

[Section VII.] (Section VIII, P. L.) And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That hereafter there shall be raised, levied and collected, a duty or impost of four pence per gallon on all strong beer, ale and porter, imported into this state in casks, and two shillings and six pence per dozen on such beer, ale and porter imported in bottles, and a duty or impost of two pence per pound on all refined loaf sugar so imported.

[Section VIII.] (Section IX, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the naval officer at the time being, and his deputy and assistants, shall have and exercise all and every of the powers for the raising, levying, collecting and securing of the payment of the duties and imposts hereinbefore mentioned, as said naval officer, his deputy and assistant have, in and by an act, entitled "An act for an impost on goods, wares and merchandise imported into this state," passed the twenty-third day of December, one thousand seven hundred and eighty.³

[Section IX.] (Section X, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all the moneys to be raised and collected by virtue of this act, shall be applied for the support of government discharging its debts and incidental expenses, and preserving the public credit.

Passed March 20, 1783. Recorded L. B. No. 2, p. 69, etc. See the Acts of Assembly passed September 17, 1783, Chapter 1032; September 25, 1786, Chapter 1248; March 26, 1789, Chapter 1405; April 1, 1791, Chapter 1546; January 13, 1794, Chapter 1708; April 22, 1794, Chapter 1758; April 13, 1795, Chapter 1832.

CHAPTER MXIX.

AN ACT TO REPEAL PART OF THE ACT, ENTITLED "AN ACT FOR THE MORE EFFECTUAL SUPPRESSION OF ALL INTERCOURSE AND COMMERCE WITH THE ENEMIES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES THEREIN CONTAINED.¹

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas by the act, entitled "An act for the more effectual suppression of all intercourse and commerce with the enemies of the United States of America,"¹ it is pro-

¹ Passed September 21, 1782, Chapter 986.

vided that the nature and quantities of clothing designed for prisoners of war shall be certified to the president and council of this state before they be imported: And whereas such provision is deemed contrary to [the spirit of] the ninth article of the confederation of the United State of America:

[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 so much of the third section of the act aforesaid, which contains the following words to wit: "Provided the nature and quantities of such clothing be certified to the president and council of this state before they be imported by the commander-in-chief of the forces of the United States, or by some other officer thereunto specially appointed by the honorable the congress of the United States" be and the same is hereby repealed and made void.

(Section III, P. L.) And whereas by a memorial of the merchants and traders of the city of Philadelphia it appears that considerable quantities of imported goods have been wantonly stopped by a number of interested persons in their progress through the state, and without the most remote suspicion of such goods falling under the censure or prohibition of law to the great injury and prejudice of the fair trader: And whereas such seizures are manifestly against the true intent and meaning of the act aforesaid and destructive of the commerce of this state:

[Section II.] (Section IV, P. L.) Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when any seizure is made of goods, wares or merchandise, under and by virtue of the act aforesaid, the person or persons who made such seizure shall, within twenty-four hours thereafter, and before any bale, box, trunk or other package be opened for inspection, depose on his, her or their solemn oath or affirmation before any justice of the peace of this state that in their opinion there is probable cause for such seizure.

(Section V, P. L.) And to prevent all unjust and wanton seizures which may be made either through private pique, resentment or other undue motives:

[Section III.] Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any person or persons seizing goods, wares or merchandise, shall, on his delivering an inventory of the same to any justice of the peace for trial, enter sufficient security with the said justice to answer and pay all costs and charges of suit, if after trial had it appears to the full satisfaction of the justice or justices and jury as the case may be that the goods, wares or merchandise seized were not contraband, anything in the said act to the contrary notwithstanding.

[Section IV.] (Section VI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That on the neglect or refusal of any person or persons to enter security for the payment of costs and charges as aforesaid, the justice of the peace to whom the inventory was delivered shall forthwith issue his order to the sheriff or constable in whose hands the goods may be directing the said sheriff or constable to deliver the said goods to the person or persons claiming the same, and which the said sheriff or constable is hereby directed and enjoined to perform on the claimant or claimants paying such legal costs and charges as may be assessed by the justice aforesaid.

[Section V.] (Section VII, P. L.) Provided always, That nothing in this act contained shall be deemed or taken so as to prevent the person or persons claiming any goods, wares or merchandise, from entering security to answer and pay all charges and costs which shall be caused by his or their defence or interference, all which charges and costs shall be paid by the person or persons so claiming as aforesaid, unless he or they prove to the satisfaction of the justice or justices and jury, that the goods, wares and merchandise seized were not contraband, and not otherwise.

Passed March 20, 1783. Recorded L. B. No. 2, p. 71, etc.