

hereby expressly altered and supplied, but that the same act, in every other respect, shall remain and be in full force and virtue as the same ought to have been in, if this act had not been made, anything hereinbefore contained to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Passed June 7, 1712. Confirmed by the Queen in Council, February 20, 1713-14. See Appendix III, Section II, and the Act of Assembly passed March 27, 1712-13, Chapter 197. Supplied by the Constitution of 1776, Section XXXIV, and the Act of Assembly passed March 14, 1777, Chapter 748.

CHAPTER CLXXXVIII.

AN ACT FOR EMPOWERING RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES TO BUY, HOLD AND ENJOY LANDS, TENEMENTS AND HEREDITAMENTS.

[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 it shall and may be lawful to and for all religious societies or assemblies and congregations of Protestants within this province to purchase any lands or tenements for burying-grounds and for erecting houses of religious worship, schools and hospitals, and by trustees or otherwise, as they shall think fit, to receive and take grants or conveyances for the same, for any estate whatsoever, to and for the use or uses aforesaid, to be holden of the lord of the fee, by the accustomed rents and services.

[Section II.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all sales, gifts or grants made to any of the said societies, or to any person or persons in trust for them or any of them of, for or concerning any lands, tenements or hereditaments within this province, for and in any estate whatsoever, shall be and are by this act ratified and confirmed, accord-

ing to the tenor and true meaning thereof, and of the parties concerned therein.

And where any gifts, legacies or bequests have been or shall be made by any person or persons to the poor of any of the said respective religious societies, or to or for the use or service of any meeting or congregation of the said respective societies, the same gifts and bequests shall be employed only to those charitable uses or to the use of those respective societies or meetings, or to the poor people to whom the same are or shall be given or intended to be given or granted, according to what may be collected to be the true intent and meaning of the respective donors or grantors, notwithstanding any failure or defect in their gifts, grants or bequests.

Passed June 7, 1712. Repealed by the Queen in Council, February 20, 1713-14. See Appendix III, Section II, and the Act of Assembly passed May 28, 1715, Chapter 203.

CHAPTER CLXXXIX.

A SUPPLEMENTARY ACT TO A LAW ABOUT THE MANNER OF GIVING EVIDENCE.

Whereas by an act of this province, passed by Governor Fletcher in the year one thousand six hundred [and] ninety-three, entitled "The law about the manner of giving evidence and against such as lie in conversation," there is no provision made for qualifying jurors, magistrates and other officers in this government, which (by reason of a majority of the freeholders thereof are religiously principled against taking and administering an oath) will inevitably retard and very much obstruct the administration of justice, unless the same be remedied by law:

[Section I.] We therefore humbly pray that it may be enacted, and 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 ad-