

CHAPTER MXXX.

AN ACT FOR THE REPEAL OF AN ACT, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO PREVENT AND STAY SUITS FROM BEING BROUGHT AGAINST THE INHABITANTS OF WYOMING DURING THE TIME THEREIN MENTIONED,"¹ AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES THEREIN MENTIONED.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas it was enacted by a law of this state passed the thirteenth day of March last, entitled "An act to prevent and stay suits from being brought against the inhabitants of Wyoming during the time therein mentioned." That every writ and process whatever granted or issued for any owner or owners, claimant or claimants, against any person being then an inhabitant on the lands at Wyoming, in order to dispossess any of the said inhabitants or settlers of the lands or tenements in his, her or their occupancy, should be and the same were declared to be stayed; and that on motion all further proceedings thereon should be quashed by the court to which such writ should be returnable, until the report of commissioners in the said law mentioned should be laid before this house. And inasmuch as the said commissioners have now made their report and it is evident that the clemency and moderation of this house have been mistaken and treated with neglect, so that no reasonable compromise could be effected between the settlers at Wyoming and the owners of said lands. And as it is highly expedient that the good people of this state should enjoy the full benefit, force and effect of the laws of this commonwealth:

[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 from and after the passing of this act, the aforesaid and above recited act, entitled "An act to prevent and stay suits from being brought against the in-

¹ Passed March 13, 1783, Chapter 1113.

habitants of Wyoming, during the time therein mentioned," and every clause and thing therein contained be, and the same hereby actually is repealed, and to all intents and purposes made absolutely null and void, anything in the said act contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

(Section III, P. L.) And whereas the commissioners appointed as aforesaid have reported that for the better extending of the advantages of civil government to the free-holders and settlers of the township of Wyoming, a subdivision of the said township into three distinct townships was necessary, and that they had accordingly proceeded on the twenty-second day of April last to divide the same as follows: Beginning at the mouth of Shick-shinney creek, thence up the same to the heads thereof, and from thence, by a northwest line, to the boundary of the state, thence east by the said boundary to the east branch of the Susquehanna, thence down the same to the place of beginning, to be thenceforth known and called by the name of Shawanese township. One other division, beginning at the mouth of Shick-shinney creek aforesaid, thence extending over the east branch of the Susquehanna by a south-east line to the line of Northampton county; thence northerly by the line of the said county to the boundary of the state, thence west, by the said boundary to the east branch of the Susquehanna, thence down and including the same to the place of beginning, to be thereafter known and called by the name of Stoke township. And the residue of the said old township of Wyoming, so divided, to continue and remain under the name of Wyoming township. And inasmuch as it is just and right, that what has been done by the said commissioners in this respect should receive every legal confirmation:

[Section II.] (Section IV, P. L.) Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the divisions of the said township of Wyoming into three district townships, as above described and set forth are hereby ratified and confirmed, to be and remain three distinct township from and after the said twenty-second day of April last past to all intents and purposes whatever: Saving always to the court of quarter sessions of the proper county the power of altering, amending or subdividing

the same as to them at any time hereafter may seem convenient and proper.

(Section V, P. L.) And whereas the said commissioners did proceed on the aforesaid twenty-second day of April last to divide the aforesaid townships into two distinct districts for the purpose of electing justices of the peace for the same, and notified the Honorable John Van Campen of such division, who called together the freeholders of such districts. And the said freeholders, having met agreeable to notice, did, by ballot, elect David Mead, Robert Martin, John Chambers and Nathan Dennison for the northwest district; and Alexander Patterson, John Seely, Luke Broadhead and Henry Shoemaker for the southeast district.

(Section VI, P. L.) And whereas the transactions of the commissioners in this particular and every act and thing done in consequence of the same ought to be observed and receive full and legal confirmation by this house:

[Section III.] (Section VII, P. L.) Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the aforesaid division of the said townships into districts, and the elections in the same held are hereby declared to be good and available in law to all intents and purposes whatever. And the supreme executive council of this state are hereby authorized and required to commissionate four or more as to them shall seem meet of the eight persons above mentioned and now returned as justices of the peace for the county of Northumberland.

Passed September 9, 1783. Recorded L. B. No. 2, p. 117, etc. See the Act of Assembly passed December 24, 1785, Chapter 1199.