

tioneers who shall be appointed and licensed in pursuance of this act shall severally and respectively have and possess within the said city and Northern Liberties [township and district respectively] the like powers and exclusive authorities and be under the like regulations, provisions and restrictions and subject to the like pains and penalties which the auctioneers within the said city, townships and district respectively had possessed or were subject to before the passing of this act within their respective districts.

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That from and after the passing of this act the duties to be paid to the treasury of this commonwealth on the sale of all goods, wares and merchandise by public auction shall be one per centum and no more.

Passed March 27, 1790. Recorded L. B. No. 4, p. 82. See the acts of Assembly passed March 19, 1789, Chapter 1400; February 26, 1791, Chapter 1529.

CHAPTER MCDLXCV.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE SAFETY OF THE RECORDS OF THE SEVERAL COUNTIES IN THIS COMMONWEALTH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES THEREIN MENTIONED.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas the safety of the papers and records belonging to or in the custody of the prothonotaries, registers and recorders of the several counties of this commonwealth is an object of great importance to the good citizens thereof:

[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 the commissioners of each county of this commonwealth, with the approbation of the justices of the county court of quarter sessions and grand jury of their respective counties, shall be and they are hereby authorized and empowered to cause to be erected a suitable building or buildings of brick or stone on the most safe and

secure plan to avoid the ravages of fire at the place appointed by law for holding the courts in their respective counties for the reception and safe keeping of the records and other papers belonging to and in the custody of the prothonotary of the county court of common pleas, the clerk of the county court of quarter sessions, the clerk of the orphans' court, the recorder of deeds and the register for the probate of wills and the granting of letters of administration of their respective counties.

[Section II.] (Section II, P. L.) [Sic.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the several officers before mentioned upon due notice from the commissioners of the respective counties as soon as such suitable buildings shall have been constructed as aforesaid in their respective counties shall be and they are hereby required to deposit and keep the records and papers belonging to their respective offices in the said buildings under the penalty of two hundred pounds to be recovered by action of debt, bill or information, the one half to be paid to the county treasurer of the county in which such courts shall be respectively held and applied to the payment for or repairing of the buildings herein directed to be erected, the other half to the use of him or her who shall sue for the same.

And whereas suitors and others having business to transact at the different public offices in the several counties of this commonwealth are frequently subjected to great delays, trouble and inconvenience by reason of the several public offices being held at a distance from each other and it is just and reasonable that those persons who hold public offices of trust and profit should accommodate their residence to the ease and convenience of the public:

And whereas some time may elapse before the buildings hereinbefore directed may be prepared for the reception and safe keeping of the records and papers aforesaid:

[Section III.] (Section IV, P. L.) Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That from and after the first day of January one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one as well the officers herein mentioned as the sheriff of each respective county shall keep their offices in such town or place as is or

shall be by law established for holding the courts for such counties under the penalty of two hundred pounds to be recovered by action of debt, bill or information, the one half to be paid to the county treasurer of the county in which such courts shall respectively be held and applied to the payment for or repairs of the buildings herein directed to be erected, the other half therefor to the use of him or her who shall sue for the same.

Passed March 27, 1790. Recorded L. B. No. 4, p. 77.

CHAPTER MCDLXCIV.

A FURTHER SUPPLEMENT TO THE ACT OF ASSEMBLY ENTITLED "AN ACT FOR THE RELIEF OF INSOLVENT DEBTORS WITHIN THE PROVINCE OF PENNSYLVANIA."

(Section I, P. L.) In order to remedy several defects and inconveniences in the laws now in force within this state for the purpose of granting relief to insolvent debtors:

[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 if upon hearing the petition of any insolvent debtor praying relief from personal imprisonment according to the several acts of assembly in such case made and application on the part of any the creditors of such debtor it shall appear to the court having cognizance thereof to be reasonable and expedient to allow further time for such creditor or creditors to make inquiry relative to the estate and effects of such debtor it shall be lawful for such court to remand such debtor for such time as in their discretion shall be thought sufficient for such inquiry.

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That where any such debtor has been or shall be remanded to gaol by reason of a strong presumption of fraud within the meaning of the several acts of assem-