

the security thereof in special cases where no provision is already made by law,"<sup>1</sup> will expire by the limitation therein contained at the end of this present sitting of the general assembly:

And whereas the same necessity which induced the late general assembly to enact the said law (unhappily for this state) still subsists:

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 Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That the said aforementioned act of assembly and all the clauses, matters and things therein contained, comprised or mentioned (except only the last clause, paragraph or proviso, containing a limitation of the duration thereof until the end of the first sitting of the (then) next general assembly) shall be, remain and continue in as full force, validity and effect, as if the same were by this general assembly re-enacted in the same words.

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) Provided always, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said recited act of assembly shall be and remain in force to the end of the next sitting of this general assembly and no longer.

Passed January 2, 1778. See the note to the Act of Assembly passed September 16, 1777, Chapter 762.

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## CHAPTER DCCLXXVI.

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AN ACT FOR ESTABLISHING A NEW SEAL FOR THE SUPREME COURT AND FOR ALTERING THE PLACE OF HOLDING THE SAID COURT AND THE COURTS OF OYER AND TERMINER AND GENERAL GAOL DELIVERY IN THE COUNTIES OF CHESTER AND BUCKS FOR A LIMITED TIME.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas since the late glorious revolution it is become expedient and proper to have a new seal for the su-

preme court and the courts of oyer and terminer and general gaol delivery of this state:

[Section I.] 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 a new seal shall be procured and made under the direction of the prothonotary or clerk of the said supreme court having the arms of the state engraven thereon with such other devices as the justices of the said court shall direct, with an inscription round the edge and near the extremity thereof in these words, to-wit: "Seal of Supreme Court of Pennsylvania" and with the figures 1776 underneath the arms; and that the same from and after the receipt thereof by the prothonotary of said court shall be the seal of the said courts and used as such upon all occasions whatsoever, the expense of which seal shall be paid for by a draft of the prothonotary upon the treasurer of this state, who is hereby directed to pay the same out of the public moneys in his hand, and the seal of any of the justices of the said courts is hereby established as the seal of the said courts until such new seal shall be made and received by the said prothonotary.

(Section II, P. L.) And whereas it may be unsafe to hold the supreme court at the city of Philadelphia on the tenth day of April next, or to hold courts of oyer and terminer and general gaol delivery in the borough of Chester and town of Newtown for the respective counties of Chester and Bucks for some time, on account of the situation of the British army:

[Section II.] Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the justices of the same courts may and they are hereby authorized and empowered to hold the supreme court [at such] time and places as they shall think most suitable and convenient, of which they shall cause public notice to be given by the prothonotary at least twenty days before holding the said court, and also to hold courts of oyer and terminer and general gaol delivery for the counties of Chester or Bucks at such place or places within the said counties respectively as they shall agree upon and direct in their precepts to be issued to the sheriffs of the said several counties for summoning jurors and

other persons for holding such courts, and the said sheriffs are hereby directed to notify the same in their several proclamations accordingly throughout their respective counties.

[Section III] (Section III, P. L.) Provided always, and be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That after the British army shall be subdued, driven out of or shall evacuate this state, the supreme court and the courts of oyer and terminer and general gaol delivery for the counties of Chester and Bucks shall be holden at the places heretofore used and fixed by law.

Passed January 2, 1778.

As to Section I, see the note to the Act of Assembly passed May 22, 1722, Chapter 255; and the Act of Assembly passed April 14, 1834, P. L. 333.

As to Sections II and III, see the Acts of Assembly passed April 1, 1778, Chapter 798; August 19, 1778, Chapter 801.

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## CHAPTER DCCLXXVII.

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AN ACT TO PREVENT THE IMPRISONMENT OF SOLDIERS FOR SMALL DEBTS, AND ALSO TO PREVENT THE ENLISTMENT OF SOLDIERS WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA BY ANY OFFICERS OF THE OTHER STATES UNTIL THE QUOTA OF THIS STATE BE COMPLETED.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas it would be highly injurious to the common cause of this and the other United States of America in our present necessary defense to permit the imprisonment of soldiers for small debts:

[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 no soldier duly enlisted in the service of this or any other of the United States of America shall be arrested or imprisoned by virtue of any writ or other process for debt or any breach of civil contract issuing out of any court