

CHAPTER DCCCXCI.

AN ACT FOR THE RELIEF OF THE SUFFERING INHABITANTS OF THE COUNTIES OF NORTHAMPTON, BEDFORD, NORTHUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas, by the repeated depredations and incursions of the savage enemy great numbers of the inhabitants of the said counties have been driven from their habitations and otherwise much distressed and rendered unable to pay their respective proportions of the public taxes:

[Section I.] (Section II, 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 it shall and may be lawful for the commissioners and assessors of the said several counties, and they are hereby enjoined and required, in all cases within their respective counties, where the inhabitants have deserted their habitations, and no proper return or valuation of property can be had in the way pointed out in the laws now in force for that purpose, to obtain such account of such property, by applying to the books or rolls containing the last return of property, or such other ways or means as to them shall seem most just and reasonable, and shall thereupon proceed to value, quota and levy the same, as nearly in just proportion to other parts of the said county as may be.

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said commissioners and assessors, or a majority of them, are hereby authorized and required to exonerate and discharge such of their taxable inhabitants as shall make sufficient proofs, or for or in behalf of whom sufficient proofs shall be made to the said commissioners and assessors respectively, of their having been driven off and dispossessed of their settlements, or otherwise disabled by the enemy to pay their respective taxes, from the payment of the several sums or such part thereof as they shall deem just and reasonable, with which they may or ought to have been

charged, as well of their respective quotas of the tax of four millions of dollars, imposed by an act passed the third day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, and their quotas of the tax of five millions seven hundred thousand dollars, granted and directed to be raised by an act passed the tenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, as their respective quotas of a sum of money directed to be raised by a monthly tax according to an act for that purpose passed the twenty-fifth day of November, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, which remission or mitigation shall only be made in favor of those, who have bona fide suffered by the incursions of the enemy, and in such proportions as their several losses of property justly demand.

[Section III.] (Section IV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the commissioners and assessors of the said counties of Northampton, Bedford, Northumberland and Westmoreland, respectively, shall transmit to the general assembly a list of the names of the persons so exonerated, stating the particular sum so remitted to each particular person, that the deficiencies which may arise in raising the quotas of the said counties by reason hereof shall be paid and made good out of the state taxes which shall be levied and raised hereafter.

Passed March 20, 1780. Recorded L. B. No. 1, p. 361, &c.

CHAPTER DCCCXCII.

AN ACT TO REVIVE AN ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO PREVENT THE TRESPASSING UPON THE UNENCLOSED GROUNDS, LYING IN THE TOWNSHIPS OF PASSYUNK, MOYAMENSING, NORTHERN LIBERTIES AND GERMANTOWN IN THE COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA," AND TO EXTEND THE SAID ACT TO THE ADJOINING TOWNSHIP OF BRISTOL IN THE SAME COUNTY, AND TO PREVENT SWINE FROM RUNNING AT LARGE WITHIN THE SAID TOWNSHIPS FOR A LIMITED TIME.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas an act of assembly, entitled "An act to prevent the trespassing upon the unenclosed grounds