

CHAPTER MDCCCXLVII.

1795.

An ACT supplementary to the several Acts of Assembly for establishing the Judicial Courts of this commonwealth, in conformity to the alterations and amendments in the constitution.

WHEREAS the times directed for holding the Supreme Court of this commonwealth are inconvenient; Therefore,

SECT. I. *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 end of the present term of April, the three terms of the Supreme Court of this commonwealth shall be holden on the first Monday in September, and on the second Monday in December, and the third Monday in March; and that the said December term shall continue three weeks, and no longer; and the said terms in September and March shall continue two weeks, and no longer; and that the act to which this is a supplement, so far as it regulates the times of holding the court aforesaid, or the time of continuance thereof, shall be and is hereby repealed.

The time for holding, and the continuance of, the terms of the Supreme Court altered.

[See the notes to chap. 255, vol. 1, page 131.]

SECT. II. And whereas delays and inconvenience, as well in the commencement as in the prosecution of suits and proceedings in the Supreme Court of this state, arise from the want of a second return day in each term of the said court: *Therefore be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That* the last day as well as the first day of every term of the said court, hereafter to be holden, shall be a common day of return in the same court, at either of which periods any writs, original, mesne, or judicial process, or other proceeding issuing or to be had out of the said court, may be made returnable, at the election of the party suing out the same, and the same writs, process and other proceedings, thus made returnable on the last day of the term shall be as valid and effectual in all cases, and to all intents and purposes, as if the same had been made returnable on the first day of the term; provided that the same be sued out at like periods of time previous to the second return day, and like directions be observed and performed, as are made necessary by law in writs, process or other proceedings, returnable on the first day of the term: *And it is further provided, That* nothing herein contained shall prevent special days of return being appointed or assigned, either of course, or at the discretion of the Justices of the said court, or of any one of them, for writs, process or proceedings in the said court, in which special days of return have heretofore been used or accustomed so to be appointed or assigned.

The last as well as the first day of every term made a return day.

The proceedings to be the same, as where the process is returnable on the first day.

Special days of return may be assigned, as heretofore.

Passed 18th April, 1795.—Recorded in Law Book No. VI. page 33-4.

CHAPTER MDCCCXLVIII.

An ACT to empower the corporation of the city of Philadelphia to oblige the owners and occupiers of houses in the said city to provide buckets, to be used in extinguishing fires.

(See vol. 2, page 402.)

SECT. I. *BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly*

1795. *met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Common Councilmen of the city of Philadelphia, in Common Council assembled, shall have full power and authority to make and establish any law, ordinance or regulation, to oblige the owners and occupiers of houses in the said city to provide, and keep in repair, any number of leathern buckets, not exceeding six, to be used only in extinguishing fires.*

Passed 18th April, 1795.—Recorded in Law Book No. VI. page 33.

CHAPTER MDCCCLXIX.

(See vol. 2, page 462.) *An ACT to authorize the corporation of the city of Philadelphia to prevent the erecting of wooden buildings, in certain parts of the city of Philadelphia.*

WHEREAS it has been represented to the Legislature, that the danger from fire in the city of Philadelphia is considerably increased by the number of wooden buildings erected in the populous parts of the said city, and that the expense is greater of erecting wooden than brick or stone buildings: And whereas it is the duty of the Legislature to strengthen the security of property, whenever the same can be done without violating the rights of private persons:

SECT. 1. *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 the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Councilmen of the city of Philadelphia, in Common Council assembled, be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to pass ordinances, to prevent any person or persons from erecting, or causing to be erected, any wooden mansion-house, shop, ware-house, store, carriage-house, or stable, within such part of the city which lies to the eastward of Tenth-street from the river Delaware, as they may judge proper.* (x)

Passed 18th April, 1795.—Recorded in Law Book No. VI. page 33.

(x) This act declared to be constitutional, and a city ordinance founded thereon, prescribing a penalty on conviction of the offence, on indictment in the Mayor's Court, is good. Ruled in the Supreme Court, December, 1799, *Respublica v. Duquet*, (*MISS. Reports*) And there have been several late convictions for the offence pointed at by this act.

CHAPTER MDCCCL.

An ACT to continue in force the act, entitled "An act to reform the penal laws of this state, and for other purposes therein mentioned."

WHEREAS an act, entitled "An Act to reform the penal laws of this state," passed the fifth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety, will shortly expire by its own limitation: And whereas certain parts of the said act

The corporation may oblige every house-keeper to keep fire-buckets, not exceeding six.

The corporation empowered to prevent the erection of wooden buildings to the eastward of Tenth-street.

(See vol. 1, page 131, (chap. 255,) and the notes thereto; and vol. 2, page 531, (chap. 1505,) and the notes thereto.)