

CHAPTER COLXXXVI.

AN ACT FOR CONTINUING THE BOUNTY UPON HEMP.

Whereas in and by an act passed in the eighth year of his present Majesty's reign there is a bounty of one penny per pound to be paid for all good and merchantable hemp raised within this province; but forasmuch as the said act is near expiring, and it is found by experience the same has in some measure answered the good intention thereof:

Therefore to the end that the people of this province may be further encouraged in the raising of good and merchantable hemp:

[Section I.] Be it enacted by Sir William Keith, Baronet, Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, &c., by and with the advice and consent of the freemen of the said Province in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That there shall be paid out of the public revenue of this province, as an encouragement or bounty for all good, sound, well-dressed, merchantable hemp, suitable and fit for exportation, that shall grow and be raised in this province by any person or persons whatsoever from and after the twenty-second day of May next after the publication of this act until the full end and expiration of five years next ensuing, one penny for every pound of such merchantable hemp raised as aforesaid.

[Section II.] And be it further enacted, That a good and convenient warehouse (if occasion require) shall be kept at the charge of the public by the officer hereinafter appointed, into which the said officer shall receive all such quantities (not being less than twenty-five pounds in one parcel) of sound, well-dressed, merchantable hemp as aforesaid as shall be brought to him by the person or persons who shall raise the same; and upon such person or persons making oath or affirmation before the said officer that he, she or they did truly and *bona fide* raise the said hemp [within this province, and that the same hath not] nor any part thereof has ever before been tendered to the

said officer or any bounty paid or allowed for the same, which oath or affirmation the officer is hereby empowered to administer, he the said officer shall forthwith pay to such person or persons out of the money of the public in his hands one penny for every pound weight of such hemp as aforesaid, and shall give to the owner of the said hemp a receipt under his hand for the quantity by him received certifying the same to be good and merchantable, for the trouble of which the said officer shall be allowed by the public one shilling for every hundred pounds, and so proportionably for a greater or lesser quantity and no more.

And all such hemp shall lie in the said warehouse, if the owner thinks fit to store it, till such time as he or some person by his order shall apply to the said officer with his receipt for the said hemp, upon producing of which receipt the said hemp for which such receipt was given shall be delivered in the same good order in which it was received to the said owner or his order (casualties of fire and such like accidents excepted) without any further charge, saving porters' hire and an allowance of four pence per hundred for attending the same.

[Section III.] And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That Charles Read, appointed collector for receiving the excise, be and is hereby appointed the officer for receiving and viewing all such hemp as aforesaid and for paying the bounty hereby granted and allowed for the term aforesaid.

Passed March 20, 1724-25. Expired before being considered by the Crown. See note to the Act of Assembly passed May 22, 1722, Chapter 257; and the Acts of Assembly passed May 6, 1727, Chapter 294; February 14, 1729-30, Chapter 316; January 10, 1731-32, Chapter 328.

CHAPTER CCLXXXVII.

AN ACT FOR THE BETTER SECURING THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA FROM THE DANGER OF GUNPOWDER.

Forasmuch as the city of Philadelphia is destitute of any magazine or other suitable repository for the safe-keeping of gunpowder, which, being a commodity of good consideration in