

If any Man, by colour of Authority where he hath not any in that particular case, shall presume to arrest or imprison any Man, or cause him to be arrested or imprisoned, this is against this Act, and it is most hateful, when it is done by countenance of Justice. King Edward VI. did incorporate the Town of St. Albans, and granted to them to make Ordinances, &c. they made a By-Law upon pain of imprisonment, and it was adjudged to be against this Statute of *Magna Charta*; so it had been, if such an Ordinance had been contained in the Patent it self.

*We will sell to no Man, deny to no man, &c.* This is spoken in the Person of the King, who in Judgment of the Law, in all his Courts of Justice, is present: And therefore every Subject of this Realm, for Injury done to him, in Person, Lands or Goods, by any other Subject, Ecclesiastical or Temporal, whatever he be, may take his Remedy by the Course of the Law, and have Justice and Right for the Injury done him, freely, without Sale; fully, without denial; and speedily without delay; for Justice must have three Qualities, it must be *Libera*, free; for nothing is more odious than Justice set to sale: *Plena*, full, for Justice ought not to limp, or be granted by piece-meal: And *Celeris*, speedy: *Quia Dilatio est quadam negatio*, Delay is a kind of denial: and when all these meet, it is both Justice and Right.

*We will not deny nor delay any Man, &c.* These Words have been excellently expounded by latter Acts of Parliament, that by no means common Right, or common Law, should be disturbed or delayed; no, though it be commanded under the Great Seal, or Privy Seal, Order, Writ, Letters, Message, or Commandment whatsoever, from the King, or any other; and that the Justices shall proceed, as if no such Writs, Letters, Order, Message, or other Commandment were come to them: All our Judges swear to this; for 'tis part of their Oaths; so that if any shall be found wresting the Law, to serve a Court-turn, they are Perjur'd as well as Unjust. The Common Laws of the Realm should by no means be delayed, for the Law is the surest Sanctuary that a Man can take, and the strongest Fortrefs to protect the weakest of all; *Lex est tutissima Cassis*, the Law is a most safe Head-piece, and *sub Clypeo legis Nemo decipitur*, no Man is deceived whilst the Law is his Buckler: But the King may stay his own Suir, as a *Capias pro fine*, for the King may respite his Fine, and the like.