

CHAPTER DCCLL.

AN ACT TO INCREASE THE WAGES OF ASSEMBLYMEN.¹

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas in and by a certain act of the general assembly of the province of Pennsylvania passed in the fourth year of the reign of the late Queen Ann, entitled "An act to ascertain the number of members of assembly and to regulate the elections,"² it was declared and enacted that every member chosen or to be chosen to serve in assembly should be allowed the sum of six shillings per day and the speaker ten shillings per day during his and their attendance in the service thereof, and that every member of assembly should be allowed towards his traveling charges after the rate of three pence per mile coming to and going from the place where the assembly should be held:

(Section II, P. L.) And whereas in and by one other act of the general assembly of the province aforesaid passed in the third year of the reign of the present King of Great Britain, entitled "An act to increase the allowance to members of assembly for their attendance on the public service,"³ it was therein set forth that since the passing the said above-entitled act the price of provisions and the expense of traveling, lodging and diet had greatly increased, in so much that the sum of money allowed by the said act to the said members per day was not sufficient to maintain and support them in the necessary accommodations during their attendance in the service of the public, whereupon it was enacted that instead of the said sum of six shillings every member to be chosen after the publication of the said last-recited act to serve in general assembly should be allowed the sum of eight shillings and the speaker, instead of the sum of ten shillings, the sum of twelve shil-

¹ The original roll of this act is missing; and therefore it has been compared with the copy in the Act Books.

² Passed January 12, 1705-6, Chapter 137.

³ Passed January 22, 1774, Chapter 696.

lings per day during his and their attendance in the service thereof, and that every such member should be allowed towards his traveling charges after the rate of five pence for every mile he should travel once in each sitting in coming to and going from the place where the assembly should be held, and that the said sum of money should be paid by the respective counties out of the county stock:

(Section III, P. L.) And whereas on account of the present unnatural war the price of provisions and the expense of traveling and almost every necessary accommodation have lately increased unto at least treble what they respectively were at the time of the passing the said last-recited act:

(Section IV, P. L.) And whereas the present constitution hath made provision that if any man is called into public service to the prejudice of his private affairs he has a right to a reasonable compensation:

Therefore:

[Section I] (Section V, P. L.) Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That as well for and during the time past of the present sessions as also for and during the remainder of the same, instead of the sum of eight shillings, allowed by the former act, each member composing the present assembly shall be allowed the sum of fifteen shillings and the speaker, instead of the sum of twelve shillings allowed by the former act shall be allowed the sum of twenty shillings per day during his and their attendance in the service thereof, and that every such member shall be allowed towards his traveling charges after the rate of five pence for every mile he shall travel once in each sitting, in coming to and going from the place where the assembly shall be held and that the said sum and sums of money shall be paid unto the speaker and members respectively out of the state treasury.

[Section II] (Section VI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That so much of the herein first before recited act as declares what shall be allowed to the speaker and

other members of assembly and also the whole of the said last-recited act shall be and is hereby repealed.

Passed March 19, 1777. See the note to the Act of Assembly passed January 22, 1774, Chapter 696. The act in the text was repealed by the Act of Assembly passed December 27, 1777, Chapter 774.

CHAPTER DCCLII.

AN ACT FOR EMITTING THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS IN BILLS OF CREDIT FOR THE DEFENSE OF THIS STATE, AND PROVIDING A FUND FOR SINKING THE SAME BY A TAX ON ALL ESTATES, REAL AND PERSONAL AND ON ALL TAXABLES WITHIN THE SAME.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas it is necessary that a sufficient sum of money should be immediately provided in order to make proper preparation for the defense of this state against the cruel and hostile proceedings of the King of Great Britain:

Therefore:

[Section I] (Section II, P. L.) Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assmby met, and by the authority of the same, That bills of credit to the value of two hundred thousand pounds shall be prepared and printed within three months next after the publication of this act on good strong paper, under the care and direction of John Bayard, Robert Knox, Joseph Parker and Michael Shubart, Esquires, the charges whereof shall be paid by the state treasurer out of the moneys so prepared and printed which bills of credit shall be made and prepared in manner and form following, viz.:

This bill shall pass current for according to an act of general assembly of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania passed the twentieth day [of] March in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven. Dated the tenth day of April, A. D. on thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven.

And the said bills shall have such like escutcheons as in the