CHAPTER 131.

THE LAW AGAINST SWINE RUNNING AT LARGE IN THE COUNTY OF BUCKS &C.

Whereas Divers Complaints have been made by divers of the Inhabitants of the County of Bucks but Especially by those that Live fronting the River Dellaware that By Reason of the great Land floods that frequently Carried away their fences they have Received much Dammage by Swine Running at Large. Be It Therefore Enacted &c: That no Person inhabitting within the Townships of the falls and Makefield whose Lands Lye fronting or not fronting The River of Dellaware in the County aforesaid Shall from and after the Tenth Day of the Tenth Month Next Suffer any Swine to go at Large within the distance of two Miles and a halfe from the Said River in the Said Townships aforesaid on the forfieture of five Shillings per head for all Such Swine, one half to the party Damnified, the other halfe to the Publick use of the Township where Such damage Shall be done, & if any Swine Belonging to any Person not Living within the Bownds aforesaid Shall Suffer his Swine to Come upon the Meadow or Corn Land within the aforesaid Limits the owner of Such Swine Shall forfeit five shillings per head for all Such Swine, the one halfe to the Partie Damnified, and the other halfe to the Publick use of Such Respective Township as aforesaid.

A.P.S., Original Laws of Pennsylvania from 1693 to 1700, f. 109. H.S.P., Cadwalader Collection. Act of May 22, 1697, chapter 5. See Vol. II St.L. 93, ch. LXXVII.

CHAPTER 132.

THE LAW ABOUT MARRIED WOMEN HAVING CHILDREN IN THE ABSENCE OF THEIR HUSBANDS.

And be it Enacted by the Authoritie aforesaid, That if any woman within this government shall have a child born of her bodie in the absence of her Husband, and shall not be able by credible evidence to prove that her Husband hath Cohabited or been in companie with her within one year Last past, before the birth of such Child, such woman shall be Liable to be Corporally or pecuniarily punished as in the case of fornication.

P.H.M.C., Archives, H.S.P., Cadwalader Collection. Act of May 22, 1697, chapter 6. See Vol. II St.L. 5, ch. III.

CHAPTER 133.

THE LAW AGAINST SWEARING.

Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that whosoever Shall Swear in their Common Conversation by the Name of God or Christ or Jesus being Legally Convicted Thereof Shall pay for every Such offence five Shillings or Suffer five Days Imprisonment in the House of Correction at hard Labour to the behooff of the Publick & be fed with Bread & water only, dureing that Time And for the Second offence Six Shillings or Six days Imprisonment as aforesaid and for the Third offence Ten Shillings or Suffer Ten days Imprisonment as aforesaid, And if Such Person Shall after Presume to Commit the Same offence and Be Legally Convicted thereof he Shall be Fined at the Discretion of the County Court not Exceeding five pound or be Compelled to worke in Prison at hard Labour as the Said Court Shall think fit not Exceeding two Moneths and Shall be Deemed a Common Swearer.

And be it farther Enacted that whosoever Shall Swear by any other name or thing, and is Legally Convicted thereof Shall pay for every Such offence halfe a Crown or Suffer Three days Imprisonment in the house of Correction at hard Labour having only Bread and Water for their Sustenance any Law Custom or Usage to The Contrary notwithstanding.

A.P.S., Original Laws of Pennsylvania from 1693 to 1700, f. 112. H.S.P., Cadwalader Collection. Act of May 22, 1697, chapter 7. See Vol. II St.L. 49, ch. XLIV.