

the agents for forfeited estates or commissioners aforesaid to the day of passing this act.

Passed October 6, 1779. See the notes to the Acts of Assembly passed March 6, 1778, Chapter 784; November 26, 1778, Chapter 818.

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CHAPTER DCCLIV.

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AN ACT TO VEST THE ESTATE OF NATHANIEL VERNON LATE OF CHESTER COUNTY. IN HIS FOUR SONS.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas Thomas Vernon of the county of Chester, in behalf of himself and of his three brothers Job Vernon, a captain in the fifth Pennsylvania regiment of continental troops, Frederick Vernon, a major of the eighth Pennsylvania regiment of the same, and John Vernon children of Nathaniel Vernon, late of the county aforesaid, esquire, one of the persons attainted of high treason by the laws of this commonwealth by his petition hath shown that however guilty their father may have been of a crime to occasion the forfeiture of his estate, yet that the petitioner and his said brethren have ever demeaned themselves as good citizens and have manifested their attachment to this state, the said Job and Frederick, particularly by engaging ever since the commencement of hostilities in actual service, as officers in the continental army, and the said Thomas by commanding a company of the militia of this state (the said John Vernon being under the age of eighteen) and therefore hath prayed that they may not be reduced to indigence on account of their father's transgressions but that his estate (subject to the payment of his debts) may be vested and established in the said four brethren:

(Section II, P. L.) And whereas the facts set forth in the said petition appear to be true:

[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 all and every the estate and estates, rights, titles, interest and possessions real and personal of the said Nathaniel Vernon whereof he stood seized or possessed or to which he was entitled at the time of his attainder (except such parts of the said personal estate as have been sold before the passing of this act in pursuance of the said act of attainder) be and they are hereby vested, granted, confirmed and established to the aforesaid Thomas Vernon, Job Vernon, Frederick Vernon and John Vernon, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns forever equally to be divided between them share and share alike as tenants in common and not as joint tenants to the only proper use and benefit of them the said Thomas, Job, Frederick and John, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns forever.

[Section II.] (Section IV, P. L.) Provided always, and be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said estate shall be liable to the discharge of all the just debts and dues of all and every person or persons in like manner as the same was or is liable and subject by the laws of this state in the hands of the supreme executive council, and liable also to the just charges and expenses which have been necessarily incurred in pursuance of the said attainder and the consequent forfeiture and seizure thereof; the same to be settled and established by the justices of the supreme court by claims to them exhibited in like manner as the claims of persons against other forfeited estates and that the claims already settled and allowed by the same justices be held binding upon the said estate; and that executions shall and may issue upon the decrees of the said justices against the same estate or any part thereof in default of payment.

Passed October 6, 1779. See the note to the Act of Assembly passed March 6, 1778, Chapter 784.