

CHAPTER MCDXXXIII.

A FURTHER SUPPLEMENT TO THE ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO PREVENT THE EXPORTATION OF BREAD AND FLOUR NOT MERCHANTABLE AND FOR REPEALING AT A CERTAIN TIME ALL THE LAWS HERETOFORE MADE FOR THAT PURPOSE."¹

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas the species of wheat flour commonly called "middlings" having become a considerable article of exportation it is necessary to fix a standard for its quality and fineness in order to establish its reputation abroad:

[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 first day of November next all flour of wheat commonly called "middlings" which shall be brought to any part within this state for exportation shall be packed in casks made of good seasoned materials of the like dimensions and hooped, nailed and branded with the brand of the miller or bolter and with the number of the cask and weight of the flour therein in like manner as in and by the act entitled "An act to prevent the exportation of bread and flour not merchantable and for repealing at a certain time all the laws heretofore made for that purpose"² is directed and under the like penalties and forfeitures as are therein specified as to the flour called merchantable and moreover each cask shall be branded with the word "middlings" at length before it shall be removed from the mill or bolting-house where the same shall have been first packed and that from and after the said [first] day of November next no merchant or other person whatsoever shall lade or ship any such middlings on board any ship or vessel for exportation out of this state before the same shall be offered to the view and examination of the inspectors of the port or place

¹Passed April 5th, 1781. Chapter 936.

²Ante.

from whence the same shall be intended to be exported and before the same shall be inspected, approved and adjudged by the said inspector, his deputies (or three persons to be appointed by one of the magistrates in the manner by the said recited act directed as to merchantable flour) to be of a due degree of fineness and quality to be exported as middlings and the said inspector or his deputy shall try and search the same and plug up the holes he shall make in the same manner and shall receive the same reward for inspecting the same as by the said act is directed concerning merchantable flour.

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if the said inspector or his deputies or the three persons to be appointed by a magistrate as aforesaid shall adjudge and determine that any such flour of wheat so to be branded "middlings" shall not be of a due fineness and quality to be exported as and for middlings, he or they shall cause the said word "middlings" so branded to be scratched out and obliterated and the owner of such middlings or the person or persons offering or intending the same for sale or exportation shall pay for the inspection thereof the same reward as if the same had been adjudged to be fit for exportation.

[Section III.] (Section IV, P. L.) And it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all and every the regulations, fines, penalties and forfeitures in and by the said recited act and the several supplements thereto and by this act made, imposed and inflicted on any person or persons who should or shall grind, bolt, make casks for, pack, brand after the same shall have left [the mill or] bolting-house, transport, export or other ways have anything to do with common or superfine flour and who should or shall offend against the said recited act or the supplements thereto or against this act, shall from and after the said first day of November next extend and be construed to extend to such persons and offences as to the species of wheat flour called middlings as fully and effectually as if the article "middlings" was inserted with flour in the said acts, or as if the said regulations, fines penalties and forfeitures were herein repeated.

And whereas the packing of wheat flour in half casks containing ninety-eight pounds neat weight although not warranted by the said recited act or its supplements has been practised and is found to be beneficial in the stowage of ships and vessels:

[Section IV.] (Section V, P. L.) It is therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for millers and bolters to pack any flour of wheat for exportation in casks made of staves of the length of twenty-three inches and of the diameter at each head of twelve inches and an half, such miller and bolter complying with all and every the directions of the said recited acts of assembly as to the casks No. 1, 2, and 3 therein mentioned and subject to the same regulations, fines, forfeitures and penalties and branding the [said] smaller casks No. 4-98 after the said first day of November next.

And whereas one of the reasons for requiring all casks wherein flour intended for exportation shall be packed to be made of certain dimensions is to prevent the loss of space in stowing the same in ships or vessels and the non-compliance with the said requisition is of material disadvantage to the merchants and owners of ships:

And whereas the price of the casks (which under the said recited act was the measure of penalty for such non-compliance) is by the general practice of selling flour by the barrel sunk and confounded therewith.

[Section V.] (Section VI, P. L.) It is therefore hereby enacted by the authority aforesaid, That whenever any flour of wheat sold for exportation shall be offered to the view and examination of the said inspectors or his deputies, he or they shall and each and every of them is hereby enjoined and required to view and measure each and every cask and casks thereof and if they or any of them shall be found to vary from the dimensions in the said act and in this act contained, the person or persons who shall have sold the same for exportation as aforesaid shall forfeit and pay for every cask thereof which shall be found to vary as aforesaid the sum of one shilling and sixpence, to be sued for and recovered by the said inspector or his deputy or deputies, in like manner as other debts of the

like amount may or can be sued for and be recovered by the laws of this commonwealth together with costs of suit which with all other the fines, forfeitures and penalties imposed and directed to be levied by this act shall be applied in like manner as is directed by the act to which this is a supplement.

Passed September 12th, 1789. Recorded L. B. No. 3, p. 532.

See note to the Act of Assembly passed April 5, 1781. Chapter 936.

CHAPTER MCDXXXIV.

AN ACT TO CEDE TO THE UNITED STATES THE RIGHT TO EXERCISE EXCLUSIVE LEGISLATION OVER SUCH DISTRICTS AS MAY BECOME THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT THEREOF WITHIN THIS COMMONWEALTH.

(Section I, P. L.) It being directed and established by the constitution of the United States that the "congress thereof shall have power to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever over such district (not exceeding ten miles square) as may by cession of particular states and the acceptance of congress become the seat of government of the United States:" And the same appearing to be just and reasonable and this house being willing to make such cession as aforesaid over such district as may be chosen within this state for the purpose aforesaid.

[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 right and power to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever over such district or part of this state not exceeding ten miles square as shall be accepted and located by the congress of the United States and become the seat of Government thereof shall so soon as such district shall be accepted located and become the seat of the said Government be and the same hereby is ceded to and vested in the said United States and this state shall thereupon be to all intents and purposes irrevocably divested thereof.