

[Section XIX.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if the four yearly taxes to be levied by virtue of this act shall not be sufficient to sink the full sum of fifty-five thousand pounds in bills of credit hereby to be issued and defray all incident charges, in such case a further tax or taxes in the next succeeding year or years shall be laid and levied in the same manner as the said four yearly taxes are directed to be laid and levied until the said fifty-five thousand pounds is fully completed. And if the said four yearly taxes shall produce more than the said fifty-five thousand pounds, the incident charges as aforesaid being defrayed, the overplus shall be disposed [of] in such manner as by act of general assembly of this province shall be hereafter ordered and directed.

Passed November 27, 1755. Confirmed by the King in Council, July 7, 1756. See Appendix XXI, Section I.

As to Sections I-XVII, see note to the Act of Assembly passed March 5, 1725-26, Chapter 289; and the Acts of Assembly passed September 21, 1756, Chapter 412; March 23, 1757, Chapter 422; June 17, 1757, Chapter 423; April 22, 1758, Chapter 431; April 17, 1759, Chapter 437; April 12, 1760, Chapter 453; May 14, 1762, Chapter 483; March 4, 1763, Chapter 497; October 22, 1763, Chapter 505; May 30, 1764, Chapter 513; September 22, 1764, Chapter 516; (the two acts of) September 20, 1766, Chapters 542, 547; February 18, 1769, Chapter 586; May 27, 1769, Chapter 595; March 21, 1772, Chapter 661; January 22, 1794, Chapter 692; January 28, 1777, Chapter 737.

As to Section XVIII, see the Act of Assembly passed February 17, 1768, Chapter 571.

CHAPTER CCCCVII.

AN ACT FOR THE RELIEF OF GEORGE CROGHAN AND WILLIAM [TRENT] FOR AND DURING THE SPACE OF TEN YEARS.

Whereas David Franks for Levy & Company, Jeremiah Warder, Samuel Neave, William and David McIlvaine, Buckridge Sims, Benjamin and Samuel Shoemaker, James Wallace, James Benezet, Thomas Campbell, William West, Adam Hoops; John Potter and Joseph Morris, by their petition to the representatives of the freemen of the province of Pennsylvania in

general assembly met, set forth that George Croghan and William Trent, late of the county of Cumberland in the said province, Indian traders and partners, stand indebted to them and sundry other persons in considerable and large sums of money, and that by many losses, occasioned by the defection of our Indian allies from their former friendship and amity with this province and the invasion and conquest by the French on the Ohio and the adjacent country (where for the most part the goods purchased of the aforesaid creditors were sold), the contracts by the said George Croghan and William Trent made and their debts became due, they are rendered altogether destitute of money or effects to make satisfaction to their creditors, and therefore praying that the persons and effects of the said George Croghan and William Trent may be free from the restraint or arrest of their creditors for the space of ten years. And whereas the said George Croghan and William Trent have for some time past removed themselves from their creditors and are by their distressed circumstances forced to continue remote, so that they cannot transact any business nor put themselves in a condition of retrieving their affairs, and in such their situation they cannot exert themselves either in the service of themselves, their creditors or their county, and there is no probability of their being ever able to satisfy their just debts by any other means than by permitting them to transact their business and affairs without molestation:

Therefore in favor of the said petition we, the representatives aforesaid, do offer it to the governor to be enacted:

[Section I.] And be it enacted by the Honorable Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire, with the King's royal approbation 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 the said George Croghan and William Trent shall and may at all times during the space of ten years, to be computed from the twenty-eighth day of November, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-

five, transact, [settle,] manage and carry on their and each of their joint or several business affairs, accounts, commerce and dealings within the said province of Pennsylvania in person or otherwise without molestation, suit, attachment, arrest, imprisonment or detention of them the said George Croghan and William Trent, or either of them, their or either of their persons, estates, goods, chattel, or effects whatsoever for or upon any judgment, execution, debt, contract or agreement contracted or entered into by them or either of them before the said twenty-eighth day of November. And that if the said George Croghan and William Trent or either of them, their or either of their estates, goods, chattels or effects, shall within the space of ten years, to be computed from the said twenty-eighth day of November, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-five, to be arrested, imprisoned, attached, sued or molested for or upon any judgment, execution, extent, writ, action, attachment or suit for any debt, bargain, agreement, sum or sums of money due, contracted, agreed or engaged for, on or before the said twenty-eighth day of November, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-five, that then and in such case the said George Croghan and William Trent or either of them, so sued, imprisoned, attached, taken in execution or molested, shall and may plead this present act of assembly in abatement of such suit, imprisonment, attachment, execution or extent in any court or before any judge, justice or magistrate within the said province, and the same shall be allowed before such judge, justice or magistrate.

[Section II.] Provided nevertheless, That this act or any clause herein-contained shall not be deemed or construed to defeat, vacate or discharge any debt, engagement, contract, obligation or agreement which the creditors of the said George Croghan and William Trent or either of them or any of the said creditors may have or claim from any person or persons trading or dealing in company or partnership with the said George Croghan and William Trent or either of them, but that such creditor and creditors may have such remedy and claim and may prosecute the same against the said George Croghan and William Trent and such person and persons in company or partnership, jointly or severally as the case may require,

as effectually as if this act had not been made, anything herein contained to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

[Section III.] Provided also, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to bar or hinder the creditors of the said George Croghan and William Trent or either of them from suing for and prosecuting their just and legal demands against the said George Croghan and William Trent or either of them, from and after the expiration of the said term of ten years, in the same manner they might or could do at the time of making this act, anything in the act of limitations or any other act to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Passed December 3, 1755. Repealed by the King in Council, June 16, 1758. See Appendix XXI, Section IV.

CHAPTER CCCCVIII.

AN ACT FOR DISPERSING THE INHABITANTS OF NOVA SCOTIA IMPORTED INTO THIS PROVINCE INTO THE SEVERAL COUNTIES OF PHILADELPHIA, BUCKS, CHESTER AND LANCASTER AND THE TOWNSHIPS THEREOF, AND MAKING PROVISIONS FOR THE SAME.

Whereas the governor and council of Nova Scotia have thought it most advantageous to the British interest to transport many of the inhabitants thereof into other of His Majesty's colonies in North America, numbers of whom have been brought into this province destitute of the means of supporting themselves and their numerous families; whereupon, in compassion to their unhappy situation, they have been permitted to land and have been maintained at the public charge, it being altogether impracticable for them under their distressed circumstances to procure their own necessary subsistence. And whereas the dispersing the several families and persons into different townships and parts of this province may give them an opportunity of exercising their own labor and industry, whereby they may procure a comfortable subsistence for themselves and ease the public of this heavy expense, which must otherwise prove a grievous burden upon the inhabitants of this province.