

Section II. (Section II, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the monies arising from the sale of the said lands shall descend (if any) at the death of the said lunatic, to the same heirs, and in the same proportions as the real estate would have done if this act had not been passed.

Approved March 29, 1809. Recorded in L. B. No. 11, p. 353.

CHAPTER MMMLXXXIII.

AN ACT CONCERNING SENTENCES OF FOREIGN PRIZE COURTS.

Whereas it has been held on the authority of certain British precedents, that the sentences of foreign prize courts are conclusive evidence in all cases of every fact which on the face of them it appears that they meant to decide so that a citizen of this commonwealth, whose property has been unjustly captured and condemned as belonging to the enemy of the captor, or on some other false pretext, cannot according to that principle, be admitted, to prove in our own courts, that he was at the time of such capture, the bona fide owner of such property, but the sentence of the foreign prize courts is considered as conclusive evidence of the contrary fact against him, in consequence whereof underwriters who have received large premiums for insuring American property against the risk of capture and its consequences, are discharged from the obligation of their contract by the very accident against which it was meant to provide, which is contrary to every principle of justice and morality, and is in direct opposition to the principles of the constitutions of the United States, and of this State: Therefore,

Section I. (Section I, P. L.) Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this act, no sentence, judgment, or decree, final or inter-

locutory, of any judge, court, board, council, or tribunal, having or exercising jurisdiction of prize, shall be conclusive evidence in any case of any fact, matter or thing therein contained, stated or expressed, except of the acts and doing of such judge, court, board, council, or tribunal: Provided always, that nothing in this act contained shall be construed so as to impair or destroy the legal effects of any such sentence, judgment or decree on the property affected or intended to be affected thereby, but the same shall be and remain as if this act had not been made.

Approved March 29, 1809. Recorded in L. B. No. 11, p. 353.

CHAPTER MMMLXXXIV.

AN ACT TO CONFIRM THE TITLE OF SAMUEL WORK, TO CERTAIN LANDS THEREIN MENTIONED.

SAMUEL WORK, of the township of Bart, in the county of Lancaster, having represented to the legislature that he purchased a tract of land in the said township of Bart, of a certain Neill M'Cloy, containing by estimation one hundred and sixty-four acres and allowance for roads, bounded by lands of John Caughey, John Clendenin, James Clendenin, John Patterson, Joseph Griffith, Thomas Clendenin and William Richardson, and paid the purchase money for the same. That the said Neill M'Cloy, was an alien and had purchased the said land from a certain John Chambers, who was also an alien, and is since deceased, who held the same prior to his sale thereof by virtue of sundry mesne conveyances from the original warrantee. That by reason of the premises, it is doubtful whether his title be sufficiently valid, being derived from persons who not being citizens, might be deemed incapable of conveying lands in this commonwealth, and has prayed for a remedy therefor, which it appears reasonable to grant. Therefore,