

CHAPTER MXXI.

AN ACT FOR PROVIDING THE QUOTA OF FEDERAL SUPPLIES FOR THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY AND THREE, AND FOR THE RELIEF OF THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE WHO HAVE BECOME CREDITORS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY LOANS OF MONEY OR OTHER MODES OF FURNISHING PUBLIC SUPPLIES.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas the United States of America in congress assembled by their act of the eighteenth day of October last, have required of the several states in union their respective quotas of the sum of two million of dollars for the service of the year one thousand seven hundred eighty and three, the proportion or quota whereof allotted to and required of this commonwealth is stated at three hundred thousand dollars, which requisition the representatives of the freemen of this state are desirous should be complied with:

(Section II, P. L.) And whereas a great number of the virtuous citizens of this state, from motives of patriotism and zeal in the common cause, and confiding in the public promises and plighted faith of the United States, have advanced large portions of their property by loans and otherwise to the public use at the more early and hazardous periods and gloomy seasons of this great contest for the liberties and independence of the United States:

(Section III, P. L.) And whereas it is highly expedient and proper as well from motives of good policy and a regard to the preservation of public credit as by an act of justice to enable those worthy citizens who have exhausted their substance by loans to the public to pay their proportion of taxes, and thereby to facilitate the collection of the requisite supplies for the current service, which the good citizens of this state are desirous to furnish, that provision be made for the payment of the interest on such of the said debts as are due to the citizens of this

state, until the United States shall be enabled to appropriate adequate funds for that purpose:

(Section IV, P. L.) And whereas the said United States, in congress assembled, did by a certain act on the tenth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-two, require of the several states to raise their respective quotas of the sum of twelve hundred thousand dollars, for the purpose of paying the interest due on loan-office certificates and other ascertained debts of the United States, the proportion or quota whereof required of this state, is one hundred and eighty thousand dollars:

(Section V, P. L.) And whereas it appears that the said sum of one hundred and eighty thousand dollars will be insufficient to pay one year's interest on the debts due to the citizens of this state who are creditors of the United States to a much larger amount than the quota of this state of the whole of the public debts, and it being the desire of the legislature to raise and appropriate for this purpose, a sum sufficient to pay one years interest on all the ascertained debts due from the United States to the citizens of this state, which it is supposed will require the sum of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars in addition to the one hundred and eighty thousand dollars so required by congress, making in the whole three hundred thousand dollars over and beside the aforesaid three thousand dollars to be raised as the quota of this state for the current service of the year one thousand seven hundred eighty and three. To the end, therefore, that the quota of this state of the supplies required for the service of the year one thousand seven hundred eighty and three may be the more speedily and certainly raised and furnished and the public creditors at the same time receive temporary relief:

[Section I.] (Section VI, P. L.) Be it 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 sum of two hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds, being equal in value to six hundred thousand Spanish milled dollars, shall be assessed, raised and levied, in gold and silver moneys, and in the notes hereinafter mentioned, upon the es-

tates real and personal, and persons, as hereinafter directed, within the city and several counties of this state, by four equal proportions or payments, whereof the first shall be collected and made on or before the first day of July next; the second proportion in three months after the first; and so of the other two proportions; each to be collected and paid three months after the other, so that the whole of the said sum of two hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds shall become due and be levied, collected and paid, within one year from and after the said first day of July next, according to the method and in the proportions following, that is to say,

Upon the estates real and personal and persons within the city and county of Philadelphia, the sum of seventy-four thousand five hundred and forty-three pounds.

Upon the estates real and personal and persons within the county of Bucks, the sum of fourteen thousand seven hundred and forty-four pounds.

Upon the estates real and personal and persons within the county of Chester, the sum of twenty-three thousand six hundred and sixty-eight pounds.

Upon the estates real and personal and persons within the county of Lancaster, the sum of thirty-two thousand and thirty-two pounds.

Upon the estates real and personal and persons within the county of York, the sum of seventeen thousand eight hundred and forty-six pounds.

Upon the estates real and personal and persons within the county of Cumberland, the sum of sixteen thousand seven hundred and seventy-four pounds.

Upon the estates real and personal and persons within the county of Berks, the sum of sixteen thousand one hundred and eleven pounds.

Upon the estates real and personal and persons within the county of Northampton, the sum of nine thousand two hundred and seventy-four pounds.

Upon the estates real and personal and persons within the county of Bedford, the sum of five thousand and eighty-four pounds.

Upon the estates real and personal and persons within the county of Northumberland, the sum of six thousand two hundred and eighty pounds.

Upon the estates real and personal and persons within the county of Westmoreland, the sum of four thousand three hundred and twenty-two pounds.

And upon the estates real and personal and persons within the county of Washington, the sum of four thousand three hundred and twenty-two pounds.

[Section II.] (Section VII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the several directions, authorities and powers, rewards, penalties and sanctions, appeals, remedies and allowances contained in and provided by an act of the general assembly of this commonwealth, passed on the twenty-seventh day of March last, entitled "An act to raise effective supplies for the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-two,"¹ or the purposes therein set forth (the same being accommodated to the intent and design of this act, by altering the dates in the oaths and affirmations of office thereby directed to the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, and otherwise adapting the said act to the purposes of this act) shall be and the same hereby are extended to the raising, levying, collecting and securing the payment of the aforesaid sum of two hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds; and all fines, forfeitures and penalties which may thereby accrue and become due and payable according to the repartition of the taxes aforesaid upon the city and several counties of this state respectively, in manner aforesaid; and the said recited act shall be accordingly applied and enforced to the execution of this act in such manner as to bring into the treasury of this state the taxes directed by this act, except in such cases and instances wherein special provision is made or as in and by this act is otherwise directed.

(Section VIII, P. L.) And whereas it is designed that a sum not exceeding three hundred thousand dollars, part of the taxes by this act to be raised and levied as aforesaid, should be appropriated and paid to the public creditors herein before men-

¹ Passed March 27, 1782, Chapter 961.

tioned as a temporary relief till more permanent and certain provision can be made for them: And whereas it may improve and hasten such relief and facilitate the payment of the taxes aforesaid, if notes be prepared and issued to the said public creditors, which notes shall be received in payment of the said taxes:

[Section III.] (Section IX, P. L.) Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the treasurer of this state be authorized and empowered and he is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to prepare at the public expense notes respectively payable to the bearer thereof to the amount of three hundred thousand dollars of the following denominations; that is to say,

Five thousand and sixty-three notes of twenty dollars each.

Five thousand and sixty-three notes of fifteen dollars each.

Five thousand and sixty-four notes of twelve dollars each.

Five thousand and sixty-three notes of six dollars each.

Five thousand and sixty-four notes of three dollars each.

Five thousand and sixty-four notes of two dollars each.

Five thousand and sixty-three notes of one dollar each.

Five thousand and sixty-four notes of one quarter dollar each.

Which notes shall be printed in such form and with such devices and checks as the said treasurer shall devise and the president or vice-president and council shall approve; and the said notes of each denomination shall be numbered from number one progressively and shall be signed by the said treasurer, and by him delivered to Thomas Smith, esquire, continental loan-officer for this state at such times and in such quantities as the president or vice president by warrant under his hand in council shall from time to time direct, which warrant shall be registered in the office of the comptroller-general of this state; and thereupon the said loan-officer shall become answerable for the sum mentioned in every such warrant; and the said loan-officer, previous to his issuing or paying away the said notes in manner herein after directed, shall countersign each and every note he shall issue or pay.

[Section IV.] (Section X, P. L.) And be it further enacted and declared by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said loan-officer to pay, with and out of such notes

as aforesaid, the lawful interest for one year on all such certificates of moneys loaned to the United States, or other certificates of debts due from the United States, liquidated, ascertained and certified, according to the directions of the United States in congress assembled (other than certificates for pay or other personal demands of officers, civil or military, or of soldiers or seamen) as shall be demanded by the holders or possessors of the said certificates, and such payment shall be endorsed thereon; provided that such certificates as aforesaid were originally issued from the loan-office of this state, or given or granted for articles furnished or services done and performed by the citizens of this state, except as before excepted and in the name and for the use of any person or persons who at the time of such issuing was or were, or since have been a citizen or citizens of this state and actually resident within the same, or in the name or for the use of a body politic or corporate within this state; and provided also that there be the interest for one year at least due thereon, and if any difficulty shall arise in determining whether the person holding or possessing any such certificate shall be entitled to receive the interest thereon within the meaning of this act, it shall be incumbent on the claimant to produce the proof necessary to establish the claim, and if the evidence offered by the claimant be not sufficient to satisfy the said loan-officer, the same shall be referred to the president or vice-president in council, whose determination and order thereon shall be conclusive.

(Section XI, P. L.) And whereas the principal sum mentioned in the said certificates, or some of them, may be described in continental money:

[Section V.] Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the value thereof in specie shall be computed and ascertained according to the directions of the United States in congress assembled, in and by their act of the twenty-eighth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty. And to the end that a fair and proper account may be kept of all the moneys paid for interest by virtue of this act, and that this state may have proper credit therefor with the United States, the said loan officer is hereby directed to keep a fair and exact

account of such payments as he shall make in which shall be specified the date and number of the certificate on which payment shall be made, the amount of the principal sum mentioned therein, and the name of the person to whom it was issued, as well as the sum paid thereon, and shall take receipts from the persons to whom the moneys shall be paid as vouchers for the said account; and on producing such account and vouchers and the same being approved and allowed by the comptroller-general of this state, it shall be admitted in discharge for the amount thereof of the notes he shall have received from the treasury as aforesaid. And if any of the said notes shall remain in his hands on the first day of July which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, the said loan-officer may pay them into the hands of the treasurer of this state, taking his receipt therefor, the amount of which shall be allowed him in discharge of the residue of the said notes which shall as aforesaid have been delivered to him:

(Section XII, P. L.) And to the end that the payment of the said notes for interest may the more certainly answer the good purposes hereby intended,

[Section VI.] Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for each and every person on whom the taxes to be raised by virtue of this act shall be levied, or from whom the same or any part thereof shall be demanded, to pay any part not exceeding one-half thereof in the said notes signed by the treasurer and countersigned by the loan-officer as aforesaid, and the said notes are hereby declared to be a legal tender in the payment of any such proportion of the said tax, or of the said proportion of any one of the quarterly payments thereof herein directed to be made; provided that the said residue of such tax, or of the quarterly payment thereof then due, be tendered or offered to be paid at the same time in gold or silver money; and the collectors of taxes, and all others whom it may concern, are hereby empowered and directed to receive the said notes in payment accordingly.

(Section XIII, P. L.) And to the end that the moneys hereby intended to be raised may be faithfully appropriated and applied to the purposes hereby intended, as speedily as possible:

[Section VII.] Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the treasurer of this state, when and as often as any moneys to be levied and raised by virtue of this act shall be paid into his hands, to divide the same into equal moieties or half parts and to pay one of the said moieties to the treasurer of the United States, or to such other person or persons as shall be duly authorized by the said United States to receive the same for their use, and the receipt of the said treasurer, or other person authorized as aforesaid, shall be a sufficient voucher to the treasurer of this state for such payment and payments; and the other moiety of the said moneys, in which shall be included all the said notes which shall have been paid in for taxes as aforesaid, shall be disposed in the following manner; that is to say, such of the said notes as shall be paid in as aforesaid shall be by the said treasurer marked, by punching or piercing a hole, not less than the size of one-eighth of a dollar, through some part or each note near the center thereof; and the quantity of such notes in the treasury at the commencement of each session of the general assembly shall be reported to the house by the treasurer, to be cancelled and destroyed in such manner as the house shall direct, until the whole shall have been destroyed. And such gold and silver money as shall belong to this moiety of the taxes as aforesaid, shall be given in exchange for such notes by the said treasurer to such person and persons as shall apply for the same at any time after the last payment of the taxes hereby directed to be raised shall have become due; and if at the end of six months after the said time any such money shall remain in the treasury unapplied for in exchange for such notes, it shall be lawful for the treasurer to pay the same or any part thereof to the aforesaid loan-officer on his producing such warrant as aforesaid, to be applied to the payment of such interest due in manner aforesaid as may remain unpaid; provided that not more than one year's interest be paid on any one debt or certificate by virtue of this act.

[Section VIII.] (Section XIV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all fines and penalties imposed and made recoverable by this act, other than such as are other-

wise specially appropriated by the act herein before recited and referred to, shall be paid in gold or silver money, and applied towards defraying the extraordinary expenses and charges of executing this act. And that the treasurer of this state shall be allowed and paid for his labor and trouble in numbering and signing the said notes two shillings for every hundred thereof; and that the said loan-officer shall be allowed and paid for his labor and trouble in countersigning and issuing the said notes and accounting for the same in the manner herein directed, at the rate of four shillings and six pence for every hundred notes he shall so sign, issue and account for, over and besides the allowance he is entitled to receive from the United States for the payment of the interest on loans; which payment to the said loan-officer is to be made by the treasurer on a warrant to be produced under the hand of the president or vice-president in council, and entered in the office of the comptroller-general. And the treasurer of this state and the loan-officer aforesaid shall be, and they are hereby severally made accountable to the general assembly for all moneys and notes which shall come to their hands respectively by virtue of this act, and for all other transactions under the same and shall at all proper times and seasons submit their books, papers and accounts, relative thereto, to the inspection and examination of the president or vice-president in council, or to such persons as they shall appoint to inspect the same.

[Section IX.] (Section XV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall counterfeit any one or more of the notes directed to be emitted by this act, by printing or procuring the same to be printed in the likeness and similitude of the said genuine notes; and also if any person or persons shall forge the name or names of the said treasurer or loan-officer, or either of them, to such counterfeit notes, whether the counterfeiting the said notes or names be done within this state or elsewhere, or shall utter such note, knowing it to be counterfeit as aforesaid, and shall be thereof legally convicted in any court of oyer and terminer within this state, he or they so offending shall suffer death without benefit of clergy.

(Section XVI, P. L.) And if any person or persons shall counterfeit any of the said notes by altering the denomination thereof with design to increase the value of such notes, or shall utter the same knowing them to be so counterfeited or altered as aforesaid, and shall be thereof legally convicted in any court of record in this state, such person or persons shall be sentenced to the pillory, and have both his or her ears cut off and nailed to the pillory, and be publicly whipped on his or her bare back with thirty-nine lashes well laid on; and moreover, every such offender shall forfeit the sum of two thousand pounds, lawful money of Pennsylvania, to be levied on his or her lands and tenements, goods and chattels, the one moiety to the use of the state and the other moiety to the discoverer.

[Section X.] (Section XVII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every single freeman who at the time of assessing the tax imposed by this act shall be of the age of twenty-one years or upwards, and shall be out of his apprenticeship six months, shall pay a sum not exceeding four pounds and not under the sum of twenty shillings over and above the sum to be levied on the estate of such single freeman by virtue of this act, anything in any law heretofore made to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

(Section XVIII, P. L.) And whereas the United States in congress assembled by their resolve of the seventeenth of February last did require the legislature of each state to take such measures as shall appear to them most effectual for obtaining a just and accurate account of the quantity of land in such state granted to or surveyed for any person, the number of buildings thereon distinguishing dwelling houses from other buildings, and the number of its inhabitants distinguishing white from black, and cause the said account to be transmitted and delivered to congress on or before the first day of March one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four.

[Section XI.] (Section XIX, P. L.) Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the commissioners of the city and county of Philadelphia and of every county of this state shall in their warrants to the township, ward or district assessors of their respective counties, direct the said assessors to

make a full and true return of the several quantities of land in the district or township, granted to, or surveyed for any person, the number of buildings thereon, distinguishing dwelling houses from other buildings, and the number of its inhabitants, distinguishing white from black, and the said commissioners shall cause the said returns to be transmitted to the general assembly of this state on or before the first day of November next ensuing the date hereof.

Passed March 21, 1783. Recorded L. B. No. 2, p. 79, etc. See the Acts of Assembly passed September 25, 1783, Chapter 1052; April 5, 1785, Chapter 1161; March 8, 1786, Chapter 1209.

CHAPTER MXXII.

A FURTHER SUPPLEMENT TO THE ACT, ENTITLED "AN ACT FOR THE REGULATION OF THE MILITIA OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,"¹ AND TO REPEAL THE ACT, ENTITLED "A SUPPLEMENT TO THE ACT FOR THE REGULATION OF THE MILITIA OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA."²

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas it is conceived that the act of general assembly entitled "An act for the regulation of the militia of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania," passed the twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty,¹ may be improved, by the abolition of the office of sub-lieutenants of the city and counties, by appropriating the fines, and ascertaining the pay of the militia, and by altering the days of mustering and other alterations hereinafter mentioned:

[Section I.] (Section 11, 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 from and after the first day of April next the office of sub-lieutenant of the city of Philadelphia and the several counties of this state shall be and the same is

¹ Passed March 20, 1780, Chapter 902.

² Passed September 22, 1780, Chapter 916.