

subsequent to the issuing of such writ, direct and order the revival of any such judgment, during another period of five years, against the real estate of such defendant or defendants, and proceedings may in like manner be had again to revive any such judgment at the end of the period of five years, and so from period to period, as often as the same may be found necessary.

(Section IV, P. L.) And whereas it is reasonable that persons entering into bonds or recognizances, as sureties for any public officers, should be exonerated from their responsibility within a reasonable term after such officers respectively shall die, resign, or be removed from office. Therefore:

[Section IV.] Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall not be lawful for any person or persons whomsoever to commence and maintain any suit or suits, on any bonds or recognizances, which shall hereafter be given and entered into by any person or persons, as sureties for any public officer, from and after the expiration of the term of seven years, to be computed from the time at which the cause of action shall have accrued; and if any such suit or suits shall be commenced, contrary to the intent and meaning of this act, the defendant or defendants respectively shall and may plead the general issue, and give this act and the special matter in evidence; and if the plaintiff or plaintiffs be nonsuit, or if a verdict or judgment pass against him or them respectively, the defendant or defendants shall respectively recover double costs.

Passed April 4, 1798. Recorded L. B. No. 6, p. 279.

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## CHAPTER MMX.

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A SUPPLEMENT TO THE ACT, ENTITLED, "AN ACT FOR ESTABLISHING AND BUILDING A BRIDGE ACROSS CONESTOGA CREEK, IN THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER."<sup>1</sup>

Whereas by the act, to which this is a supplement, Abraham Witmer, of the county of Lancaster, was authorized to erect, and in pursuance of that authority did erect, a bridge over the

<sup>1</sup>Passed September 22, 1787, Chapter 1313.

Conestoga creek, on the great road leading from the city of Philadelphia to the borough of Lancaster, and the said Abraham Witmer has represented to the legislature that the said bridge, having been built without a view to the making of the Philadelphia and Lancaster turnpike road, is not constructed of materials sufficiently durable; nor calculated to sustain the heavy burdens which, since the completion of the said road, are daily passing over the same, and hath prayed the legislature to pass a law to authorize him to erect a bridge over the said creek, upon that permanent [and extensive] plan which the importance of the situation requires. Therefore:

[Section I.] (Section I, P. L.) Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That it shall and may be lawful for Abraham Witmer, his heirs and assigns, to build, support and maintain a permanent bridge across the Conestoga creek, on any unoccupied part of the great road leading from the city of Philadelphia to the borough of Lancaster, immediately above, and on the north side of, his present bridge. Provided always, That the said Abraham Witmer, his heirs and assigns, shall and will, as soon as the new bridge is completed, remove the old bridge, and leave a passage of twenty feet on the said road, on the south side of the said new bridge, and at both ends thereof, for the use of all those who may think proper to pass and re-pass the said creek, without going over the said bridge. And provided also, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to enable the said Abraham Witmer, his heirs or assigns, to prevent, by the said erection, any person or persons, with or without horses, carriages, or cattle of any kind, from passing the said creek, free from toll, according to the provisions of the act to which this is a supplement, unless the said Abraham Witmer, his heirs or assigns, shall cause a passage to be opened on the south side of the said old bridge, whereby the aforesaid creek may be crossed free from toll, with as much safety and convenience as on the north side thereof.

[Section II.] (Section II, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the rates or prices for passing over the said bridge, together with the penalty on taking any greater toll, the proceedings to recover the same, and the appeal allowed to those who may find themselves aggrieved thereby, shall be the same as are allowed and provided for in and by the act, to which this is a supplement.

[Section III.] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That whensoever, at any time after the completion of the said bridge, the legislature shall deem it expedient to constitute and make the same a free bridge, by a law to be enacted for that purpose, three commissioners shall be appointed by the legislature, on the part of the commonwealth, and three by the said Abraham Witmer, his heirs and assigns, on his or their part, who, or any four or more of them, shall estimate what sum or sums of money the said Abraham Witmer, his heirs and assigns, shall be entitled to have and receive for his right and title in and to the said bridge; which sum or sums, so estimated as aforesaid, shall be paid to him or them, out of the treasury of this commonwealth.

[Section IV.] (Section IV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That so much of the act, to which this is a supplement, as is hereby altered or supplied, and no more, be, and the same hereby is repealed.

Passed April 4, 1798. Recorded L. B. No. 6, p. 297.

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## CHAPTER MMXI.

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AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNOR OF THIS COMMONWEALTH TO INCORPORATE A COMPANY, FOR ERECTING A BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER DELAWARE, AT OR NEAR TRENTON.

Whereas it has been represented to the general assembly, by a number of the inhabitants of this state, that the erecting a good and permanent bridge across the river Delaware, at or