

Derry, and there and then elect members of general assembly and other elective officers for the said county according to the [said] constitution and to the laws in such case made and provided, and make return of such election as the other districts of the said county are directed in the supplement herein above recited, anything in the act to which this act is a supplement to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Passed March 23, 1778. See the note to the Act of Assembly passed March 7, 1745-46, Chapter 364.

CHAPTER DCCXCI.

AN ACT FOR THE CALLING IN OF THE BILLS OF CREDIT, ISSUED BY THE LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, UNDER THE SANCTION AND AUTHORITY OF THE CROWN OF GREAT BRITAIN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES THEREIN MENTIONED.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas sundry persons, preferring their private interest to the public weal, have hoarded up the paper bills of credit of this state, which have been emitted under the sanction and authority of the crown of Great Britain, from an expectation that they will be redeemed let the event of the present glorious struggle for the liberties of this country prove successful or the contrary, and have thereby made an injurious distinction between such bills and the paper bills of credit emitted by Congress, naturally tending to depreciate the latter:

For remedy whereof:

[Section I.] (Section II, P. L.) Be it therefore 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 from and after the publication of this act, the bills of credit issued in Pennsylvania, under the authority of the crown of Great Britain on or before the nineteenth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, shall cease to be legal tender in any payment, whatsoever, except as is hereinafter directed; and

that each and every of the acts of general assembly by which the same or any part thereof, have been made current, shall be, and are hereby repealed, and declared to be null and void; saving and excepting such parts of the said acts as relate to the convicting and punishing of any person or persons counterfeiting or altering the said bills of credit, or uttering the same knowing them to be counterfeit or altered; and also such parts of the said acts as relate to the sinking the bills of credit by taxes, excise or otherwise.

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all the said bills of credit issued before the said nineteenth day of April, in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, shall either be paid into the hands of the state treasurer, who shall thereupon deliver to the payer an equal sum in paper bills of credit emitted either by Congress or this commonwealth, or to the several collectors of the taxes in payment of taxes, which collectors are hereby enjoined to exchange all said moneys offered to them with any other bills, as far as money in their hands will enable them so to do, or into the general loan office of this state in payment of any mortgage moneys there due; provided the said payments be made on or before the first day of June next.

[Section III.] (Section IV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That from and after the first day of June aforesaid all bills of credit issued by any act of general assembly of Pennsylvania struck under the sanction and authority of the crown of Great Britain on or before the nineteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, which shall not be brought in and exchanged as herein before directed, shall be and are hereby declared to be from thenceforth irredeemable; anything contained in the act, by which the same was made current to the contrary hereof in anywise notwithstanding.

(Section V, P. L.) Provided nevertheless, That if any of the said bills of credit shall be in the hands of any person or persons in any of the neighboring states, and the person or persons possessed thereof shall produce the same to the treasurer of this state, on or before the first day of August next together with a

certificate under the hand and seal of one or more justice or justices of the peace of any county in such state, setting forth that he or they had counted, sealed up, and endorsed the same, with his or their name or names, and the sum therein contained on or before the fifteenth day of June next, then, and in that case, the said money shall be exchanged by the said treasurer, as is herein before directed.

[Section IV.] (Section VI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all such bills of credit as shall appear by good and sufficient evidence on oath or affirmation, to have been at the time of passing this act, or within twenty days thereafter, in the hands and really and truly the property of any person who hath taken the oath or affirmation of allegiance to this state, or to any of the United States of America, and hath not since taken the oath of allegiance to the King of Great Britain and shall at the time of passing this act be within the lines of the enemy, and which bills of credit shall be presented to the said treasurer, on or before the first day of September next shall also be exchanged as before directed.

[Section V.] (Section VII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said state treasurer is hereby authorized to exchange all the moneys aforesaid that may be received by the trustees of the loan office in pursuance of this act and to make report in writing under his hand of the said bills of credit by him received and shall together with a committee to be appointed from time to time by the general assembly, count, burn and destroy the said bills.

Passed March 23, 1778. See the note to the Act of Assembly passed March 5, 1725-26, Chapter 289.