

tinue in force during] the terms of the sev[eral acts which impose the fine] of fifty pounds upon assessors refu[sing or neg]-lecting to discharge the [duties of assessors within] this province and no [longer].

Passed March 4, 1763. Referred for consideration by the King in Council, December 9, 1763, and allowed to become a law by lapse of time in accordance with the proprietary charter. See Appendix XXIV, Section II, and the note to the Act of Assembly passed March 20, 1724-25, Chapter 284, and the Acts of Assembly passed March 16, 1779, Chapter 828; November 27, 1779, Chapter 875; April 17, 1795, Chapter 1352; April 11, 1799, Chapter 2095; March 28, 1814, P. L. 267; March 10, 1823, P. L. 64; April 15, 1834, P. L. 509; February 28, 1835, P. L. 45; May 15, 1841, P. L. 393; July 15, 1897, P. L. 271.

CHAPTER CCCCXCVIII.

AN ACT FOR ERECTING A HOUSE OF CORRECTION IN THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

Whereas it has been represented to this house by petition from a considerable number of the inhabitants of the borough and county of Lancaster that they now and for a long time have suffered most grievously, as well by unruly, disobedient servants as by idle, strolling vagrants from divers parts who have taken shelter in that county and borough; that drunkenness, profane swearing, breach of the Sabbath, tumults and other vices so much prevail that it is not in the power of the magistrates to suppress them and preserve peace and good order, having no house of correction for the punishment of such offenders.

And whereas the said county and borough of Lancaster have been erected and established since the passing an act of general assembly of this province for erecting houses of correction and work houses in the respective counties, passed in the fourth year of the reign of King George the First,¹ by means whereof doubts have arisen concerning the power of the said county to erect houses of correction or workhouses within the said county.

¹ Passed February 22, 1717-18, Chapter 229.

For remedy whereof:

[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 it shall and may be lawful for the commissioners and assessors of the county of Lancaster, or a majority of them, to meet together as soon as conveniently may be after the passing of this act and as often thereafter as need be, and make orders for building, erecting or causing to be built and erected or provided a house of correction in the borough of Lancaster, with convenient yards thereunto adjoining, for doing and performing whereof all such orders as the commissioners and assessors in the said county, or the major part of them, shall from time to time take or set down for erecting the same shall be of full force and be duly performed and put in execution.

[Section II.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when the said house of correction shall be so erected and fully finished the same shall be assured unto such persons as the justices of the peace, or the major part of them, in their quarter sessions of the peace of the said county of Lancaster shall think fit to order and direct, in trust nevertheless to and for the public use of the said county, to be and remain as a house of correction for the said county, to be employed for the correcting and keeping at hard labor all rogues, vagabonds, sturdy beggars and idle and disorderly persons who, by the laws and usage of Great Britain or by the laws of this province, are to be kept, corrected or set to work in such houses of correction.

[Section III.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when the house of correction shall be erected and finished in the county of Lancaster, as is hereinbefore directed and appointed, it shall and may be lawful for the justices of the peace of the said county in their quarter sessions of the peace to certify their want of money for supporting the said house of correction and what sum and sums of money they shall

think necessary for the same to the commissioners and assessors of the said county; the said commissioners and assessors are hereby required and enjoined from time to time to set down and ascertain such sum and sums of money as they shall judge competent for the purposes aforesaid and to cause the same to be raised as county rates are usually raised and levied, so that they do not exceed the value of twenty-five pounds yearly.

[Section IV.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the justices of the peace of the said county, or the major part of them, in their court of general quarter sessions of the peace, or at such other times as shall be necessary, to nominate and appoint some discreet and sober person to be the keeper and manager of the said house of correction and all other such officers and persons as shall be needful and necessary to be employed in and about the same, and him or them, or any of them, to remove as they shall see cause, and upon such a removal, or in case of the death of the said keeper or other officer so to be appointed, to nominate and appoint others in their place and stead, and to settle such reasonable allowances for their services and for the support of the persons committed to the said house of correction as the said justices and commissioners shall think fit.

[Section V.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That before any sum or sums of money or other stock hereafter to be raised for the purposes aforesaid shall be paid or delivered into the hands of the keeper or manager of the said house of correction, such keeper or manager shall give good and sufficient security to the commissioners and assessors of the said county to account for and pay to the commissioners and assessors for the time being the value of the principal sum of money or other stock to him delivered or paid for the purposes aforesaid in case of his death or removal from being keeper of the said house of correction.

Passed March 4, 1763. Referred for consideration by the King in Council, December 9, 1763, and allowed to become a law by lapse of time in accordance with the proprietary charter. See Appendix XXIV, Section II, and the note to the Act of Assembly passed February 22, 1717-18, Chapter 229; and the Act of Assembly passed February 21, 1767, Chapter 555.