

other members of assembly and also the whole of the said last-recited act shall be and is hereby repealed.

Passed March 19, 1777. See the note to the Act of Assembly passed January 22, 1774, Chapter 696. The act in the text was repealed by the Act of Assembly passed December 27, 1777, Chapter 774.

CHAPTER DCCLII.

AN ACT FOR EMITTING THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS IN BILLS OF CREDIT FOR THE DEFENSE OF THIS STATE, AND PROVIDING A FUND FOR SINKING THE SAME BY A TAX ON ALL ESTATES, REAL AND PERSONAL AND ON ALL TAXABLES WITHIN THE SAME.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas it is necessary that a sufficient sum of money should be immediately provided in order to make proper preparation for the defense of this state against the cruel and hostile proceedings of the King of Great Britain:

Therefore:

[Section I] (Section II, P. L.) Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assmby met, and by the authority of the same, That bills of credit to the value of two hundred thousand pounds shall be prepared and printed within three months next after the publication of this act on good strong paper, under the care and direction of John Bayard, Robert Knox, Joseph Parker and Michael Shubart, Esquires, the charges whereof shall be paid by the state treasurer out of the moneys so prepared and printed which bills of credit shall be made and prepared in manner and form following, viz.:

This bill shall pass current for according to an act of general assembly of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania passed the twentieth day [of] March in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven. Dated the tenth day of April, A. D. on thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven.

And the said bills shall have such like escutcheons as in the

margin hereof,¹ with such other devices as the said John Bayard, Robert Knox, Joseph Parker and Michael Shubart shall think proper as well to prevent counterfeits as to distinguish their several and respective denominations, each of which bills shall be of the several and respective denominations following and no other: That is to say,

One hundred and fifty thousand bills of the value of three pence, one hundred and fifty thousand bills of the value of four pence, one hundred and fifty thousand bills of the value of six pence, one hundred and fifty thousand bills of the value of nine pence, thirty thousand bills of the value of one shilling, thirty thousand bills of the value of one shilling and six pence, thirty thousand bills of the value of two shillings, thirty thousand bills of the value of three shillings, thirty thousand bills of the value of four shillings, thirty thousand bills of the value of six shillings, thirty thousand bills of the value of eight shillings, thirty thousand bills of the value of twelve shillings, thirty thousand bills of the value of sixteen shillings, thirty thousand bills of the value of twenty shillings, twelve thousand six hundred and seventy bills of the value of forty shillings, and twelve thousand six hundred and sixty-five bills of the value of eighty shillings.

And the said John Bayard, Robert Knox, Joseph Parker and Michael Shubart shall use their best care, attention and diligence during the printing of the said bills that the number and amount thereof according to their respective denominations aforesaid be not exceeded nor any unjust and fraudulent practices used by the printer, his servants or others concerned therein. And for perfecting the said bills according to the true intent and meaning of this act:

[Section II] (Section III, P. L.) Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all and every of the said bills the denominations whereof shall be four shillings and upwards shall be signed by any two of the persons hereinafter mentioned, and that every of the said bills the denomination[s] whereof shall be under four shillings shall be signed by any one of the persons hereinafter mentioned; That is to say, by Benjamin Betterton, John Young,

¹ The original roll of this act contains no escutcheon.

Junior, William Thorn, [Andrew Hodge], William Kinley, Isaac Howell, Caleb Davis, Joseph Gardner, James Cannon, Whitehead Humphreys, Benjamin Jacobs, William Evans, [Levi Budd], Isaac Snowden, John Brown, William Will, Philip Alberty, Henry Luithausen, Samuel Smith, Frederick Antis, Robert Loller and James Davidson, who are hereby nominated and appointed to be signers of the said bills, and shall before they receive or sign any of them take an oath or affirmation to the effect following, viz.:

That they will well and truly sign and number all the bills that shall come to their hands for that purpose by the direction of this act and the same so signed and numbered will deliver or cause to be delivered unto the said John Bayard, Robert Knox, Joseph Parker and Michael Shubart or some one of them pursuant to the direction of this act.

(Section IV, P. L.) And for avoiding the danger of embezzlement or misapplication of the said bills of credit:

[Section III.] Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said John Bayard, Robert Knox, Joseph Parker and Michael Shubart or any one of them after the said bills shall be printed shall deliver them to the signers as aforesaid to be signed and numbered by parcels for which the said signers or one of them shall give his or their receipt: That is to say, not above three thousand pounds value in the said bills at one time to any two of the said signers, and so from time to time until all the said bills of credit shall be signed and numbered in such manner that not more than the value of three thousand pounds be in the hands of any two of such signers at any one time, of all which said bills of credit so delivered to be signed a true account shall be kept by the signers, who upon their re-delivery of each or any parcel of the said bills by them signed or numbered shall take the receipt of the said John Bayard, Robert Knox, Joseph Parker and Michael Shubart or some one of them to charge them before any committee of assembly to be appointed for that purpose. And each of the signers shall receive ten shillings for every thousand of the said bills by him signed and numbered. And each of them the said John Bayard, Robert Knox, Joseph Parker and Michael Shubart shall have and receive for their trouble the sum of ten shillings for each day they

shall be employed in the said service. And the said treasurer for receiving and paying the said bills of credit shall have and receive five shillings for every hundred pounds, and no more, to be paid out of the moneys so struck.

[Section IV.] (Section V, P. L.) And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That as soon as the said bills shall be signed, numbered and perfected the said John Bayard, Robert Knox, Joseph Parker and Michael Shubart or any one of them shall deliver them to the state treasurer and take his receipt or receipts for the same, who shall therewith pay off and discharge all such drafts and certificates as shall be made by order of assembly for public use.

[Section V] (Section VI, P. L.) And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all the said bills of credit hereby directed to be made, signed and numbered as aforesaid as this act directs shall be legal tender in and for the payment and discharge of all manner of debts, rents, sum or sums of money whatsoever due, payable or accruing upon or by reason of any mortgage, bill, specialty, bond, note, book account, promise or any other contract or cause whatsoever as if the same were tendered or paid in the coins mentioned in such mortgage, bill, specialty, bond or other writing, book account, promise, assumption or in any other contract whatsoever within this commonwealth.

[Section VI] (Section VII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority [aforesaid], That if any person or persons shall presume to counterfeit any of the bills of credit made and issued by virtue of this act or any of the said bills of credit emitted and made current by the resolves of the late assemblies of Pennsylvania by printing or procuring the same to be printed in the likeness and similitude of the said bills of credit, or if any person or persons shall forge the name or names of the signers of the said true bills of credit to such counterfeit bills, whether the counterfeiting of the said bills of credit or names be done within this state or elsewhere or shall utter such bills knowing them to be counterfeited as aforesaid and being thereof legally convicted by confession, standing mute or by the verdict of twelve men in any court of oyer and terminer within this commonwealth, he, she or they shall suffer death and the discoverer or informer

shall have as an encouragement for his discovery the sum of fifty pounds of value of the goods and chattels, lands and tenements, of the person or persons convicted, and if no such goods and chattels, lands and tenements, can be found the sum of ten pounds to be paid by the state treasurer; and if any person or persons shall counterfeit any of the said bills of credit by altering the denomination thereof with design to increase the value of the said bills, or shall utter such bills, knowing them to be so counterfeited or altered, and shall thereof be legally convicted in any court of quarter sessions of the peace within this commonwealth, every such person or persons shall be sentenced to the pillory, have both of his or her ears cut off and nailed to the pillory and be publicly whipped on his or her bare back with thirty-nine lashes well laid on; and, moreover, every such offender shall forfeit the sum of one hundred pounds, to be levied on his or her lands and tenements, goods and chattels, one moiety to the use of the state and the other to the discoverer; and the offender shall pay to the party aggrieved double the value of the damages thereby sustained, together with the costs and charges of the prosecution; and in case the offender shall not have sufficient to satisfy such discoverer or [sic] [for] his or her damages and pay the forfeiture aforesaid, he or she shall be sold for any term not exceeding seven years to make such satisfaction; and in case the said discoverer shall not be paid the full sum of ten pounds by the sale of such offender's goods, the state treasurer shall pay the sum of ten pounds, and every such counterfeit bill shall be delivered to the state treasurer to be made use of upon the trial of the person or persons accused or suspected, and afterwards to be burnt or destroyed in the presence of a committee of assembly. And to the end that the said sum of two hundred thousand pounds in bills of credit so as aforesaid to be struck by virtue of this act may be duly and fully sunk and destroyed:

[Section VII] (Section VIII, P. L.) Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That there shall be levied on all estates real and personal within this commonwealth of all and every person and persons the sum of one shilling and six pence for every pound clear yearly value of the said estates as the said

yearly value of the rents ariseth out of the premises or otherwise to be estimated by the assessors according to their best discretion and judgment, having respect to the quantity and value of the unimproved parts of the same, as also upon all located unimproved land or tracts of land to be assessed and rated in the manner hereinafter mentioned, to be paid by the owners or possessors in the manner herein directed; and that every single freeman, whether residing with parents or elsewhere, who at the time of the assessment shall be of the age of twenty-one years or hath been out of his apprenticeship or servitude for the space of six months shall pay the sum of ten shillings, except such as shall be actually enlisted in the service of this or the United States of America as soldiers during the time for which any part of the tax shall be levied.

[Section VIII] (Section IX, P. L.) And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the several sums so to be raised as aforesaid shall be assessed and levied from and after the first day of October next and shall be collected and paid in the same manner as the money given and granted to the use of the King of great Britain in and by an act of general assembly of the province of Pennsylvania passed the thirtieth day of May in the year [of our Lord] one thousand seven hundred and sixty-four, entitled "An act for granting to His Majesty the sum of fifty-five thousand pounds and for striking the same in bills of credit in the manner hereinafter directed, and for providing a fund for sinking the said bills of credit by a tax on all estates real and personal and taxables within this province"¹ is directed, and every article, clause and thing therein contained concerning the assessing and levying the taxes therein mentioned and the duties of the several officers and the allowances for their trouble enjoined them by the said act—except only such articles, clauses and things as are declared to be repealed by a certain other act of assembly called a supplement to the said act passed the twentieth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty-six,² and the penalties and forfeitures for refusal or neglect thereof shall be used, exercised

¹ Passed May 30, 1764, Chapter 513.

² Passed September 20, 1766, Chapter 547.

and put in practice for assessing, levying and collecting the tax hereby imposed and for discharging the respective duties and offices thereof as if the same articles, clauses and things were inserted in this act, except in such cases as are herein excepted, ascertained, provided for or altered.

(Section X, P. L.) And whereas the outstanding taxes will be sufficient when collected to sink and destroy all such bills of credit which were struck by acts of the said general assemblies and applied to the use of the King of Great Britain:

[Section IX] Be it enacted, That all bills of credit bearing date any time before the first day of July, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-nine shall not pass in payment of any debt or demand after the first day of October next except for taxes in order to sink and destroy the said bills.

Passed March 20, 1777. See the note to the Act of Assembly passed March 5, 1725-26, Chapter 289; and the Acts of Assembly passed October 13, 1777, Chapter 767; December 10, 1777, Chapter 768; December 5, 1778, Chapter 823; March 20, 1779, Chapter 830.

CHAPTER DCCLIII.

AN ACT FOR PUNISHING THE COUNTERFEITING THE CONTINENTAL LOAN OFFICE TICKETS AND LOTTERY TICKETS.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas it was resolved in Congress the third day of October, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six that five millions of continental dollars should be borrowed for the use of the United States of America, and that the lenders are to receive from the commissioners appointed for that purpose in each of the said United States a certificate signed by the continental treasurer and countersigned by one of the said commissioners of the said loan offices as by the said resolve may more fully appear:

And whereas it is necessary that some effectual measures be taken to prevent the counterfeiting the said certificates granted by the said commissioners of the said loan offices and also to