

Laws enacted in the first sitting of the third general assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which was held at Philadelphia, on Monday the 26th day of October, A. D. 1778:

CHAPTER DCCCXVII.

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE EXPORTATION OF PROVISIONS FROM THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR A LIMITED TIME.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas it is highly expedient to preserve within this state, such articles of the produce thereof as may be necessary for the support of the inhabitants of the same or for the use of the United States of America:

(Section II, P. L.) And whereas the law made by the late assembly of this commonwealth for that purpose, entitled "An act to prohibit the exportation of provisions from the state of Pennsylvania for a limited time,"¹ is now expired by its own limitation.

[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 an embargo be, and it hereby is laid to prohibit the exportation of wheat, flour, rye, Indian corn, rice, bread, beef, pork, bacon, live stock and other provisions whatsoever from this state from and after the publication of this act until the first day of September next.

(Section IV, P. L.) Provided always, That nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent the taking on board such provisions as shall be necessary for the stores only of any ships or vessels of war, or others trading to and from this state.

¹ Passed September 7, 1778, Chapter 809.

[Section II.] (Section V, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any wheat, flour, rye, Indian corn, rice, bread, beef, pork, bacon, live stock or other provisions whatsoever, except as before excepted, shall at any time hereafter be laden or found on board any ship or vessel in any port of this state outward bound for sea contrary to the intent and meaning of this act, it shall and may be lawful for the naval officer or officers of such port or their deputies or any other person or persons whatever to seize such wheat, flour, rye, Indian corn, rice, bread, beef, pork, bacon, live stock or other provisions together with the ship or vessel in which the same shall be so laden and found and such vessel together with the aforesaid articles as shall be so laden or found on board her at the time of such seizure are hereby declared to be forfeited, one-third part thereof to the use of the state, one-third part to the use of the naval or other officer or person making such seizure and the remaining third part to the use of the informer or informers on whose information the same shall be so seized and prosecuted to condemnation.

[Section III.] (Section VI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the supreme executive council of this state shall and may at any time during the continuance of this act by proclamation under their seal, either totally revoke the said embargo and prohibition or suspend the operation thereof so far as to admit the exportation of any of the articles within the description of this act for the use of the fleet of His Most Christian Majesty, and of the armies of the United States under the limitations and restrictions contained in the resolutions of Congress already made or which may hereafter be made.

Passed November 17, 1778. See the note to the Act of Assembly passed September 7, 1778, Chapter 809; and the Acts of Assembly passed April 3, 1779, Chapter 841; February 28, 1780, Chapter 876.