

clared Enacted, & Adjudged, So to be To all Intents, Constructions, and Purposes whatsoever as if this Generall Assembly had been Elected according to the Rotation of the Charter of Liberties before Colonel Fletcher Came to the Administration of this Government, And as if this Present Councill & Assembly had Consisted of the Number, and had Met on the Days in the Said Charter & former Act of Settlement Limited, & appoynted. And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that the said frame of Government, and all other the Acts and Laws made and Past at the Said Last Assembly held here in October and November 1696, as also all other Laws formerly Enacted and now in force and not by this Generall Assembly altered, or Repealed, are hereby Declared & Enacted to Stand, and Remain, in force, And be Reputed, observed, Adjudged, & taken, as the Laws of this Government—Any Law, Charter or Usage to the Contrary in any wise notwithstanding

A.P.S., *Original Laws of Pennsylvania from 1693-1700*, f. 99.  
 H.S.P. Cadwalader Collection. Act of May 22, 1697, chapter 1. Superseded by chapter 135, 1698.

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## CHAPTER 128.

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### THE LAW FOR THE ENCOURAGMENT AND SUPPORT OF THE POST OFFICE.

Whereas in the Year 1693 a Generall Post Office was by Law Erected att the Request of Andrew Hamilton at Philadelphia by which Law a Rate was put upon all Letters, And whereas the Charge of the Said Office hath much exceeded the Postage and Being Sensible of the Benefit of the Said Office to Trade and Commerce and to the Province & Territories in Generall if it be Continued, and of the great Loss that will happen to both if it should fall for want of Encouragement.

Be it therefor Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that it Shall & may be Lawfull for the Said Andrew Hamilton or Some other that Shall be apoynted by the King to be Post Master Generall in these Parts and his or their Deputies in that Office to Demand Receive and take for the Postage of all Letters So Conveyd or Sent Post as aforesaid according to and not exceeding the Rates following vizt: for all forrign

Letters from Europe the West Indies or any Part beyond the Seas whether Single Letters or Paquets four Pence and for all Foraigne Letters outward Bownd that Shall be Diliverd into the Office Two Pence Each Letter or Paquet, and for all Inland Letters to or from new Yorke to Philadelphia Eight Pence, to or from Philadelphia to Connecticut one Shilling, to or from Philadelphia to Road Island or Boston Eighteen Pence, to or from Philadelphia to the Eastward parts of New England, beyond Boston Two Shillings, to or from any place within Eighty Miles of Philadelphia Six pence, All Letters belonging to the Publick to be Dispatched & Deliverd, free of all Charge, and that the Post Pass Ferryage free at all Ferrys within the said Province and Territories, And be it farther Enacted by the Authoritie aforesaid that the Sume of Twenty Pounds Silver Money of this Province Shall be Yearly and each year dureing the Term of three Years, Payd out of the Publick Treasury of the Said Province and Teritories to the Said Andrew Hamilton and his above written Any Law Custome or Usage to the Contrary in any ways notwithstanding and that this Law Shall be and Continue in force for three Years Next after the Rising of this Generall Assembly & no Longer.

A.P.S., Original Laws of Pennsylvania from 1693-1700, f. 101.  
 H.S.P. Cadwalader Collection. Act of May 22, 1697, chapter 2. See  
 Vol. II St.L. 57, ch. L.

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## CHAPTER 129.

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### THE LAW FOR THE SPEEDY COLLECTION OF THE ARREARS OF THE ASSESSMENT LAID IN 1696.

Whereas there was an Act made at a Generall Assembly held at Philadelphia the 26th of the 8th Moneth 1696 for Raising the Rate of one Penny Per Pound and Six Shillings Per head upon Such as wer not otherwise Rated thereby to be Employed by the Governor for the Time Being as is therein appoynted, which Said Act Expressly Requiring the Collectors of the Said Tax to pay in the Respective Rates Committed to their Collection to James Fox of Philadelphia merchant on or before the Twenty fifth day of the Second Month Last past Dangers &