

## CHAPTER MDCCCXXXV.

1797.

*An ACT to provide for the settlement of the estates of deceased officers and soldiers, who served in the Pennsylvania line during the late war.*

WHEREAS great inconveniences have arisen and much injury has been done to the rights of this commonwealth, in cases where letters of administration have been taken out upon the estates of officers and soldiers, who served in the Pennsylvania line during the late war, and who died intestate, and without heirs, inasmuch as in many instances no settlement of accounts has been made by the persons so taking out letters of administration with the officer of the proper county, and paying into his hands their respective balances: And whereas, for the want of legal provision in this respect, a door has been opened for much unjust speculation: For remedy whereof,

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 the several Registers for the probate of wills and granting letters of administration within this commonwealth shall be, and they are hereby required to cause to be published in their respective counties, on or before the first day of August next, either in a public newspaper, or in a convenient number of public hand-bills, to be pasted up in at least twenty of the most frequented places in their respective counties, the names of all such administrators, as well as the names of their sureties, as have received letters of administration (and have not settled their accounts) upon the estates of officers and soldiers, who served in the Pennsylvania line during the late war, and who have died intestate, and without heirs, severally requiring them at the same time, and in like manner, to settle their accounts with the Register of the proper county, and pay him their respective balances, with interest on the same, to be computed from the end of thirty days after the said publication.

Publication to be made of the names of administrators on the estates of officers and soldiers of the Pennsylvania line.

SECT. II. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the said Registers respectively shall, at the same time, and in like manner, require all other such administrators, of whom they have not knowledge, to come in within sixty days from the date of such publication, and file, in the office of Register of the proper county, the name of their intestate, and the date of their letters of administration, and the administrators last mentioned shall, within thirty days from the time of such coming in, settle their accounts with the Register of the proper county, and pay him their respective balances, in the same manner as is prescribed in the preceding section.

Persons not named in the publication to be cited to appear before the proper Register.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any administrators so as aforesaid known, or coming in on notice as aforesaid given, shall neglect or refuse to produce his letters of administration, and make settlement, and pay the balance, with interest, to the proper officer, as is before directed, then it shall and may be lawful, and the Register is hereby required, within thirty days after such neglect or refusal, to make out and trans-

In case of neglect to appear, the administration bonds shall be sued

1797. mit true copies of the administration bond to the Attorney-General of this commonwealth, who is hereby empowered and directed to commence suit upon the same.

Or if proper accounts are not rendered, the penalty of the bonds shall be forfeited and paid, for the use of the state.

SECT. IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if the administrators aforesaid, after having come forward, do not produce an inventory of the goods and chattels of the deceased at the time of his death, with fair and satisfactory accounts of the receipts and expenditures of monies coming into and passing through their hands, in consequence of such letters of administration, then the penalty of the administration bond shall be forfeited, and if the suit is prosecuted with effect, shall be paid, with interest as aforesaid, into the hands of the Treasurer of the proper county, who shall transmit the same to the Treasurer of this commonwealth, for the use of the commonwealth.

Penalty on Registers, who neglect to execute this act.

SECT. V. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any Register for the probate of wills and granting letters of administration shall, after the publication of this act, neglect or refuse to do all and singular the duties and services herein required, he shall, for the first offence, forfeit and pay to the commonwealth the sum of five hundred dollars, for the second or any subsequent offence, the sum of one thousand dollars, to be recovered by bill, plaint or indictment, as fines, penalties and forfeitures, are by the several laws of this commonwealth.

The Secretary shall transmit copies of this act to the Registers.

SECT. VI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of this commonwealth, and he is hereby required as soon as conveniently may be, to transmit a copy of this act to the respective Registers of the several counties within this commonwealth.

Fees to be charged by the Registers.

SECT. VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That it shall and may be lawful for the Registers respectively to charge and receive such fees for the above-mentioned extraordinary services, as the commissioners of the respective counties shall think just and reasonable, which fees shall be deducted out of the monies or effects of each particular estate; but in case he shall not receive a sum sufficient for that purpose from any such estate, then, and in that case, the fees as aforesaid shall be paid out of the county treasury, on warrants drawn by the commissioners.

Passed 1st April, 1797.—Recorded in Law Book No. VI. page 189.

## CHAPTER MDCCCXXXVI.

*An ACT to regulate the manner of selling loaf-bread, and to repeal certain existing laws respecting the same.*

Repeal of former acts respecting the assize of bread.

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 passing of this act, so much of an act, entitled "An act to regulate the assize of bread, and for other purposes therein mentioned," passed on the eighteenth day of March, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, as relates to the assize of