

## CHAPTER MCXVIII.

AN ACT TO CARRY INTO IMMEDIATE EFFECT THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED FOR ADJUSTING THE CLAIMS OF INDIVIDUALS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH AGAINST THE SAID UNITED STATES.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas many of the inhabitants of this state have hitherto labored and do yet labor under great and grievous inconveniences and disadvantages by not having their claims and just demands against the United States liquidated and settled and certificates given them for the same agreeably to the resolution of Congress. And whereas it is evident that according to the progress hitherto made the settlement of said accounts will not be completed within any reasonable time, and a regard to justice and the interests of the inhabitants of this state call loudly for relief, wherefore in order to expedite the settlement of the said accounts:

[Section I.] (Section II, P. L.) Be it 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 president or in his absence the vice-president and the supreme executive council shall appoint two additional commissioners whose duty it shall be severally to attend at such times and places in the several counties as the supreme executive council shall direct, and shall each of them, in their respective districts, adjust and settle all such claims aforesaid as shall appear to be just, without delay, agreeable to the principles laid down by Congress in their acts of the twentieth day of February one thousand seven hundred and eighty-two, and third of June one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four.

[Section II] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said commissioners shall be and they are hereby severally and respectively vested with equal and similar powers to those which have been given and

granted by the aforesaid acts of congress to the officer appointed by the United States to execute the said acts, and approved of by the Legislature of this state in and by the act entitled "An act for the settlement of the public accounts of the United States of America."<sup>1</sup> passed the twentieth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, so far as the same respects the liquidating and settling the certificates and claims of the inhabitants of this state, as aforesaid, and granting certificates, specifying the sums due in specie and on interest for the same; which certificates when granted shall be considered in all respects equal to the certificates issued or that may be issued by the commissioners appointed by the authority of the United States as aforesaid.

[Section III.] (Section IV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That each of the commissioners to be appointed agreeably to this act shall before he enters on the duties of his office appear before the supreme executive council of this state and there take and subscribe an oath for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office and the trust reposed in him to the best of his abilities and understanding and shall also give bond with two or more sureties to the president of the state for the time being in the sum of one thousand pounds each, conditioned for the faithful discharge of the duties of their offices respectively.

[Section IV.] (Section V, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That blank certificates with proper checks and private marks shall be forthwith prepared and printed under the direction of the supreme executive council of this state and delivered out to the said commissioners in such quantities as may be necessary and it shall be the duty of the said commissioners to register in books to be provided for that purpose; all such certificates as they shall respectively issue, specifying in proper columns the names of the persons to whom granted, the time when issued, the number, the date, when interest commences thereon, upon whose certificate, or by whose order and directions the services were performed, or the ar-

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<sup>1</sup> Passed March 20, 1783, Chapter 1020.

ticles furnished, and shall carefully file and preserve all such accounts and certificates as shall be liquidated by them, numbering the same to correspond with the certificates granted for them; and shall finally deposit the same as the supreme executive council shall direct.

[Section V.] (Section VI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said commissioners shall respectively correspond with the comptroller-general of this state; the commissioner appointed by the authority of the United States; the commissioners appointed to settle the accounts of the officers of the several departments, and with each other, in order to prevent confusion, and to gain necessary information.

[Section VI.] (Section VII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said commissioners shall respectively be allowed twenty shillings for every day they shall be employed in the duties required of them by this act and all necessary office expenses shall also be allowed and paid them by this state and charged to the United States.

Passed December 1, 1784. Recorded L. B. No. 2, p. 377, etc.  
Repealed by the Act of Assembly passed March 30, 1785, Chapter 1151.

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## CHAPTER MCXIX.

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### AN ACT TO VEST CONGRESS WITH CERTAIN POWERS FOR THE PROTECTION OF COMMERCE.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas the United States in Congress assembled, by their act of the thirtieth day of April last did recommend to the several states to vest the United States in congress assembled for the term of fifteen years with power to prohibit any goods, wares or merchandise from being imported into or exported from any of the states in vessels belonging to or navigated by the subjects of any power with whom these states shall not have formed treaties of commerce: