

THE STATUTES AT LARGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

At a General Assembly begun and holden at Philadelphia, the fifteenth day of October, A. D. 1744, and continued by adjournments until the seventh day of September, 1745, the following act was passed:

CHAPTER CCCLXII.

AN ACT FOR THE SPEEDY TRIAL OF CAPITAL OFFENSES COMMITTED BY ANY INDIAN OR INDIANS IN THE REMOTE PARTS OF THE PROVINCE.

To the end that all capital offenses which have been or hereafter shall be committed by any Indian or Indians within the bounds of this province in places remote from inhabitants may receive the most speedy and impartial trials:

[Section 1.] Be it enacted by the Honorable George Thomas, Esquire, with the King's royal approbation Lieutenant-Governor under the Honorable John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esquires, true and absolute Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania and of the counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex on Delaware, by and with the advice and consent of the representatives of the freemen of the said Province in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That all murders, manslaughters, homicides, felonies and of

fenses whatsoever and accessaries of the same which by the laws or acts of assembly of this province are declared capital, or felonies punishable by death, which already have been committed, perpetrated or done or shall hereafter be committed, perpetrated or done by any Indian or Indians within this province in places remote from inhabitants, as aforesaid, all and every such offense or offenses, in whatsoever place or county the same hath happened or shall happen, shall henceforth be inquired of, heard, adjudged and determined before the justices of the supreme court or the justices of the courts of oyer and terminer and general gaol delivery, to be held in the county of Philadelphia, by indictments, inquests and verdicts, to be taken of good and lawful men, inhabitants of the same county, in like manner and form as if such capital offense or offenses had been committed, perpetrated or done within the said county, any law or usage to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Passed October 19, 1744. Confirmed by the King in Council, October 29, 1748. See Appendix XVI, Section I, and note to the Act of Assembly passed May 31, 1718, Chapter 236; (the Constitution of 1776, Declaration of Rights, Section IV;) and the Acts of Assembly passed September 15, 1786, Chapter 1241; April 5, 1790, Chapter 1516; (the Constitution of 1790, Article IX, Section IX;) April 22, 1794, Chapter 1777; June 16, 1836, P. L. 784; (the Constitution of 1838, Article IX, Section IX;) March 31, 1860, P. L. 427; (the Constitution of 1874, Article I, Section IX.)