

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

prevent the counterfeiting the tickets of the United States lottery:

And whereas the punishment to be inflicted for counterfeiting the bills of credit emitted by the continental Congress is not sufficiently provided for in an act passed this present session, entitled "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:"¹

For remedy whereof:

[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 Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That if any person or persons shall presume to counterfeit any of the said certificates of the Continental loan offices, or any of the bills of credit emitted and made current by the resolves aforesaid of the honorable Continental Congress by printing or procuring the same to be printed in the likeness or similitude of any of the said genuine certificates or bills of credit aforesaid, or shall forge the name or names of any of the signers of the said certificates or bills of credit, or shall alter the dates, numbers, sums or denominations of any of the said genuine certificates or bills of credit aforesaid with an intention to increase the value, or defraud, whether the said counterfeiting, forging or altering be done in this commonwealth or elsewhere, or shall sell, give in payment or otherwise utter or distribute any of the said counterfeit, forged or altered certificates or bills of credit knowing them to be such and being thereof legally convicted by confession, standing mute or on the verdict of twelve men in any court of oyer and terminer or quarter sessions within this state as the nature of the case may require, he, she or they shall suffer the same punishments, pains, penalties, fines and forfeitures as are directed for counterfeiting, altering or uttering the bills of credit of this commonwealth or emitted or hereafter to be issued or emitted by virtue of an act, entitled "An act for emitting the sum of two hundred thousand pounds in bills of credit for the defense of this state and

¹ Passed March 17, 1777, Chapter 750.

providing a fund for sinking the same by a tax on all estates real and personal and on all taxables within the same.”²

[Section II] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall counterfeit any of the United States lottery tickets by printing or procuring the same to be printed in the likeness of the genuine tickets or forge the name or names of any of the signers of the said tickets, or shall alter the number, or shall sell, utter or otherwise distribute any of the said counterfeit, forged or altered tickets knowing them to be such and be thereof legally convicted before any court of quarter sessions in this commonwealth, he, she or they shall be sentenced to the pillory and be publicly whipped with any number not exceeding thirty-nine lashes well laid on his, her or their bare backs, 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 if the offender shall not have enough to satisfy the person aggrieved for his or her damages together with costs he, she or they shall be sold for any term not exceeding seven years; and every such counterfeit ticket shall be delivered to the judges or justices of the court, to be made use of upon the trial of the person so accused or suspected and afterwards to be burnt and destroyed in presence of the court.

Passed March 20, 1777. See the notes to the Act of Assembly passed September 28, 1773, Chapter 686; and the note to Ordinance of the First Constitutional Convention passed August 1, 1776, Chapter 728.

CHAPTER DCCLIV.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL TO APPOINT JUDGES TO HOLD CITY COURTS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES THEREIN MENTIONED.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas by the late revolution which hath taken place in the government of this state all powers and jurisdictions not founded on the authority of the people only have become null and void:

² Passed March 17, 1777, Chapter 750.