

Pearson, by virtue of this act, shall not acquit or discharge any other person from such debt, sum or sums of money for which such person now is bound or engaged for or with the said James Pearson nor any lands, goods, chattels or other effects which the said James Pearson may hereafter have or acquire.

[Section III.] Provided also and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if the said James Pearson shall, upon any indictment for taking a false and corrupt oath or affirmation in any matter or thing contained in the said oath or affirmation, be convicted by his own confession or by the verdict of twelve men, the said James Pearson shall suffer all the pains and penalties which may by law be inflicted on any person convicted of willful and corrupt perjury, and shall likewise be liable to be arrested, taken and imprisoned upon any [process] *de novo* and charged in execution for the said debt in the same manner as if the said James Pearson had never been in execution or discharged before, and shall forever after be barred of any benefit of this act.

Passed February 2, 1765. Referred for consideration by the King in Council, February 10, 1766, and allowed to become a law by lapse of time in accordance with the proprietary charter. See Appendix XXIV, Section VIII.

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## CHAPTER DXXI.

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AN ACT THE BETTER TO ENABLE THE PERSONS THEREIN NAMED TO HOLD LANDS AND TO INVEST THEM WITH THE PRIVILEGES OF NATURAL BORN SUBJECTS OF THIS PROVINCE.

Whereas George Hitner, the younger, of the city of Philadelphia, saddler, William Harman, of the same city, baker, and Philip Bush, of Blockley township, in the county of Philadelphia, innholder, being Protestants and born out of the allegiance of His Majesty King George the Third, and subjects of some princes in Germany in amity with the Crown of Great Britain, have humbly applied to the representatives of the freemen of this province in General Assembly met, setting forth their being

brought into this province during their infancy, and that they have ever since dwelt in the same and demeaned themselves in dutiful obedience to the government and its laws, and have an earnest desire of being made partakers of those privileges which the natural born subjects of Great Britain enjoy within this province; and it being just and reasonable that those persons who have given testimony of their affection and obedience to the Crown of Great Britain should as well be secured in the enjoyment of their estates as encouraged in their laudable affection to and zeal for the English Constitution.

Wherefore, we, the representatives of the freemen of the province of Pennsylvania, in general assembly met, do request the governor that it may be enacted:

[Section I.] And be it enacted by the Honorable John Penn, 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 the said George Hitner, the younger, William Harman and Philip Bush and each and every of them, upon taking and subscribing the several oaths and declarations directed to be taken and subscribed by the several acts of Parliament made for securing the King's person and government and for preventing the dangers which may happen by Popish recusants, &c., before the governor's secretary for the time being, shall and they and every of them are hereby declared to be deemed, taken and held, to all intents and purposes, free and fully able to trade, traffic, load, freight and transport all manner of goods, wares, merchandises not by law prohibited to be imported or exported, as if they and each of them had been natural liege people and subjects of the King of Great Britain, born in this province, and also that they and each of them, after taking the oaths and making, repeating and subscribing the declarations aforesaid, shall be and are hereby adjudged and declared to be able and capable, to all intents and purposes, to take, receive, have, hold and enjoy all manner of lands, tenements, hereditaments and

real and personal estate now or at any time hereafter to them or either of them given or granted by purchase or gift of any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, whatsoever, and to sue, prosecute, pursue, maintain, avow and justify all manner of actions, suits and causes whatsoever and to have, hold and enjoy all and every the rights, liberties, privileges, advantages, benefits and immunities whatsoever belonging to His Majesty's liege people and natural subjects born within this province as lawfully, fully and freely as if they and every of them had been or were born natural subjects within this province, any law, custom or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Passed February 2, 1765. Referred for consideration by the King in Council, February 10, 1766, and allowed to become a law by lapse of time in accordance with the proprietary charter. See Appendix XXIV, Section VII.

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## CHAPTER DXXII.

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AN ACT FOR THE RELIEF OF ROBERT LETTIS HOOPER, JUNIOR, A PRISONER IN THE GAOL OF PHILADELPHIA, WITH RESPECT TO THE IMPRISONMENT OF HIS PERSON.

Whereas Robert Lettis Hooper, junior, hath, by petition to the last and present assembly of this province, set forth that he, meeting with many accidents and losses in trade, by which he was rendered incapable of carrying on his business and paying his just debts, did, on the fourteenth day of February last past, surrender and assign all his estate, real and personal, to Edmund Kearney, Gilbert Barclay, Thomas Wallace and John Wikoff for the use of all his creditors, and that a great majority of his principal creditors have signed a letter of license in his favor, but that by virtue of an execution issued against him at the suit of Redmond Conyngham and John Maxwell Nesbit for one hundred and fifty-eight pounds thirteen shillings and six pence half-penny he is now confined in the gaol of the city and county of Philadelphia, which sum by reason of the said surrender he is at present utterly unable to discharge, and is detained in con