

A C T S

OF THE

General Assembly of Pennsylvania.

Passed at a Session which commenced October 14th, 1730,
and ended February 6th, 1730-31.

1730-31.

PATRICK GORDON, LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

CHAPTER CCCXX.

An ACT for the enabling religious societies of Protestants, within this province, to purchase lands for burying-grounds, churches, houses for worship, schools, &c. (k)

WHEREAS, sundry religious societies of people of this province, professing the protestant religion, have, at their own respective costs and charges, purchased small pieces of land within the province of Pennsylvania, and thereon have erected churches, and other houses of religious worship, school-houses, and alms-houses, and inclosed part of the same lands for burying grounds: And whereas the said lands were purchased and paid for by the said respective societies in the name or names of persons, at that time being of, or professing themselves to be of the same religious persuasion with the societies who made use of the names of the said persons as trustees, for and in behalf of the said societies: And whereas some of the said trustees, or their heirs, having afterwards

(k) By the act for establishing the mode of incorporating associations for religious, literary and charitable purposes, (chap. 1536, sect. 5,) it is provided that the respective registers of wills shall, within six months after any will is presented for probate, notify any corporation to which any bequest shall be made in such will.

By an act of the 22d of April, 1794, (chap. 1747, sect. 21,) the corporation of the city of Philadelphia is empower-

ed to prohibit any future interments within such parts of the city of Philadelphia, wherein they shall judge such prohibition necessary, and to impose fines for the breach of the ordinance: And by sect. 22, authority was given for selling certain lots, heretofore conveyed to the corporation, in trust, for public burying-grounds, and purchasing other lots in more convenient situations for that purpose.

changed their opinions, and joined themselves to other religious societies of a different persuasion from the people by whom the said persons were at first entrusted, and upon pretext of their having the fee simple of the lands, so purchased in their names vested in them, have, contrary to the true intent and meaning of the first grant or gift, attempted (by granting away the said lands, houses of religious worship, and burying-grounds) to deprive the society of people in possession of the same, of the right and use of the said houses of worship, and burying-grounds, to the great disquiet and uneasiness of many of the good people of this province; and others, being entrusted in the like manner, may hereafter do the same: For remedy whereof, and for the better securing the several religious societies in the quiet and peaceable possession of their churches, houses of worship, school-houses and alms-houses, and burying-grounds, within this province: 1730-1.

II. *Be it enacted*, That all sales, gifts or grants, made of any lands or tenements within the province of Pennsylvania, to any person or persons, in trust, for sites of churches, houses of religious worship, schools, alm-houses, and for burying-grounds, or for any of them, shall be and are hereby ratified and confirmed to the person or persons to whom the same were sold, given or granted, their heirs and assigns, in trust nevertheless, and for the use of the respective religious societies, for whose use the same were at first sold, given, granted or purchased, according to the true intent and meaning of such gifts and grants; and that every sale, gift, grant or devise, of any such trustee or trustees, or any person or persons, in whose name or names the said lands for erecting churches, houses of religious worship, schools, alms-houses, or burying-grounds, within this province, were purchased, taken or accepted, or the heirs or assigns of such trustees, shall be and are hereby declared to be for the sole use, benefit and behoof of the said respective societies, who have been in the peaceable possession of the same for the space of twenty-one years, next before the tenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty, or for whose use the same were at first given, granted or devised, and no other.

Sales, &c. of lands, for houses of worship, &c. confirmed.

III. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any religious society of Protestants, within this province, to purchase, take and receive, by gift, grant, or otherwise, for burying-grounds, erecting churches, houses of religious worship, schools and alms-houses, for any estate whatsoever, and to hold the same for the uses aforesaid, of the lord of the fee, by the accustomed rents.

Religious societies may purchase for erecting houses of worship, &c.

IV. *Provided always, and be it further enacted*, That nothing in this act contained shall be deemed, taken or construed, to enable any of the said religious societies of people, or any person or persons whatsoever, in trust for them, or to their use, to purchase, take or receive, any lands or tenements, by gift, grant, or otherwise, for or towards the maintenance or support of the said churches, houses of worship, schools or alms-houses, or the people belonging to the same, or for any other use or purpose, save for the uses in this act before mentioned.

This act not to extend to purchases made for the support of such houses, &c.

1730-1.

Nor to impeach the title of any persons claiming the lands.

V. Provided also, That this act, nor anything therein contained shall be deemed or construed to impeach the just right or title, which any person or persons may have to any of the lands or tenements herein before mentioned, so that they prosecute such their right or claim within the space of three years next after the publication of this act.

Passed 6th February 1730-31.—Recorded A. vol. II. page 418.

CHAPTER CCCXXII.

Ante. chap. 245.

An ACT for the better prevention of accidents that may happen by fire in the city of Philadelphia, by bake-houses, and coopers shops.

How coopers-shops must be built.

FOR the further securing the inhabitants of the city of Philadelphia from the dangers that may happen by fire, *BE it enacted,* That from and after the space of sixteen months next ensuing the publication of this act, no person whatsoever, within the said city, by himself, his agents, journeymen, or servants, shall occupy the trade of a cooper or baker, but in such shops or places as are built in the manner herein respectively directed and appointed: that is to say, That no person, after the time aforesaid, shall occupy the trade of a cooper, within the said city, but in a shop or place built of brick or stone with a large chimney in the same, the ceiling thereof plastered, no stairs nor passage up the loft within such shop, and the floor thereof to be earth, or laid with good two-inch oak plank. And that no person, after the time aforesaid, within the said city, shall occupy the trade of a biscuit or soft-bread-baker, but in a bake-house built of brick or stone, and arched over with brick, if the place will admit thereof, or otherwise to be well ceiled with plastering; the floor of the said bake-house paved with brick or stone; the crown of the oven to be secured by carrying up the foundation walls square, and filling the same with gravel or sand, at least six inches higher than the top of the oven; and the chimney to be arched in the said bake-house, without any timber in or near adjoining to the same.

How bake-houses must be built.

Penalty on offenders against this act.

II. *And be it further enacted,* That if any person or persons, from and after the time aforesaid, shall presume, by themselves, their agents, journeymen, or servants, to occupy the trade of a cooper, or biscuit or soft-bread baker, or either of them, within the city aforesaid, in any shop or place, other than is above directed, enjoined and appointed, every person so offending, for every month he, she or they, shall occupy the trades of baker or cooper, or either of them, in any shop or bake-house, contrary to the directions of this act, shall forfeit as herein after is provided; that is to say, for the first offence, the sum of twenty shillings; and for the second offence, the sum of thirty shillings; and for the third and every other offence, the sum of forty shillings, to be recovered, upon complaint made, in the name of the clerk of the market for the city of Philadelphia, or in the name of any other person who will give information of the same, for and towards the repair of fire engines,