

CHAPTER DCCLXXXIII.

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE ACT, ENTITLED "AN ACT FOR THE BETTER SUPPLY OF THE ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES." ¹

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas no commissioners are by the said act appointed to purchase, collect, seize and take within the county of Berks, for the purpose of forming magazines for the army of the United States of America, flour, wheat, rye, Indian corn, oats, spelts, hay, whiskey, beef, pork, cattle and swine, and to dispose of the same according to the direction of the said act:

Therefore to remedy the said defect:

[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 Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That John Leshner, Valentine Eckart, Michael Crause and Christian Lauer, Junior, of the county of Berks, be and they are hereby nominated, constituted and appointed commissioners in and for the said county. And they are hereby enjoined, authorized and empowered within the said county of Berks to do and perform the like services as by the said act to which this act is a supplement are required to be done and performed by the commissioners thereby appointed for the other counties of this commonwealth for procuring the articles hereinbefore enumerated for the purpose of forming magazines thereof for the army of the United States, who shall, before they enter upon the duties of their said office take the oaths or affirmations by the act hereinbefore recited, prescribed and required to be taken by the commissioners therein named.

(Section III, P. L.) And whereas the necessity of immediately procuring and forwarding provisions and forage of every kind to the army of the United States is so great that the commissioners already appointed by law for those purposes may not

¹ Passed January 2, 1778, Chapter 782.

be able without assistance to execute with due dispatch the trust in them reposed:

[Section II.] (Section IV, P. L.) Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the commissioners in the said act to which this is a supplement and in this act named be empowered and directed and they are hereby empowered and directed to appoint so many fit persons within their respective counties to assist them in collecting and forwarding provisions and forage for the army, agreeable to the intention of the act to which this act is a supplement, as they shall find absolutely necessary for those purposes; and the said assistants shall have equal pay with the said commissioners.

(Section V, P. L.) And whereas also there is no direction in and by the act to which this act is a supplement that the commissioners for collecting provision[s] and forage, in case of concealment or suspicion of concealment, should apply to a justice of the peace of the county wherein such concealment may happen for his warrant to any constable or other fit person to discover and take any such secreted articles:

[Section III] (Section VI, P. L.) Be it therefore further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That upon oath or affirmation made of the concealment or suspicion of concealment of any of the articles hereinbefore enumerated the commissioners of the county where such concealment or suspicion thereof may happen and so often as the same may happen or any of them or their assistants or any of them, shall apply to some justice of the peace of the same county, who is hereby directed and required upon such oath or affirmation made to issue his warrant commanding any constable, and where there is no constable or the constable shall refuse to act, any other fit person at the proper expense and charge of the owner if [any] such secreted goods shall be found, if not at the charge of the state, to take with him such assistance as may be necessary and attend the said commissioners or assistants or any of them in discovering and assist in seizing and taking any such secreted goods.

Passed February 27, 1778. See the note to the Act of Assembly passed January 2, 1778, Chapter 782.