

reserved or contracts or bargains made upon sales of lands or goods, for which money or other effects are really and truly agreed to be paid or delivered, after the said act of parliament takes effect, at the rates thereby directed, or in sterling money of Great Britain.

[Section II.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That for rendering payments according to the rates enjoined by the said proclamation more easy and expeditious, there shall be sets of weights of all sorts necessary, exactly proportioned, according to the said rates, from one halfpenny worth of silver to any sum that shall be thought fit, which weights shall be prepared and sold by Peter Stretch and George Plumly of Philadelphia, who shall stamp their respective marks thereon and be accountable for their exactness; and for seven such weights, between one halfpenny in value and six pence inclusive, they shall receive two pence for each weight; and for seven convenient weights between eight pence and twenty shillings inclusive, they shall receive four shillings and one penny, or five shillings and three pence for all the said fourteen weights and no more.

Passed April 30, 1709. Repealed by the Queen in Council, February 20, 1713-14. See Appendix III, Section II.

CHAPTER CLXVII.

[AN] ACT FOR THE BETTER ENABLING OF DIVERS INHABITANTS OF THE PROVINCE OF PENNSYLVANIA [TO HOLD] AND ENJOY LANDS, TENEMENTS AND PLANTATIONS IN THE SAME PROVINCE.

Whereas by the royal charter to the proprietary, for this province, license is granted to all such as are not specially forbidden to transport themselves and families unto the said province, in such shipping as, by the laws of [England], they ought to use, and [fitting provision,] paying only the customs therefore due; and [here to settle themselves,] dwell and inhabit, and plant for the public and their own private advantage. And by the same charter, the said [proprietary] has full and [ab-

solute] power to alien, grant or enfeof such parts and parcels of this country as he should think fit, to him or them that should be willing to purchase the same, to hold in fee-simple or otherwise with license, authority and power to take the premises so purchased of the said proprietary, and hold the same to themselves, their heirs and assigns, in what estate of inheritance soever, as to him the said proprietary should seem expedient, as by the said royal charter more fully appears.

And whereas divers of the protestant or reformed religion, who were inhabitants of high and low Germany, about five-and-twenty years ago (out of a desire to come under the power and protection of the Crown of England, and partake of the advantages proposed for the encouragement of the adventurers to settle this new colony) embraced the invitations they had from the said proprietary, to transport themselves and estates here; and since they came, did contribute the utmost of their power to enlarge this part of the English empire, and always behaved themselves as dutiful and peaceable subjects, and several of them have made and subscribed the declarations and test by law appointed instead of the oaths of supremacy; and the rest are ready and willing to do it when they are required or admitted so to do.

Now, forasmuch as the value of lands in this province being generally but the effect of the people's labor, their plantations are deemed, by our laws but as chattels to pay debts, and strangers have been rendered capable to hold what they purchased as fully and freely as if they had been natural-born subjects of this province; but since the repeal of the late laws, (made after the example of other governments) for encouragement of the peopling and settling of this colony, some doubts and questions have arisen, whether the said Germans are capable to hold what they purchased as aforesaid: for removing of which doubts:

[Section I.] Be it enacted by Charles Gookin, Esquire, by the Queen's royal approbation Lieutenant-Governor under William Penn, Esquire, Proprietor and Governor-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, by and with the advice and consent of the freemen of the said Province in General Assembly met, and

by the authority of the same, That Francis Daniel Pastorius, John Jawert, Caspar Hoodt, Dennis Kunders and his three sons Cunrad Cunrads, Matthias Cunrads and John Cunrads, Dirk Keyser and his son Peter Keyser, John Lucken, William Streppers, Abraham [Tunes], Lenart Arrets, Reinier Tysen, John Lenson, Isaac Dilbeek and his son Jacobus Dilbeek, John Doeden, Cornelius Siorts, Henry Sellen, Walter Simens, Dirk Jansen, junior Richard Van der Werf and his son, John Roeloffs Van der Werf, John Streepers, senior, Peter Shoemaker, Jacob Shoemaker, George Shoemaker, Isaac Shoemaker, Matthi[a]s Van Bebber, Cornelius Van der Gaegh, Peter Clever, George Gottshick, Paul Engell and his son Jacob Engell, Hans Neus, Reinier VanderSluys and his son Adrian Van der Sluys, Jacob Gaetshalck Van der Heggen and his son Gaetshalck Van der Heggen, Caspar Kleinhoof, Henry Bucholtz, Hermann Tuynen, Paul Klinupges and his son John Klinupges, John Neus and his sons Matthias Neus and Cornelius Neus, Claus Rittenhuysen, Caspar Stalls, Henry Tubben, William Hendricks, and his sons Hendrick Hendricks and Lawrence Hendricks, Henry Kessleberry, Johannes Rebenstock, Peter Verbynen, John Henry Kirsten, John Radwitzer, John Conrads, senior, John Gorgaes, Senwes Bartells and his son Henry Bartells, John Krey and his son William Krey, Conrad Jansen, Claus Jansen and his son John Jansen, William Jansen, Evert Imhoff and his sons Gerhard Imhoff, Herman Imhoff, and Peter Imhoff, Peter Jansen, John Smith, Thomas Eckleswich, Johannes Scholl, Peter Scholl, Gabriel Schuler, William Putts and Matthi[a]s Tysen, all of the county of Philadelphia; and Johannes Bleikers, of the county of Bucks, in the said province of Pennsylvania; and every of them, who shall, within six months after the first day of September, one thousand seven hundred and nine, at some court of quarter-sessions of the peace for the said county of Philadelphia, between the hours of nine and twelve in the forenoon, make and subscribe the declarations and profession of faith, allowed to those that cannot swear, instead of the oaths of supremacy and allegiance; or shall otherwise qualify themselves as the court shall require and the law directs in such cases, the taking of which qualifications, and the making and

subscribing of the said declarations and profession, shall be entered on record in the same court; for the doing whereof one shilling shall be paid the clerk, and no more: all and every such persons shall be enabled, and are, and every of them is hereby enabled and adjudged able and capable to all intents, constructions and purposes whatsoever, as well to demand, ask, have, hold and enjoy any lands, tenements, plantations, rents and hereditaments, in this province, to which they or any of them may or might in anywise be entitled, as if they were free and natural-born subjects and people of this province: as also, that they and every of them shall and may be enabled to maintain, prosecute, avow, justify and defend all and all manner of actions, suits, pleas, complaints and other demands whatsoever, in the said province, as freely and fully, lawfully and securely as if they and every of them had been natural-born subjects and people of the same, or as [any other person] or persons born within this province may lawfully do; any law or usage [to the] contrary notwithstanding.

Passed September 29, 1709. Confirmed by the Queen in Council, February 20, 1713-14. See Appendix III, Section II. Private act.