

CHAPTER CMLXXXIX.

AN ACT FOR SECURING WITHIN THIS COMMONWEALTH TO THE SUBJECTS OF HIS MOST CHRISTIAN MAJESTY THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES STIPULATED IN THEIR BEHALF BY THE ELEVENTH ARTICLE OF THE TREATY OF AMITY AND COMMERCE, CONCLUDED BETWEEN HIS MOST CHRISTIAN MAJESTY AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas, by the eleventh article of the treaty of amity and commerce concluded between his most christian majesty and the United States of America on the sixth day of February, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, as the same now stands, it is agreed that the subjects and inhabitants of the said United States, or any one of them, shall not be reputed aubains in France and, consequently, shall be exempted from the droit a' aubaine or other similar duty under what name soever, that they may, by testament, donation or otherwise, dispose of their goods, movable and immovable, in favor of such persons as to them shall seem good, and that their heirs, subjects of the said United States, residing whether in France or elsewhere, may succeed them, ab intestat, without being obliged to obtain letters of naturalization, and without having the effect of this concession contested or impeded under pretext of any rights or prerogatives of provinces, cities or private persons; and that the said heirs, whether such by particular title or ab intestat, shall be exempt from all duty called droit de detraction or other duty of the same kind, saving, nevertheless, the local rights or duties as much and as long as similar ones are not established by the United States, or any of them.

And whereas, by the said articles it was farther stipulated, That the subjects of the most Christian King shall enjoy, on their part, in all the dominions of the said states, an entire and perfect reciprocity relative to the stipulations contained in the present article. And it is at the same time agreed that its contents shall not affect the laws made, or that may be

made thereafter in France against emigrations, which shall remain in all their force and vigor; and that the United States, on their part, or any of them, shall be at liberty to enact such laws relative to that matter as to them shall seem proper:

[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 the subjects of His Most Christian Majesty, whether residing within this commonwealth or elsewhere, shall be and they hereby are entitled to all the rights, privileges and immunities stipulated for or intended to be granted to such subjects in and by the said eleventh article of the treaty of amity and commerce under the savings and reservations mentioned in the said article, and no other.

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all acts done and all titles to property, movable or immovable, made or given conformable to the spirit and design of the said eleventh article of the above-mentioned treaty of amity and commerce prior to the passing of this law, and subsequent to the said sixth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, shall be and they hereby are confirmed and rendered as valid in the law as if this act had passed on the said sixth day of February, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight.

Passed September 20, 1782. Recorded L. B. No. 2, p. 11, etc.