

CHAPTER CCLXXXIII.

AN ACT TO ENABLE JEREMIAH LANGHORNE, WILLIAM BILES, JOSEPH KIRKBRIDE, JUNIOR, THOMAS WATSON, PRACTITIONER IN PHYSIC, AND ABRAHAM CHAPMAN TO BUILD A NEW COURT-HOUSE AND PRISON IN THE COUNTY OF BUCKS.

Whereas it hath been represented to this house that the courts of general quarter-sessions of the peace and common pleas for the county of Bucks have of late been held at the borough of Bristol in the said county, and that a great number of the inhabitants are settled many miles back from that place, which makes their attendance at courts very inconvenient and burdensome to the people living so remote, and that the township of Newtown is near the center of the inhabited part of the said county, and if a court-house and prison were erected in the said township, it would be very commodious and much for the ease of the inhabitants of the said county in general:

May it therefore please the governor that it may be enacted:

[Section I.] And be it enacted by Sir William Keith, Baronet, Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, &c., 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 the said Jeremiah Langhorne, William Biles, Joseph Kirkbride [Jun.], Thomas Watson and Abraham Chapman or any three of them to purchase and take assurance to them and their heirs of a piece of land situate in some convenient place in the said township of Newtown, in trust and for the use of the said county, and thereon to erect and build, or cause to be erected and built, a court-house and prison sufficient to accommodate the public service of the said county and for the ease and conveniency of the inhabitants.

[Section II.] And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That for the defraying the charge of purchasing the land, building and erecting the court-house and prison aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful to and for the commissioners and assessors

of the said county or a majority of them, who are hereby required to assess and levy so much money as the said trustees or any three of them shall judge necessary for purchasing the land and finishing the said court-house and prison: Provided always, the sum of money so raised do not exceed three hundred pounds current money of this province.

[Section III.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when the said court-house shall be erected as aforesaid, that from thenceforth the several courts of general quarter-sessions of the peace and gaol-delivery and the courts of common pleas for the said county shall be holden and kept at the said court-house when the same is built and erected in the township of Newtown as aforesaid; and the election of representatives to serve in general assembly, assessors and all other officers of the said county who are or shall be appointed to be annually elected or otherwise shall be made and elected at the said court-house, any law, custom or usage to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Passed March 20, 1724-25. Apparently never submitted to the Crown for consideration. See the Acts of Assembly passed March 7, 1745-46, Chapter 366; March 21, 1772, Chapter 650; June 14, 1777, Chapter 757; April 1, 1778, Chapter 798; August 19, 1778, Chapter 801; February 28, 1780, Chapter 878; September 13, 1785, Chapter 1175; April 13, 1791, Chapter 1575; April 8, 1794, Chapter 1732; February 28, 1810, P. L. 47; January 28, 1813, P. L. 54; April 14, 1834, P. L. 333; April 15, 1834, P. L. 537; April 24, 1879, P. L. 32; June 1, 1883, P. L. 53; April 26, 1889, P. L. 55.

CHAPTER COLXXXIV.

AN ACT FOR RAISING OF COUNTY RATES AND LEVIES.

Whereas by the help and directions of a law of this province passed in the fourth year of his present Majesty's reign, entitled "An act for the more effectual raising of county rates and levies,"¹ the method of those assessments are brought to a com-

¹ Passed February 22, 1717-18, Chapter 231.