

time make report under their hands and seals to the executive council of their proceedings in the premises and of the line of boundary which shall be agreed upon between them and the commissioners on the part of the state of New York, in order that the same may be ratified and established by act of the legislature of this commonwealth as the boundary of jurisdiction between this commonwealth and the state of New York.

Passed March 31, 1785. Recorded L. B. No. 2, p. 525.

CHAPTER MCLV.

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE APPOINTMENT OF NEW COMMISSIONERS TO EXECUTE THE ACT OF ASSEMBLY, ENTITLED "AN ACT DECLARING THE RIVER SUSQUEHANNA, AND OTHER STREAMS THEREIN NAMED, PUBLIC HIGHWAYS, FOR IMPROVING THE NAVIGATION OF THE SAID RIVER AND STREAMS, AND FOR PRESERVING THE FISH IN THE SAME," AND TO EXTEND THE POWERS OF THE SAID COMMISSIONERS TO ALL PARTS OF THE SAME RIVER WITHIN THIS STATE.¹

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas divers of the commissioners named in the act of assembly, entitled "An act declaring the river Susquehanna and other streams therein mentioned highways for improving the navigation of the same river and streams and for preserving the fish in the same," which was enacted in the late province of Pennsylvania on the ninth day of March, which was in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-one, are since deceased, and it is proper that new commissioners be appointed, in the stead of the commissioners who were named in the same act;

Therefore,

[Section I.] (Section II, P. L.) Be it enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That the surviving commissioners who are named in the act aforesaid shall be and the same are hereby

¹ Passed March 9, 1771, Chapter 627.

superseded and the president and in his absence the vice-president with the council shall as soon as conveniently may be nominate and commission twenty persons of knowledge and activity, residing within twenty miles of the said river or of one of the streams therein named to be commissioners for the purpose declared and set forth in the said act [and in this act] who, or the major part of them, or of their successors, to be appointed in the stead of any commissioner, who shall resign, remove without the limits aforesaid, misbehave or die, shall do and perform all the duties, and exercise all and singular the authorities, which by the act aforesaid, are enjoined upon or vested in the commissioners in the same act named.

(Section III, P. L.) And whereas the commissioners first aforesaid, were, by the said act, restrained from clearing and removing the natural obstructions to the navigation of the same river, southwards of Wright's ferry,

And whereas the extensive countries which are watered by the river Susquehanna, and the numerous branches thereof, are stocked with immense quantities of oak, pine and other trees, suitable for staves, heading, scantling, boards, planks, timbers for ship building, masts, yards and bowsprits, from which great profit and advantage might arise to the owners thereof, if the same could be conducted in rafts and otherwise down the said river to the waters of Chesapeake, which trees must otherwise perish on the lands whereon they grew:

For remedy whereof,

[Section II.] (Section IV, P. L.) Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the river Susquehanna shall be deemed and taken to be a public highway in all parts thereof within this state, from the division line of the state of Maryland and this state upwards, to the town of Northumberland, in the county of Northumberland, and thence, by and along each of the two great branches of the same river, which meet at the said town, in and throughout the whole length and breadth of the same river, and the duties and authorities of the commissioners to be named as aforesaid shall be extended and exercised accordingly.

(Section V, P. L.) And whereas the specific penalties in money provided and declared in and by the act aforesaid for the punish-

ment of offenders against the regulations and directions of the same are from the rise, which, since the enacting thereof, has happened in the prices of most of the necessaries of life, become too small to enforce obedience thereto:

And whereas offences against the same act are in some cases made cognizable before any justice of the peace and, the right of trial by jury is thereby infringed;

[Section III.] (Section VI, P. L.) Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all the specific penalties in money provided and declared by the same act shall henceforth in every case be double the sums therein set forth, and every person who shall be charged with offending against the act aforesaid or this act shall be prosecuted in the court of quarter sessions of the peace of the proper county and not in the summary way aforesaid.

[Section IV.] (Section VII, P. L.) Provided always and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the commissioners to be appointed by virtue of this act shall every year hereafter before the fifteenth day of March within such year render to the comptroller-general of this state a particular account supported by the proper vouchers of all the sums of money which shall come to their hands respectively and of all sums of money which shall be expended by them in pursuance of this act for and during the year preceding, in order that the same may be adjusted, settled and allowed.

Passed March 31, 1785. Recorded L. B. No. 2, p. 493.

CHAPTER MCLVI.

AN ACT TO ENABLE THE AGENT OR AGENTS OF HIS MOST CHRISTIAN MAJESTY TO SUE FOR AND RECOVER IN A MORE SPEEDY WAY ANY DEBT OR DEMAND THAT MAY BE DUE TO THEM IN THIS STATE.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas the United States in general and this state in particular have received the most important assistance and numerous benefits from the friendship of his most