. IT shall be lawful for the Chief Justice of the said Court to order a Memorandum of Satisfaction to be written upon any Bill of Sale or Copy thereof respectively as aforesaid, if it shall appear to him that the Debt (if any) for which such Bill of Sale is given as Security shall have been satisfied or discharged.

Interpretation of Terms.

7. IN construing this Ordinance the following words and expressions shall have the Meanings hereby assigned to them, unless there be something in the Subject or Context repugnant to such Construction; (that is to say,)—

The Expression “Bill of Sale” shall include Bills of Sale, Assignments, Transfers, Declarations of Trust without Transfer, and other Assurances of personal Chattels, and also Powers of Attorney, Authorities, or Licenses to take Possession of personal Chattels as Security for any Debt, but shall not include the following Documents; that is to say, Assignments for the Benefit of the Creditors of the Person making or giving the same; Marriage Settlements; Transfers or Assignments of any Ship or Vessel or any Share thereof; Transfers of Goods in the ordinary Course of Business of any Trade or Calling; Bills of Sale of Goods in foreign Parts or at Sea; Bills of Lading; Warehouse Keepers’ Certificates; Warrants or Orders for the Delivery of Goods, or any other documents used in the ordinary Course of Business as Proof of the Possession or Control of Goods, or authorizing or purporting to authorize, either by endorsement or by Delivery, the Possessor of such Document to transfer or receive Goods thereby represented:

The Expression “personal Chattels” shall mean Goods, Furniture, Fixtures, and other Articles capable of complete transfer by Delivery, and shall not include Chattel Interests in real Estate, nor Shares nor Interests in the Stock, Funds or Securities of any Government, nor in the Capital or Property of any incorporated or joint-stock Company, nor choses in Action, nor any Stock or Produce upon any Farm or Lands which by Virtue of any Covenant or Agreement or of the Custom of the Country, ought not to be removed from any Farm where the same shall be at the Time of the making or giving of such Bill of Sale:

Personal Chattels shall be deemed to be in the “apparent Possession” of the person making or giving the Bill of Sale, so long as they shall remain or be in or upon any House, Mill,

27° VICTORIÆ, No. 10.

Registration of Bills of Sale.

Warehouse, Buildings, Works, Yard, Land, or other Premises occupied by him, or as they shall be used and enjoyed by him in any place whatsoever, notwithstanding that formal possession thereof may have been taken by or given to any other person.

J. S. HAMPTON,

GOVERNOR AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

*Passed the Legislative Council,
this 15th day of July, 1863.*

G. E. HAMPTON,

Clerk of the Council.

SCHEDULE.

Name, &c., of the Person making or giving the Bill of Sale, or of the Person divested of Property.	Name, &c., of the Person to whom made or given.	Whether Bill of Sale, Assignment, Transfer, or what other Assurance, and whether absolute or conditional, and Number.	Date of Execution	Date of Filing.	Sum for which made or given.	When & how payable.