

## CHAPTER DCLXXXV.

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

Whereas, Francis Caspar Hasenclever, of the city of Philadelphia, merchant, Frederic Phile, practitioner in physic, William Sheaff and Henry Sheaff, grocers, Jacob Mayer, peruke maker, and William Reible, trader, all of the said city, 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 that they have resided many years in this province and have demeaned themselves in dutiful obedience ever since to the government and its laws and are earnestly desirous of being made partakers of those privileges which the natural-born subjects of Great Britain enjoy within this province:

And whereas the said Francis Caspar Hasenclever, Frederic Phile, William Sheaff, Henry Sheaff, Jacob Mayer and William Reible, being all of them Protestants and each and every of them having in demonstration of their zeal and affection for His present Majesty's person and government taken and subscribed the oaths, and made, repeated and subscribed the declaration directed to be taken and subscribed by the act of Parliament made in the first year of the reign of His Majesty, George the First, entitled "An act for the further security of His Majesty's person and government and the succession of the crown in the heirs of the late Princess Sophia, being Protestants, and for extinguishing the hopes of the pretended Prince of Wales, his open and secret abettors," and it being but just and reasonable that those who have thus demeaned themselves within this province and given such testimony and proof of their obedience to the

Crown of Great Britain should be secured in the enjoyment of their properties and enabled to hold land and other real estate and encouraged in their laudable zeal and affection for the English Government, we the representatives of the freemen of the province of Pennsylvania in general assembly met do pray that it may be enacted:

[Section I.] And be it enacted by the Honorable Richard Penn, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governor under the Honorable Thomas Penn and John Penn, Esquires, true and absolute Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania, 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 Francis Caspar Hasenclever, Frederic Phile, William Sheaff, Henry Sheaff, Jacob Mayer and William Reible and each and every of them 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 and all manner of goods, wares and merchandises not by law prohibited to be imported and 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 and every of them are hereby adjudged able and capable to all intents and purposes to take, receive, have, hold and enjoy all and all manner of lands, tenements, hereditaments and real estate by purchase or gift of any person or persons, bodies politic and corporate, whatsoever, and to sue, prosecute, pursue, maintain, avow and justify all and 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 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, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Passed February 26, 1773. Referred for consideration by the King in Council, February 2, 1774, and allowed to become a law by lapse of time in accordance with the proprietary charter. See Appendix XXXI.