

Laws enacted in the fourth sitting of the second General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which commenced at Philadelphia on the fourth day of August, A. D. 1778.

CHAPTER DCCCI.

AN ACT TO REPEAL THREE SEVERAL ACTS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THIS COMMONWEALTH, TO WIT, THE ACT, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO EMPOWER THE JUSTICES OF PHILADELPHIA AND CHESTER COUNTIES TO HOLD COURTS AT OTHER PLACES THAN USUAL,"¹ ONE OTHER ACT, ENTITLED "AN ACT FOR THE BETTER SECURING AND PUNISHING PERSONS GUILTY OF THE CRIMES THEREIN MENTIONED,"² AND THE ACT, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO EMPOWER THE JUSTICES OF THE COUNTY OF BUCKS TO HOLD COURTS AT OTHER PLACES THAN USUAL AND FOR THE REMOVAL AND SAFE CUSTODY OF THE RECORDS AND OTHER PUBLIC PAPERS OF THE SAID COUNTY."³

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas at the time when the enemy's grand army was in possession of the city of Philadelphia and its environs, and frequently made sudden incursions into the adjacent counties of Chester and Bucks, three several acts of general assembly were made for the advancement and more certain administration of public justice in the several counties of Philadelphia, Chester and Bucks, and for the safety of the public records of the said county of Bucks:

(Section II, P. L.) And whereas upon the retreat of the said army from this state the provisions made by the said three several acts are become unnecessary and the respective courts of justice, records and prisons may from henceforth be safely held and kept at the usual places appointed by law:

[Section I.] (Section III, P. L.) Be it therefore 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 three several acts of general assembly following, to-wit, the act entitled "An act to empower the justices of Philadelphia and Chester counties to hold courts at other places than usual."¹ One other act, entitled "An act for the better securing and punishing persons guilty of the crimes therein mentioned."² And the act, entitled "An act to empower the justices of Bucks county to hold courts at other places than usual and for the removal and safe custody of the records and other public papers of the said county,"³ and every clause, matter and thing in the said acts and each and every of them shall be and they are hereby declared to be repealed.

[Section II.] (Section IV, P. L.) Provided always and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every [act] matter and thing by virtue and in pursuance of any of the said three acts of general assembly, done before the publication of this act, shall be taken, deemed and adjudged to be good and available in law and that all informations, presentments and indictments found, made and taken and all other proceedings and process commenced and issued under the authority of any of the said three several acts and not determined before the publication of this act shall be continued, proceeded on and determined in the city or county respectively where the crimes or offenses were committed, or the cause of action had arisen.

Passed August 19, 1778.

CHAPTER DCCCII.

AN ACT TO INDEMNIFY WILLIAM DEWEES ESQUIRE THE LATE SHERIFF AND JAMES CLAYPOOLE ESQUIRE THE PRESENT SHERIFF OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA FOR REMOVING THE PRISONERS FROM THE NEW GAOL, AND IMPRISONING THEM AND OTHERS IN THE OLD GAOL IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas it was in and by an act of assembly of the province of Pennsylvania, entitled "An act for erecting

¹ Passed December 20, 1777, Chapter 769.

² Passed March 13, 1778, Chapter 788.

³ Passed April 1, 1777, Chapter 798.