

CHAPTER XXI.

AN ACT DIRECTING HOW PETTY OFFENSES SHALL BE PUNISHED.

Whereas many times, persons for misdemeanors, the fine of which is but small, being presented by the grand jury (which hath been the usual course of trials in such cases heretofore), have been put to great charges by reason of the fees that have accrued thereupon: for prevention whereof,

[Section I.] Be it enacted by the Proprietary and Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the freemen of this Province and Territories in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That where the fine doth not exceed twenty shillings, one or more justices of the peace, upon due proof of the offense, or being committed in his or their presence, may determine and give judgment in every such case, and issue warrants to the constable to levy the said fine upon the offender's goods and chattels by distress and sale thereof; or may commit the offender to prison, as the law shall direct or require, except in such cases where the law leaves the fine to the discretion of the county court.

Passed November 27, 1700; allowed to become a law by lapse of time, in accordance with the proprietary charter, having been considered by the Queen in Council, February 7, 1705-6, and not acted upon. See Appendix I, Section II, and the Act of Assembly, passed October 28, 1701, Chapter 105, and the act passed March 11, 1789, Chapter 1394, as to Philadelphia.

CHAPTER XXII.

AN ACT FOR THE NAMES OF DAYS AND MONTHS.

[Section I.] Be it enacted by the Proprietary and Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the freemen of this Province and Territories in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That it shall and may be lawful to call and write

the months of the year and days of the week, as in scripture they are called, viz., the First, Second and Third, &c., months of the year, and the First, Second and Third days of the week, beginning with the day called Sunday, and the month called March, according to the English account.

Passed November 27, 1700; repealed by the Queen in Council, February 7, 1705-6. See Appendix I, Section II.

CHAPTER XXIII.

AN ACT FOR THE BETTER PROVISION FOR THE POOR WITHIN THIS PROVINCE AND TERRITORIES.

Whereas there now is, and hereafter may frequently happen to be, many indigent and poor persons, as well young as old, within this province and territories, that may stand in want of and require a more speedy relief than can be made by the overseers of the poor, where such objects of charity happen to be or come:

[Section I.] Be it enacted by the Proprietary and Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the freemen of this Province and Territories in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That all persons falling into decay, want or poverty, upon their complaint made to the justices of the peace and overseers of the poor of the respective counties where such decayed or indigent persons shall happen to be or reside, the justices of the peace and overseers of the poor shall take due care to relieve such poor and indigent persons; and for their encouragement thereunto they shall have and receive all such sum or sums of money as shall be by them distributed and applied to the uses aforesaid, out of the first moneys as shall be raised in each respective county.

Passed November 27, 1700; allowed to become a law by lapse of time, in accordance with the proprietary charter, having been considered by the Queen in Council, February 7, 1705-6, and not acted upon. See Appendix I, Section II, supplied by the Act of Assembly, passed January 12, 1705-6, Chapter 154.