

render illegitimate any children born of the body of the said Elizabeth during her coverture with the said James.

[Section II.] (Section V, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That from and after the date hereof the said James Martin be, and he is hereby freely, fully and entirely authorized and empowered to contract matrimony and the same in due form to celebrate with any other woman in like manner as he the said James, if he had never been married to the said Elizabeth lawfully, might or could do.

Passed October 8, 1779.

CHAPTER DCCCLXII.

A SUPPLEMENT TO "AN ACT FOR THE MORE EASY AND SPEEDY RECOVERY OF SMALL DEBTS."¹

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas it has been found by experience that the law to which [this] is a supplement was beneficial to the good people of this state, and it would be more so if extended to a greater sum:

[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 all actions for debt or other demand for the value of five pounds and not exceeding fifty pounds (except such actions as are excepted in the law to which this is a supplement) shall immediately after the publication of this act, be and are hereby made cognizable before any justice of the peace of the city of Philadelphia or any of the counties of this state and where the party resides, or may be found in such manner as is directed by the law to which this is a supplement for the recovery of debts above forty shillings and not exceeding five pounds and proceed to judge and execute thereon as is thereby directed.

¹Passed March 1, 1745-6, Chapter 365.

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no court of common pleas in this state shall have cognizance of any debt or demand under five pounds, but that the same shall be determined in such manner as debts under forty shillings formerly were.

[Section III.] (Section IV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That such parts of the said law to which this is a supplement as are now altered or amended are hereby repealed and declared to be null and void.

[Section IV.] (Section V, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the act entitled "An act to increase the fines and penalties on public officers for refusal and neglect of duty, and also to augment the fees of the several officers hereinafter mentioned,"¹ shall be and continue in force until the end of the next sitting of the next general assembly and no longer.

Passed October 9, 1779. See the note to the Act of Assembly passed March 7, 1745-46, Chapter 365. The act in the text was repealed by the Act of Assembly passed April 3, 1781, Chapter 935.

CHAPTER DCCCLXIII.

AN ACT FOR CONTINUING AN ACT, ENTITLED "AN ACT FOR THE MORE EASY RECOVERY OF LEGACIES."²

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas an act of assembly passed on the twenty-first day of March, which was in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-two, entitled "An act for the more easy recovery of legacies," has been found a good and wholesome law; and fit to be perpetuated; and the same being nearly expired by its own limitation:

[Section I.] (Section II, P. L.) Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of

¹ Passed March 16, 1779, Chapter 828.

² Passed March 21, 1772, Chapter 654.