

the same, That the said books shall immediately after the publication hereof be deposited in the office for recording of deeds in the county of Philadelphia; and the record or entry of any such judgment, order or regulation and of all deeds, conveyances and other writings in the same books contained or exemplifications or copies thereof, being examined by the recorder of deeds for the city and county of Philadelphia and certified under his hand and seal of office, which he is hereby enjoined to put and affix thereto, shall be allowed, deemed and taken and are hereby declared to be as good evidence and as valid and effectual in law as the originals themselves, and the same may be pleaded, given in evidence and made use of accordingly.

Passed February 18, 1769. Referred for consideration by the King in Council, February 26, 1770, and allowed to become a law by lapse of time in accordance with the proprietary charter. See Appendix XXVII, Sections I and II.

CHAPTER DLXXXIX.

AN ACT TO DISSOLVE THE MARRIAGE OF CURTIS GRUBB, OF THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER, IRON-MASTER, WITH ANN HIS WIFE, LATE ANN FEW, AND TO ENABLE HIM TO MARRY AGAIN.

Whereas it hath been represented and appears to the assembly of this province that in September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven, Curtis Grubb, being before that time married to a certain Ann Few, sailed from America to Europe and continued absent until the latter end of the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty-three, that the said Ann, his wife, remained during the time aforesaid in the said province, and in the month of February, in the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty-nine, she, the said Ann, was delivered of a spurious issue of her body, begotten and born during the absence of her said husband and was guilty of adultery on her part:

And whereas also it appears to the said assembly that on the eighteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand

seven hundred and sixty-three, the said Ann was joined in marriage with a certain Archibald McNeal, he, the said Curtis, not having been at that time six years absent from the said province:

[Section I.] Be it therefore enacted by the Honorable John Penn, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governor under the Honorable 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 freemen of the said Province in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That the said bond of matrimony (being violated and broken by the manifest and open adultery of the said Ann) be and it is hereby enacted, declared and adjudged to be from henceforth wholly dissolved, annulled and made void to all intents and purposes whatsoever; and that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Curtis Grubb at any time after the passing of this act (his former marriage with the said Ann notwithstanding) to contract matrimony with and take to wife any other woman during the natural life of the said Ann in the same manner as he might or could do if she the said Ann was actually dead, and such marriage when had and solemnized shall be and is hereby declared and adjudged to be good and legal to all intents and purposes whatever and the issue thereof, if any, to be born in lawful wedlock able and capable in law to take, purchase or inherit by will, deed or otherwise any estate, real, personal or mixed, in the same manner as any other person or legitimate child or children by the laws of England or of this province in any case may or can do.

[Section II.] And be it further enacted and declared by the authority aforesaid, That all and every child or children, as well male as female, which at any time since the first day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty-eight hath or have been born of the body of the said Ann, wife of the said Curtis Grubb (if any such there be), are bastards and spurious issue and not the lawful issue of the said Curtis Grubb on the body of the said Ann his wife begotten, and that no such child or children so born since the first

day of September in the year one thousand seven hundred fifty-eight, nor any other child or children which hereafter shall be born of the body of the said Ann, now wife of the said Curtis Grubb, shall be deemed, taken or reputed to be the lawful issue of the said Curtis Grubb on the body of the said Ann begotten.

[Section III.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Ann shall be and is hereby barred and excluded of and from all dower and thirds and of and from all right and title of dower and thirds in, to or out of the lands, tenements, hereditaments and personal estate of the said Curtis Grubb.

Provided always, That nothing in this act shall extend or be construed to prejudice or render illegitimate a certain male child of the said Curtis Grubb by the said Ann his wife, called Peter Grubb, born before the first day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty-eight, but that the said male child be adjudged, deemed and taken to be born in lawful wedlock and be legitimate and inheritable and be capable of taking and inheriting the said Curtis Grubb's lands, tenements, hereditaments and personal estate from and by his father, mother and other ancestors, in like manner as he might or could have done had this act not been made.

Passed February 18, 1769. Referred for consideration by the King in Council, February 26, 1770, and allowed to become a law by lapse of time in accordance with the proprietary charter. See Appendix XXVII, Section I.

CHAPTER DXC.

AN ACT FOR THE RELIEF OF JAMES GREEN, BENJAMIN DAVIS (AND) PAUL RIFFET, LANGUISHING PRISONERS IN THE GAOL OF PHILADELPHIA, WITH RESPECT TO THE IMPRISONMENT OF THEIR PERSONS.

Whereas it hath been represented to the assembly [of this province] by the several petitions of James Green, Benjamin