

the same article, clauses, matters and things not hereby altered or supplied shall be and remain in full force and virtue.

Passed October 1, 1779. See the note to the Act of Assembly passed March 20, 1724-25, Chapter 284; and the Act of Assembly passed April 13, 1782, Chapter 972. The act in the text was repealed, except the third section by the Act of Assembly passed April 11, 1799, Chapter 2095.

As to Section III, see the notes to the Acts of Assembly passed January 12, 1705-6, Chapter 146. This section was repealed by the Act of Assembly passed April 13, 1782, Chapter 972.

CHAPTER DCCCLII.

A FURTHER SUPPLEMENT TO THE TEST LAWS OF THIS STATE.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas by virtue of that inherent and unquestionable right, which every government hath to exact a test of allegiance from all persons within it, at such times and in such manner, as the preservation of the state shall require; several test laws have been successively passed at different priods, by the legislature of this state, presenting oaths of allegiance to this commonwealth:

(Section II, P. L.) And whereas many persons have omitted to take and subscribe the same as is reasonably apprehended from disaffection to our late glorious revolution:

(Section III, P. L.) And whereas it is unjust, as well as impolitic to admit to a common participation of the blessings of independence, those who refuse to share in common with the good people of these states, the dangers and inconveni[en]ces of the present contest:

(Section IV, P. L.) And whereas many persons inimical to the liberties of this country, despairing of subverting the same by open force, may be induced to assume the mask of friendship, and after insinuating themselves into favor and confidence, endeavor to betray those whom they cannot conquer:

(Section V, P. L.) And whereas to secure and establish the

independence of this commonwealth, as declared by Congress, is a duty which we owe to ourselves who now enjoy it, to those brave men who have exposed their lives for this noble purpose, and to our posterity who will claim at our hands this the most valuable inheritance that could have been left them: Therefore to attain this great object to make a proper and reasonable distinction between those who step forward in the hour of trial, and those who would enjoy the rewards of victory without having contributed towards it, and to guard against secret and deceitful designs:

[Section I.] (Section VI, 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 all male white inhabitants of this state, above the age of eighteen years, who have not hitherto taken the oath or affirmation mentioned and appointed to be taken in the act of assembly, entitled "An act obliging the male white inhabitants of this state to give assurances of allegiance to the same; and for other purposes therein mentioned,"¹ enacted the thirteenth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, within the time and according to the terms prescribed in said act, and who have also neglected and omitted to take and subscribe the oath or affirmation in said act mentioned within the further time indulged, and according to the terms prescribed by an act entitled "An act for the further security of the government,"² and who have neglected to take and subscribe the oath or affirmation appointed to be taken and subscribed by an act, entitled "A further supplement to the act entitled, An act for the further security of government"³ within the time limited and according to the terms prescribed in said last mentioned act; and who shall refuse or neglect to take and subscribe the oath or affirmation of allegiance prescribed in said act passed the fifth day of December one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, if an inhabitant of the county of Cumberland, Bedford, Northumberland or Westmoreland, on

¹ Passed June 13, 1777, Chapter 754.

² Passed April 1, 1778, Chapter 796.

³ Passed December 5, 1778, Chapter 322.

or before the first day of December next; or if an inhabitant of the county of Lancaster, York, Berks or Northampton, within thirty-five days from the passing of this act; or if an inhabitant of the city of Philadelphia, or of the county of Philadelphia, Bucks or Chester, within twenty days after the passing thereof, such persons shall be, and are hereby declared to be, excluded from, and incapable of electing or being elected into, or holding any office or place of trust within this government or serving on juries, or keeping schools (except in private houses).

(Section VII, P. L.) Provided, That this act shall not extend to exempt them from serving the offices of supervisor of the highways, collector of the public taxes, or overseers of the poor.

[Section II.] (Section VIII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every such person so refusing or neglecting to take the said oath or affirmation within the time hereby limited and appointed, shall be forever excluded from the same, and deprived of the privileges and benefits of a citizen or citizens who shall have complied with this act.

(Section IX, P. L.) And whereas some doubts have arisen on the construction of the said acts, whether officers and soldiers in the continental army, who have not taken the oath of allegiance within the times limited in the same are entitled to the privileges of citizens:

To remove such doubts:

[Section III.] (Section X, P. L.) Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all officers both of the line and staff, attending the army and all soldiers who are now or were in the service of this or the United States on the said first day of June, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, shall have and are declared to have all the privileges of citizens of this commonwealth, although they have not taken the oath aforesaid, within the time and according to the terms in the said acts limited and prescribed, as fully as if they had then taken the said oaths, as soon as they shall have taken the same.

[Section IV.] (Section XI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That so much of the before mentioned act of assembly, entitled "An act obliging the male white inhabitants of this state, to give assurances of allegiance to the

same, and for other purposes therein mentioned," enacted the thirteenth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven; and of the act, entitled "[An act] for the further security of the government," and of the supplement thereto; as are hereby altered or supplied, shall be repealed and become null and void; and that all other parts of the same acts which are now in force shall remain, continue and be in as full force and effect as if this act had never been made.

Passed October 1, 1779. See the notes to the Acts of Assembly passed June 13, 1777, Chapter 756; April 1, 1778, Chapter 796; and the Act of Assembly passed September 13, 1785, Chapter 1175. The act in the text was repealed by the Act of Assembly passed March 13, 1789, Chapter 1396.

CHAPTER DCCCLIII.

A SUPPLEMENT TO AN ACT, ENTITLED "AN ACT FOR THE REPEAL OF SO MUCH OF THE ACT OF ASSEMBLY ENTITLED AN ACT FOR THE ATTAINDER OF DIVERS TRAITORS, IF THEY RENDER NOT THEMSELVES BY A CERTAIN DAY, AND FOR VESTING THEIR ESTATES IN THIS COMMONWEALTH, AND FOR MORE EFFECTUALLY DISCOVERING THE SAME AND FOR ASCERTAINING AND SATISFYING THE LAWFUL DEBTS AND CLAIMS THEREUPON, AS RELATES TO REYNOLD KEEN IN THE SAID ACT NAMED."¹

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas it appears to this house by certificate from the records of the supreme court of this commonwealth, that the said Reynold Keen, did on the twenty-eighth day of November last, within the time limited by the said act, whereto this is a supplement, render himself to the chief justice of the said court, and at the last term of the court of oyer and terminer, for the county of Philadelphia (did appear to abide his legal trial for any treason or misprison of treason that he had been or might be charged with, and was at the said term discharged from prosecution, by proclamation of the said court:

[Section III, P. L.] (Section II, P. L.) And whereas the said Reynold Keen, hath humbly petitioned this house for relief from

¹ Passed November 26, 1778, Chapter 818.