

hereby is invested with like powers and authorities as are invested in the said deputies or any of them.

Passed March 28, 1787. Recorded L. B. No. 3, p. 202, etc.

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## CHAPTER MCCLXXXI.

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AN ACT FOR ESTABLISHING A COURT OF ADMIRALTY SESSIONS FOR THE TRIAL OF CRIMES AND OFFENCES OTHER THAN PIRACIES AND FELONIES COMMITTED ON THE HIGH SEAS OR WITHIN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

(Section I. P. L.) Whereas by the ninth article of the confederation of the United States, the United States in congress assembled have the sole and exclusive right and power of appointing courts for the trial of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas:

And whereas crimes and offences inferior in degree to piracies and felonies may be committed within admiralty jurisdiction and it is proper and necessary that a court should be erected and established for the trial of such inferior crimes and offences for the furtherance of justice and the punishment of evil doers.

(Section II. P. L.) [Section I.] 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 all crimes and offences under the degree of felony which shall be done or committed on the high seas or without admiralty jurisdiction from and after the passing of this act shall be inquired of, tried, adjudged and punished and not otherwise by a court consisting of the judge of the admiralty of the state for the time being who shall be president thereof and of any two justices of the city court for the city of Philadelphia or of the court of quarter sessions for the county of Philadelphia whom the judge of the admiralty shall take to his assistance for the purpose aforesaid, and the said court of oyer and terminer shall be styled and entitled "The

Court of Admiralty Sessions for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.”

(Section III. P. L.) [Section II.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all crimes and offences under the degree of felony which shall be committed within admiralty jurisdiction after the passing of this act shall be inquired of, tried and adjudged and not otherwise before the judges of the court of admiralty sessions constituted and established by this act according to the course of the common law and shall be punished in like manner as if the crime or offence had been committed on land and within the body of a county of this state, and the said court of admiralty sessions so constituted shall and may sit from time to time as often and as long as the judges thereof shall think necessary and the judges of admiralty and any two justices of the city court aforesaid or of the court of quarter sessions aforesaid whom the said judge of admiralty shall take to his assistance are hereby constituted judges of the said court of admiralty sessions for the purpose aforesaid.

(Section IV. P. L.) [Section III.] Provided always and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in case of the absence of the said judge of admiralty out of the state or of his inability to attend the said court hereby erected, the president or vice-president in council are empowered to appoint some other person learned in the law to be a judge and president of the said court, pro hae vice in the room and place of the said judge of admiralty, and until the said judge of admiralty shall and do attend the said court, which person so to be appointed in his room and place is hereby vested with all the powers belonging to the said judge of admiralty as judge and president of the said court of admiralty sessions aforesaid during such his absence or inability to attend.

(Section V. P. L.) [Section IV.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the fees of the judge of admiralty as president of the court of admiralty sessions hereby erected and of the assistant justices and of the clerk thereof shall be the same as in like cases would be legally due and accruing to the justices and clerk of the court of quarter sessions of the county of Philadelphia. Provided always and it is

hereby declared, That the register for the time being of the court of admiralty shall be the clerk of the said court of admiralty sessions and shall collect and when received shall pay the fees belonging to the president of the said court of admiralty sessions and of the assistant justices to each of them respectively and his proportion of the said fees thus made receivable by the said court shall be in the place and stead of any other salary as president of the said court.

(Section VI. P. L.) [Section V.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all matters and things contained in the act, entitled "An act for regulating and establishing admiralty jurisdiction,"<sup>1</sup> passed on the eighth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty, and also all matters and things contained in a supplement to the act last mentioned passed on the second day of September<sup>2</sup> in the same year in any wise contradictory to or inconsistent with the intent and meaning of this present act shall be and the same are hereby repealed, annulled and made void.

Passed March 28, 1787. Provided L. B. No. 3, p. 203, etc.

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## CHAPTER MCCLXXXII.

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A SUPPLEMENT TO THE ACT, ENTITLED "AN ACT FOR THE FURTHER RELIEF OF THE PUBLIC CREDITORS WHO ARE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE BY RECEIVING ON LOAN CERTAIN DEBTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND FOR FUNDING THE SAME AND FOR PAYING THE ANNUAL INTEREST OF SUCH LOANS AND THE INTEREST OF CERTAIN DEBTS OF THIS STATE EVERY SIX MONTHS."<sup>1</sup>

(Section I. P. L.) Whereas application has been made to this house by a number of citizens of this state who lent their money to the United States at different periods of the late war and paid into the continental loan offices in the states of New Jersey and Delaware, praying that they may be entitled to the

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<sup>1</sup> Chapter 887.

<sup>2</sup> Passed September 22, 1780, Chapter 915.

<sup>1</sup> Passed March 1, 1786. Chapter 1202.