

Geddis and William Shaw for the county of Northumberland, and John Moore, Joseph McGarrah and John Nesbitt for the county of Westmoreland, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners for the city and the several counties in this state to do and perform all and singular the services required of them by this act; and the said commissioners shall each of them take and receive three pounds per day for every day that they shall be so employed; and the several county treasurers are hereby authorized to pay the wages aforesaid out of the money taking their receipts therefor, which receipts shall discharge the several treasurers for such sums as shall be paid to the said commissioners.

[Section XIII.] (Section XVIII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That each and every of the said commissioners who are by this act appointed to settle the aforesaid accounts shall before he enters upon the execution of the said office take the following oath or affirmation before some justice of the peace of the proper county who is hereby empowered to administer the same, viz.:

“I, A. B., do swear (or affirm) that I will well and truly audit, adjust, liquidate and settle all and every of the accounts which shall be produced to me by virtue of this act, and that I will to the best of my knowledge do equal justice as well as to the said accountants and the state of Pennsylvania as to the citizens thereof.”

Passed April 2, 1779. Repealed by the Act of Assembly passed March 1, 1780, Chapter 382.

CHAPTER DCCCXXXIX.

AN ACT FOR THE BETTER RELIEF OF THE POOR OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, THE DISTRICT OF SOUTHWARK AND THE TOWNSHIPS OF MOYAMENSING, PASSYUNK AND THE NORTHERN LIBERTIES IN THE COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas the circumstances of the city of Philadelphia in the month of May last under the power of the

enemy, hindered the due and lawful election of managers and treasurer of the corporation of the contributors to the relief and employment of the poor of the city of Philadelphia; whereby the support and direction of the poor of the said city, the district of Southwark and the townships of Passyunk, Moyamensing and the Northern Liberties, united and collected in one almshouse within the said city is interrupted and obstructed:

(Section II, P. L.) And whereas the rate or assessment directed by the act of assembly, entitled "An act for the relief of the poor,"¹ passed on the twenty-ninth of March one thousand seven hundred and seventy-one, not exceeding three pence in the pound on all estates real and personal, and of six shillings per head on every freeman not otherwise rated for his estate within said city, district and townships respectively is found to be very inadequate to the support of the poor in the said almshouse, and the poor thereto belonging, and the frequent repetition thereof would be very inconvenient to the overseers of the poor and very troublesome to the inhabitants:

For remedy whereof:

[Section I.] (Section III, 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 [Joseph Blewer, Philip Boehm, Thomas Cuthbert, Jacob Graff, John Mease, John Nixon, William Rush, Daniel Roberdeau, William Henry, John Shee, Christopher Ludwick and James Wharton] shall be and hereby are appointed and constituted managers and [Francis Hopkinson], treasurer of said almshouse, to have, hold, exercise and enjoy all and singular the powers, authorities and direction and employment of the poor of said city, district and townships as fully as any managers legally chosen by the said contributors to the relief and employment of the poor in the city of Philadelphia might, could or have heretofore held, exercised or enjoyed the same; the managers hereby appointed to continue in office until the contributors to the relief and employment of the said poor who are legally qualified by taking and subscribing the

¹ Passed March 29, 1771, Chapter 635.

oath or affirmation of allegiance to the state shall under the act of their incorporation elect officers as aforesaid.

[Section II.] (Section IV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for two of the judges of the city court, and two of the justices of the peace for the county of Philadelphia upon the complaint of the managers of the said almshouse that a sum of money is wanted, or likely so to be for the support and employment of the poor in the said almshouse, to issue their warrants under their hands and seals, directed to the overseers of the poor of the said city, district and townships, requiring them to forthwith levy, collect and raise, by an equal assessment upon the clear yearly value as they shall reasonably estimate the same of all real and personal estates within the said city, district and townships respectively a rate or tax not exceeding one shilling and sixpence in the pound upon all taxables and thirty-six shillings per head on every freeman not otherwise rated in such tax for the relief of the poor, and the said rate shall be repeated as often as the said judges, justices and managers shall find the same necessary.

[Section III.] (Section V, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said recited act for the relief of the poor passed the twenty-ninth of March one thousand seven hundred and seventy-one, except so much as is herein before altered and repealed shall continue be and remain and is hereby declared to be in full force and effect.

[Section IV.] (Section VI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said recited act, with this supplement thereto shall continue in force for the space of five years, and from thence to the end of the next sitting of the assembly and no longer.

Passed April 2, 1779. See the note to the Act of Assembly passed March 9, 1777, Chapter 635. The act in the text was repealed by the Act of Assembly passed March 25, 1782, Chapter 962.