

cordingly mentioned and expressed. Now, forasmuch as disputes and controversies may hereafter arise concerning the premises:

[Section I.] Be it therefore enacted by Charles Gookin, Esquire, by the Queen's royal approbation Lieutenant-Governor under William Penn, Esquire, absolute Proprietary 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 all deeds, conveyances, mortgages, letters of attorney, or powers of agency, commissions, bonds, bills, charter-parties, leases, releases, contracts, articles, receipts, and all other instruments and writings whatsoever, wherein the names of the months are called First, Second, Third, Fourth, instead of March, April, May, June, and so of the rest, always accounting the month called March to be the first month of the year, shall and are hereby enacted and declared to be as good and available, and may be pleaded and shall be deemed, adjudged and taken in all courts of judicature, and elsewhere within this province, to be as valid and effectual in law, to all intents, constructions and purposes, as if the months in such writings had been set down and expressed by their usual names, any law, custom or usage to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Passed February 28, 1710-11. Confirmed by the Queen in Council, February 20, 1713-14. See Appendix III, Section II. Repealed by the Act of Assembly passed March 11, 1752, Chapter 395.

CHAPTER CLXXVI.

AN ACT FOR PRIORITY OF PAYMENT OF DEBTS TO THE INHABITANTS OF THIS PROVINCE.

Whereas many persons bringing into this province considerable cargoes of goods and visible estates do thereby acquire great and large credits from the inhabitants, and upon the death of such persons it often happens that such cargoes or

effects are claimed by their employers, or others beyond the seas, whereby it falls out that the inhabitants who furnished the said persons with goods, suitable for returns, or otherwise gave them credit, are liable to be defrauded or deprived of their just debts; for prevention whereof, as well as to give remedy in the premises, and in such like cases:

[Section I.] Be it enacted by Charles Gookin, Esquire, by the Queen's royal approbation Lieutenant-Governor under William Penn, Esquire, absolute Proprietary 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 all debts which are or shall be contracted within this province, shall be preferred before all debts of the same nature and dignity which are or shall be contracted out of this province; and no debt which is or shall be due by judgment or recognizance, recovered or acknowledged, or by bond or specialty made out of this province, for debts not contracted in this province, shall be preferred to debts of the same nature which are or shall be contracted within the said province. And that no action or suit now or hereafter commenced, for any debt contracted, or *assumpsit* made within this province, shall be stayed upon the allegation or pretense of a foreign debt of a higher nature, unless notice be first given by action entered for such foreign debt, in some court of record within this province.

Passed February 28, 1710-11. Repealed by the Queen in Council, February 20, 1713-14. See Appendix III, Section II.

CHAPTER CLXXVII.

AN ACT FOR THE BETTER IMPROVING A GOOD CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE INDIANS.

Whereas it is of great importance to the peace and welfare of the inhabitants of all these the Queen's dominions that a friendship be cultivated between her subjects and the native Indians, the first possessors of these lands, and that they may not only be strengthened and confirmed in the interest of the