

At a general Assembly begun and holden at Philadelphia, the fifteenth day of September, and continued by adjournments until the twenty-seventh day of October, A. D. 1701, the following acts were passed:

CHAPTER CV.

THE LAW FOR CONFIRMATION OF THE LAWS OF THIS GOVERNMENT.

We the representatives of the freemen of this province of Pennsylvania and counties annexed, in General Assembly met, at Philadelphia in the said province, seriously considering with what care and application the several general assemblies that have been held in this government since the proprietary's last arrival, have perused the laws of this government for their amendment, explanation and method, in order to be presented to the King for his royal approbation, pursuant to his commands in that behalf, nevertheless we finding that some of the said laws were not sent as wanting a further review as also that some of them which were of great moment to the country were not plainly understood, which has occasioned some doubts and misapprehensions concerning the said laws, for the removal whereof, and to prevent all further objections that may hereafter arise concerning them and the actings and proceedings of the present and former general assemblies of this province and territories, and for the indemnity of all magistrates, officers and other persons that have acted or shall act or officiate by virtue of the said laws:

[Section I.] We humbly desire that it may be enacted, and be it hereby enacted by the Proprietary and Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the freemen of this Province and Territories in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That all the laws or parts of laws that have been reviewed, amended and passed under the titles hereinafter men-

tioned, and every of them, are and shall be adjudged, deemed and taken to be in force, and are hereby ratified, confirmed and declared to be the laws of this province of Pennsylvania and territories thereunto belonging: (That is to say) The law concerning liberty of conscience (1); An act against riots, rioters and riotous sports, plays and games (2); An act against adultery, fornication, &c. (3); An act against rape or ravishment (4); An act against incest, sodomy, and bestialty (5); An act against bigamy (6); An act against robbing and stealing (7); An act about boats and canoes (8); An act against breaking into houses (9); An act against firing of houses, &c. (10); An act against forcible entry (11); An act against menacing, and assault and battery (12); An act against murder (13); An act against sedition, spreading false news, and defamation (14); An act against removing of landmarks (15); An act against defacers of charters, &c. (16); An act for county seals, and against counterfeiting hands and seals (17); An act for regulating the interest of money (18); An act of privileges to a freeman (19); An act against buying land of the natives (20); An act directing how petty offenses shall be punished (21); An act for the names of days and months (22); An act for the better provision for the poor within this province and territories (23); An act

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1. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter I.
 2. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter II.
 3. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter III.
 4. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter IV.
 5. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter V.
 6. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter VI.
 7. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter VII.
 8. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter VIII.
 9. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter IX.
 10. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter X.
 11. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XI.
 12. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XII.
 13. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XIII.
 14. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XIV.
 15. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XV.
 16. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XVI.
 17. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XVII.
 18. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XVIII.
 19. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XIX.
 20. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XX.
 21. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXI.
 22. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXII.
 23. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXIII.

about recording of deeds (24); An act about binding to the peace (25); An act limiting the presentments of the grand jury (26); An act to ascertain the number of members of assembly, and to regulate the elections (27); The law about attachments (28); An act for naturalization (29); An act for the ascertaining the descent of lands, and better disposition of the estates of persons intestate (30); An act for raising county levies (31); An act directing the attests of several officers and ministers, except the attest of lawyers, attorneys and solicitors (32); An act for the better attendance of the justices on the several courts of judicature within this province and territories (33); An act against jurors absenting, being lawfully summoned, to attend the several courts of judicature within this province and territories (34); An act to prevent immoderate fines (35); An act about defalcation (36); An act for the determining of debts under forty shillings (37); An act against speaking in derogation of courts (38); An act for the apprizement of goods (39); An act against barrators (40); An act to oblige witnesses to give evidence and to prevent false swearing (41); An act confirming devises of lands and validity of nuncupative wills (42); An act to prevent the greivous sin of cursing and swearing within this province and territories (43); An act

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- 24. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXIV.
 - 25. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXVI.
 - 26. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXVII.
 - 27. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXVIII.
 - 28. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXIX.
 - 29. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXX.
 - 30. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXXI.
 - 31. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXXII.
 - 32. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXXIII.
 - 33. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXXIV.
 - 34. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXXV.
 - 35. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXXVII.
 - 36. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXXVIII.
 - 37. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXXVI.
 - 38. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XXXIX.
 - 39. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XL.
 - 40. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XLI.
 - 41. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XLII.
 - 42. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XLIII.
 - 43. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XLIV.

to prevent all duelling and fighting of duels within this province and territories (44); An act for empowering widows and administrators to sell so much of the lands of intestates as may be sufficient to clear their debts (45); An act for the preservation of the person of the proprietary and governor (46); An act for taking lands in execution for the payment of debts where the sheriff cannot come at other effects to satisfy the same (47); An act for the better regulation of servants in this province and territories (48); An act for erecting and establishing a post office (49); An act for the assize of bread (50); An act for [the] priority of payments to the inhabitants of this government (51); An act for regulating of streets and water courses in the cities and towns of this government (52); An act to empower the justices in each county to lay out and confirm all roads except the King's highways and public roads (53); An act for [the] regulating and maintaining of fences (54); An act for the erecting of bridges and maintaining highways (55); An act against weirs cross creeks and rivers (56); An act against unseasonable firing of woods (57); An act about erecting and regulating the prices of ferries (58); An act for the trial of negroes (59); An act to prevent sickly vessels coming into this government (60); An act requiring all masters and commanders of all ships and vessels to make report at the town of Newcastle that are or shall be bound to and from the sea (61); An act for the levying of fines

44. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XLV.
45. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XLVI.
46. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XLVII.
47. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XLVIII.
48. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XLIX.
49. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter L.
50. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LI.
51. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LII.
52. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LIII.
53. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LIV.
54. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LVI.
55. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LVII.
56. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LVIII.
57. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LIX.
58. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LX.
59. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXI.
60. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXII.
61. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXIV.

(62); The law about departers out of the province (63); An act against the mixing and adulterating strong liquors (64); The law against scolding (65); The law about killing of wolves (66); An act for the regulating of money weights and stamping the same (67); An act concerning bills of exchange (68); An act appointing the rate of the money or coin within this province and territories, and for preventing the clipping the same (69); An act for regulating weights and measures (70); An act to prevent the sale of ill-tanned leather and working the same into shoes and boots (71); An act for keeping a registry in religious societies (72); An act that no public house or inn within this government be kept without license (73); An act for the ascertaining the dimensions of cask, and for the true packing of meat for transportation (74); An act about cutting timber trees (75); The law against drunkenness and healths-drinking (76); An act for bailing of prisoners and about imprisonment (77); An act against pirates and sea robbers (78); An act for granting an impost upon wines, rum, beer, ale, cider, &c., imported, retailed and sold in this province and territories (79); An act for the raising one penny per pound and six shillings per head, for support of the government and payment of debts and defraying the necessary charges thereof (80); An act for granting and raising to the proprietary and governor the sum of two thousand pounds, upon the clear value of all real

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- 62. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXV.
 - 63. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXVI.
 - 64. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXVII.
 - 65. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXVIII.
 - 66. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXIX.
 - 67. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXI.
 - 68. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXX.
 - 69. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXII.
 - 70. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXIII.
 - 71. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXIV.
 - 72. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXV.
 - 73. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXVIII.
 - 74. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXX.
 - 75. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXI.
 - 76. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXII.
 - 77. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXIII.
 - 78. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXIV.
 - 79. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXV.
 - 80. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXVI.

and personal estates and upon the polls of all freemen within this province and counties annexed (81); An act for the effectual establishment and confirmation of the freeholders of this province and territories, their heirs and assigns, in their lands and tenements (82) (with this alteration and amendment only in the last recited law: That the proprietary shall have one year's time more for resurveying land than is therein limited, and that where any possessor of overplus land has right by purchase to more than what he has already taken up, such possessor shall have such overplus land, and it shall be deducted out of what he has to take up): An act for erecting a bridge over the creek at Chester in the county of Chester (83); An act about country product to be current pay in the territories of the province of Pennsylvania (84); The law about court proceedings and summons (85); The law about trials by twelve men (86); The law about arrests (87); The law about false imprisonment (88); The law about acknowledging deeds in court (89); The law about seven years' quiet possession (90); The law about summoning of juries (91); The law about the manner of giving evidence, and against such as lie in conversation (92); The law about forms of writs (93); The law against persons judging in their own cause (94); The law about Indian traders (95); The law about officers' fees, except surveyors' fees (96).

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- 81. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXVII.
 - 82. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXVIII.
 - 83. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter LXXXIX.
 - 84. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XC.
 - 85. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XCII.
 - 86. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XCIII.
 - 87. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XCIV.
 - 88. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XCV.
 - 89. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XCVI.
 - 90. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XCVII.
 - 91. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XCVIII.
 - 92. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter XCIX.
 - 93. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter CI.
 - 94. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter CII.
 - 95. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter CIV.
 - 96. Passed November 27, 1700, Chapter CIII.

And for the prevention of disputes that may arise:

[Section II.] Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all laws whatsoever heretofore made, other than the laws under the titles above expressed, shall be null and void, and are hereby declared null and void to all intents and purposes.

Passed October 28, 1701; repealed by the Queen in Council, February 7, 1705-6. See Appendix I, Section II.

CHAPTER CVI.

AN ACT FOR ESTABLISHING COURTS OF JUDICATURE IN THIS PROVINCE AND COUNTIES ANNEXED.

For the better and more orderly establishment and regulation of the courts of justice within this government:

[Section I.] Be it enacted by the Proprietary and Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the freemen of this Province and Territories in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That there shall be holden and kept a county court or sessions four times in every year, in each county of this province and territories: (That is to say) in the county of Philadelphia, to begin on the third day of the week, called Tuesday, in the first week of the months called March, June, September and December; in the county of Bucks, to begin on the fourth day, called Wednesday, in the second week of every the said months; in the county of Chester, at the town of Chester, to begin on the third day of the last week in the months called February, May, August and November; in the county of Newcastle, at the town of Newcastle, to begin on the third day, called Tuesday, in the months called May, August, November and February; in the county of Kent, to begin on the second third day, called Tuesday, in the same months; [and in] the county of Sussex, at the town of Lewes, to begin on the first third day, or Tuesday, in the same months, called May, August, November and February: and that there shall be a competent number of justices in [every] of the said counties, appointed and authorized by the governor or his lieutenant for the time being by commission under the broad seal of the province, to hold the