

## CHAPTER CCCLXVI.

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE ACT, ENTITLED "AN ACT FOR ERECTING HOUSES OF CORRECTION AND WORK HOUSES IN THE RESPECTIVE COUNTIES"<sup>1</sup> AND TO THE ACT, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO ENABLE JEREMIAH LANGHORNE, &c., TO BUILD A COURT HOUSE IN THE COUNTY OF BUCKS."<sup>2</sup>

Whereas by an act of general assembly of this province, entitled "An act for erecting houses of correction and workhouses in the respective counties," made in the fourth year of the reign of King George the First, it was amongst other things enacted that a house of correction or workhouse should be built at Bristol, in the county of Bucks, within the time therein limited, which is long since expired, and no house of correction or workhouse hath hitherto been built for the use of the said county: And whereas by another act of assembly, entitled "An act to enable Jeremiah Langhorne, William Biles, Joseph Kirkbride, junior, Thomas Watson, practitioner in physick, and Abraham Chapman, to build a new court house and prison in the said county of Bucks," made in the eleventh year of the reign last aforesaid, it was amongst other things enacted that it should and might be lawful for them, the said Jeremiah Langhorne, William Biles, Joseph Kirkbride, Thomas Watson and Abraham Chapman, or any three of them to purchase and take assurance to them and to their heirs of a piece of land situate in some convenient place in Newtown, in the said county, in trust for the use of the said county, and to erect a court house and prison thereon sufficient to accommodate the public service of the said county. And whereas in pursuance of the act last mentioned the said trustees have purchased a piece of land, situate in Newtown aforesaid, containing about five acres, and taken an assurance thereof to them and their heirs forever in trust for the use of the said county, and also caused a court house and prison to

<sup>1</sup> Passed February 22, 1717-18, Chapter 229.

<sup>2</sup> Passed March 20, 1724-25, Chapter 283.

be built on the premises for the use aforesaid, which prison on experience having been found too small for the purpose aforesaid, divers assessments were made and rates levied on the inhabitants of the said county, and therewith a more commodious prison hath since been built on the said ground sufficient for the public use of the county aforesaid, and the prison first built is no longer necessary for the purpose for which it was erected, and may, until further provision be made, be fitly used as a workhouse and house of correction for the said county. And whereas three of the said trustees, since the making of the act last mentioned, to wit, Jeremiah Langhorne, William Biles and Thomas Watson, are dead, and it is fitting other trustees should be named in their places. And whereas divers parts of the said five acres of land purchased for the use of the said county have been granted in fee-simple on yearly rents, payable to them the said trustees, for the use of the said county, and other parts thereof remain uninclosed, of little use to the said county, which might also be granted at considerable yearly rents and the public charges of the county be thereby lessened:

But forasmuch as doubts may arise concerning the power of the said trustees to grant the same and whether the old prison can be applied to the use aforesaid:

Therefore, for avoiding these doubts:

[Section I.] Be it enacted by the Honorable George Thomas, Esquire, with the King's royal approbation Lieutenant-Governor under the Honorable John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esquires, true and absolute Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania and counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex upon Delaware, by and with the advice and consent of the representatives of the said Province in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That the aforesaid Joseph Kirkbride and Abraham Chapman, with Mark Watson, Mahlon Kirkbride and John Watson, Junior, of Buckingham, and such other person and persons as shall hereafter be named, in pursuance of this act, do stand seized and they are hereby declared to stand seized of the five acres of land aforesaid, to hold to them and to their successors forever, in trust, nevertheless, for the use of the said county, and to such uses, intents and purposes as are hereinafter-mentioned and to no other use what-

soever: (That is to say) that as to so much of the five acres of ground aforesaid as hath already been granted in fee-simple, at a yearly rent forever, that they, the said trustees or the survivors and survivor of them do grant and confirm the same to the persons to whom it was so granted and to their heirs and assigns respectively forever; and as to so much more of the said five acres of ground as can be spared without incommoding the court house and other public buildings thereon erected or to be erected for the use of the said county on this further trust, that they the said trustees or any three of them shall and will grant, bargain and sell the same to such person and persons as are or shall be willing to purchase the same, and to his, her and their heirs and assigns respectively forever, reserving always out of every part and parcel thereof which shall so be granted the best yearly rent that can be had and obtained for the same, payable to them the said trustees and their successors in the said trust for the public use of the said county forever.

[Section II.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said trustees and to and for their successors in the same trust to receive the rents which are or shall be reserved as aforesaid as the same shall from time to time become due, and the said trustees shall once in every year account with and pay the same to the treasurer of the county aforesaid for the public use of the said county, and the said treasurer shall give his receipts for the money from time to time so paid him, which shall be sufficient discharges to them the said trustees, their heirs, executors and administrators forever; but if it so happen that any person or persons who have accepted or taken or may accept and take grants of any part or parcels of the ground aforesaid shall neglect to make payment of the rent reserved when the same shall become due, that then and so often and in every such case it shall be lawful for the said trustees and the survivors and survivor of them, and for their successors appointed by virtue of this act, to distrain from time to time or to bring actions of debt for the rent which shall be in arrear in any court of record in the said county, and to recover the same with costs of suit.

[Section III.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when and so often as any of the said trustees

shall die or become incapable of performing the trust, it shall and may be lawful for the commissioners of the said county chosen by virtue of an act of the general assembly of this province, entitled "An act for raising county rates and levies,"<sup>1</sup> passed in the eleventh year of the reign of King George the First, and to and for any two of them to appoint others in the stead of the trustees so dying or being disabled, which trustees when appointed shall have the same powers and authorities to all intents and purposes as the trustees named and appointed by this act.

[Section IV.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the prison first built as aforesaid shall be and the same is hereby declared to be a house of correction and workhouse for the said county, and as such, with the prison yard adjoining, shall be subject to the same regulations and shall and may be used, occupied and employed to all intents and purposes designed by the act for erecting of houses of correction and workhouses in the respective counties before mentioned as amply as if the same had been built for the purpose at the place and within the time limited by the said act until such time as a new and more commodious house shall be built for the same purposes.

Passed March 7, 1745-46. Confirmed by the King in Council, October 29, 1748. See Appendix XVI, Section I, and notes to the Acts of Assembly passed February 22, 1717-18, Chapter 229, March 20, 1724-25, Chapter 283, and the Act of Assembly passed March 7, 1745-46, Chapter 367.

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## CHAPTER CCCLXVII.

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AN ACT FOR ERECTING OF A HOUSE OF CORRECTION AND WORKHOUSE IN THE BOROUGH OF BRISTOL, IN THE COUNTY OF BUCKS, AND FOR RAISING OF MONEY ON THE INHABITANTS OF THE SAID BOROUGH FOR THE PUBLIC USE AND BENEFIT THEREOF.

Whereas William Keith, Esquire (afterwards Sir William Keith,) formerly lieutenant-governor of this province, by letters

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<sup>1</sup>Passed March 20, 1724-25, Chapter 284.