

shall be delivered to the overseers of the poor for the use of the poor.

[Section IV.] And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the clerks of the market to weigh all butter brought unto or being in the town or market to be sold by weight, which if found deficient shall be seizable, one-third part thereof for the use of the said clerk, and the other two-thirds to be by him delivered to the overseers of the poor for their use as aforesaid.

[Section V.] And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the above-recited act passed in the twelfth year of the reign of King William the Third, entitled "An act for the assize of bread," be and the same is hereby repealed and made void.

[Section VI.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That this act shall continue in force for the space of three years and from thence until the end of the next sessions of assembly and no longer.

Passed March 11, 1751-52. Confirmed by the King in Council, May 10, 1753. See Appendix XIX, Section I, and note to the Act of Assembly passed November 27, 1700, Chapter 51, and the Act of Assembly passed March 14, 1761, Chapter 460.

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## CHAPTER CCCXCV.

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### AN ACT TO PREVENT DISPUTES ABOUT THE DATES OF CONVEYANCES AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS AND WRITINGS.

Whereas by an act of Parliament made in the twenty-fourth year of the present reign, entitled "An act for regulating the commencement of the year and for correcting the calendar now in use,"<sup>1</sup> it is enacted that in and throughout all His Majesty's dominions and countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and America belonging or subject to the Crown of Great Britain, the supputation according to which the year of our Lord beginneth on the twenty-fifth day of March should not be made use of from and after the last day of December, one thousand seven hundred

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<sup>1</sup> 7 Ruffhead, 329.

and fifty-one, and that the first day of January next following the said last day of December should be reckoned, taken, deemed and accounted to be the first day of the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty-two, and so on, from time to time, the first day of January in every year which should happen in time to come should be reckoned, taken, deemed and accounted to be the first day of the year; and that each new year should accordingly commence and begin to be reckoned from the first day of every such month of January next preceding the twenty-fifth day of March, on which such year would, according to the supputation aforesaid, have begun or commenced; and that all acts, deeds, writing, notes and other instruments of what nature or kind soever which should be made, executed or signed upon or after the said first day of January, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-two, should bear date according to the new method of supputation. And whereas for the ease of the inhabitants of this province who scrupled to call the names of the months as they were commonly called, but the month which others called March they called the First Month, and so of the rest of the months of the year, according to the old supputation of the year, beginning on the twenty-fifth day of the month called March, then generally received throughout the King's dominions, an act of the general assembly of this province was passed in the ninth year of the late Queen Anne, entitled "An act to prevent disputes which may hereafter arise about the dates of conveyances and other instruments and writings,"<sup>1</sup> whereby it was enacted that all instruments and writings whatsoever wherein the names of the months were called the First, Second, Third and Fourth, instead of March, April, May and June, and so of the rest, should be judged and taken as valid and effectual in law as if the months in such writings had been set down and expressed by the usual names.

And forasmuch as many of the sober inhabitants of this province are still conscientiously scrupulous of calling the names of the months as they are usually called, yet hold themselves in duty bound to comply with the act of Parliament hereinbefore-recited:

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<sup>1</sup> Passed February 28, 1710-11, Chapter 175.

Therefore, for preventing disputes and controversies concerning the dates of such instruments and writings since the passing of the act of Parliament aforesaid,

[Section I.] Be it enacted by the Honorable James Hamilton, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governor under the Honorable Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esquires, true and absolute Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania and counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex upon 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 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 since the first day of the month called January last, wherein the names of the months are called First, Second, Third and Fourth, instead of January, February, March, April, and so of the rest, accounting always the month called January 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.

[Section II.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the act of assembly aforesaid, entitled "An act to prevent disputes which may hereafter arise about the dates of conveyances and other instruments and writings," passed in the ninth year of the late Queen Anne, and every clause, part and paragraph thereof, shall be and is hereby repealed and made void.

Passed March 11, 1752. Confirmed by the King in Council, May 10, 1753. See Appendix XIX, Section I.