

## CHAPTER MLXXIX.

1784.

*An ACT for regulating of hawkers and pedlars. (y)*

SECT. I. WHEREAS many idle and vagrant persons may come into this state, and under pretence of being hawkers or pedlars, may greatly impose upon many persons in the quality and price of goods, and also may commit felonies and other misdemeanors: For preventing such inconveniences and evil practices, and to the intent that no persons may be admitted to follow the business of hawkers or pedlars within this state, but those who are of known honesty and civil behaviour,

SECT. II. *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, from and after the passing of this act, no person whatever shall follow or employ him, her or themselves, in the business or employment of a hawker, pedlar, or petty chapman, within this state, until such persons shall have obtained a recommendation from the Justices of the county court where he or she dwells, certifying their opinion of the honesty of the person recommended, and that he or she intends to travel with one or more horse or horses, or other beasts of burthen, or on foot, and thereupon shall have obtained a licence from the President or Vice-President of the Supreme Executive Council of this state, and shall have given bond in the Prothonotary's office of the said county court, to the said President or Vice-President, him or herself in the sum of one hundred pounds, and two freeholders sureties in the sum of fifty pounds each, conditioned, that such person shall be of good behaviour during the continuance of said licence, which licence shall continue for one whole year; and for which licence there shall be paid, for the support of government, the sum of five pounds, by every person obtaining a licence to travel with a horse or other beast of burthen, and the sum of forty-five shillings, for every person licensed to travel on foot.

Hawkers,  
&c. in what  
manner they  
shall obtain  
a licence.

Charges of  
obtaining a  
licence.

SECT. III. *And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any person, not being qualified as aforesaid, shall be found hawking, peddling, or travelling from place to place, through any part of this state, to sell goods, or who shall expose to sale any foreign goods, wares or merchandize, in any of the open streets of the city and suburbs of Philadelphia, or in any of the open streets in any of the county towns, within this state, he or she, so offending, shall forfeit the sum of ten pounds one moiety whereof to this state, for the support of government, and the other moiety to the person who sues for the same, to be recovered by action of debt, bill, plaint or information, in any court of record within this state,

Penalty on  
a hawker or  
pedlar not  
qualified.

SECT. IV. *Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted,* Proviso. That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to ex-

(y) This subject had before been regulated by an act passed on the 26th of November, 1779; which, however, was limited to continue no longer than

the war. For another law on the subject of the act in the text, see chap. 2027. [None but citizens to be licensed &c.] (Note to former edition.)

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tend, to hinder any person or persons from selling, or exposing to sale, any sort of goods, wares or merchandize, in any public market or fair within this state, at any other time or times than is or are appointed by law for holding the same, or to hinder any person or persons from carrying about, from town to town, and from house to house, any goods, wares or merchandize, being of the growth, product or manufacture of this state, but that such person or persons may do therein, as they lawfully might have done before the making of this act, any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding. And if any person hawking, peddling or travelling, as aforesaid, except as before is excepted, shall refuse to produce and shew his or her licence to any civil officer upon demand, such person shall forfeit and pay the sum of twenty shillings, for the uses aforesaid, to be recovered before any Justice of the peace, as debts under forty shillings are now recoverable.

Explanatory  
clause.

SECT. V. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the true intent and meaning of the proviso in this act contained is, and the same shall be so taken and construed that no person whatever, whether he or she be qualified according to this act or not, shall expose to sale in any of the public market places, within the city of Philadelphia, the district of Southwark, or the township of the Northern-Liberties, or any of the county towns or boroughs within this state, or in the open streets or highways thereof, except at the times appointed by law, for holding fairs therein, any goods, wares or merchandize, other than the growth, produce and manufacture of this or the adjoining states, under the penalty of ten pounds, to be recovered in the manner, and for the uses, in this act contained.

Repealing  
clause.

SECT. VI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the act of General Assembly, entitled "An act for regulating pedlars, vendues, &c." passed on the fourteenth day of February, which was in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and twenty-nine, (thirty)\* so far as the same relates to pedlars, hawkers and petty chapmen, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

\* Chap. 307,  
vol. I. page  
497.]

Passed 30th of March, 1784.—Recorded in Law Book No. II. page 295.

## CHAPTER MLXXX.

[Supplement  
post. chap.  
1995.]

*An ACT for continuing the arch over the public common sewer of the city of Philadelphia, through the middle of the dock, and covering the same with earth, from Walnut-street to the foot bridge, and for raising a fund for defraying the expenses thereof, and for other purposes.*

SECT. I. **WHEREAS** the space occupied by the north western branch of the dock, and the streets on each side thereof, was, by agreement between the first Proprietary and the settlers to whom the adjacent ground fell by lot, upon the partition of the city, left open, as well with the views of public benefit, by preserving a body of water in the city to extinguish fires, to keep open a drain for the land floods, and for landing places, as to private advantage, by in-