

the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That the said act, and everything therein contained, save the clause limiting the continuance thereof, is hereby made perpetual.

Passed October 9, 1779. See the note to the Act of Assembly passed March 21, 1772, Chapter 654.

CHAPTER DCCCLXIV.

AN ACT FOR PROCURING AN IMMEDIATE SUPPLY OF PROVISIONS FOR THE PURPOSES HEREIN MENTIONED.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas his most christian majesty, the illustrious friend and ally of these United States, hath sent a great and powerful fleet to co-operate with the arms of these states for the annoyance and destruction of the common enemy, which will require a very considerable and immediate supply of provisions, and more especially of flour, which it is both our duty and interest to furnish without delay, so as to give vigor and effect to the united arms, and realize the happy prospects of terminating the war:

[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 the county of Philadelphia shall furnish one thousand barrels of good merchantable flour; the county of Chester two thousand five hundred barrels; the county of Bucks one thousand five hundred barrels; the county of Lancaster three thousand seven hundred and fifty barrels; the county of Berks two thousand two hundred and fifty barrels; the county of Northampton one thousand barrels, to be paid for at the market price.

(Section III, P. L.) Provided always, That any flour delivered by the inhabitants of either of the above counties pursuant to a resolve of the supreme executive council bearing date the thir-

tieth day of September ultimo shall be deemed and considered as a part of the quota of each county to which such inhabitants belong.

[Section II.] (Section IV, P. L.) Be it also enacted by the authority aforesaid, That for the more certain collection of the above supply without delay, the commissioners hereinafter mentioned, or a majority of them, shall meet together on the fifteenth day of this instant October at the following places, viz.: the commissioners of Philadelphia county at the house of Abraham Wentz; the commissioners of Bucks county at the house of William Bennett, tavern-keeper; the commissioners of Chester county at the house of Elijah Weed; the commissioners of Lancaster county at the court-house in the borough; the commissioners of Berks county at the court-house in Reading town; and the commissioners of Northampton county at the house of Jonas Hertzell, Esquire, and be[ing] so met, the said commissioners respectively shall proceed to determine the mode in which the said supply can be furnished with the greatest expedition; and in order to make such determination effectual for the purpose herein mentioned, the said commissioners are hereby vested with full power and authority to divide the said counties into districts respectively, if they shall deem it expedient, and to enjoin and require the possessors and holders of wheat within the county or districts respectively to thresh out a proportion of their several crops of wheat (first reserving what may be sufficient for the use of their families for one year) not exceeding one-eighth part thereof, to be delivered at such time and place as the said commissioners or either of them, when acting in a separate district shall direct not exceeding fifteen miles from the dwelling house of such possessor or holder of wheat, and not exceeding fifteen days from the time of giving public notice of such requisition in the county and district respectively. And the said commissioners respectively shall cause the said wheat so delivered to be ground into good merchantable flour, packed in good barrels, and forwarded to such person as shall be appointed by the supreme executive council to receive the same.

[Section III.] (Section V, P. L.) And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any of the inhabitants aforesaid shall

neglect or refuse to comply with the requisition of the said commissioners or commissioner, they or he respectively shall complain thereof to some one justice of the county or district where such refusal or neglect may happen, who shall forthwith summon the delinquents or delinquent to appear before him and proceed therein as by this act is directed in the case of engrossers so far as the seizing flour and grain in the possession of such delinquent, beyond what is necessary, in the opinion of such commissioner for the use of his family and delivering it as above directed.

[Section IV.] (Section VI, P. L.) And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said commissioners shall be entitled to receive twelve dollars by the day for each day they shall be actually employed in the respective duties required of them by this act, and four dollars per barrel, for every barrel they shall procure. And if the said commissioners or any of them hereby appointed shall refuse or neglect to perform the said office, he or they shall respectively forfeit the sum of five hundred pounds, to be applied to the use of the poor where such refuser or neglecter shall reside, unless upon appeal to the court of quarter sessions, he shall make such excuse as to the said court shall appear sufficient and satisfactory. And in case of the refusal, death or disability of the said commissioners or any of them it shall and may be lawful for any two justices of the peace, where the party delinquent resides, to supply such deficiency by a new appointment, and such person appointed shall be liable to the same penalties, exercise the same powers and be entitled to the same rewards as those herein appointed.

[Section V.] (Section VII, P. L.) Be it also enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all and singular the powers and authorities given and granted hereby for the procuring the several quantities of flour above mentioned shall cease and determine on the first day of December next, or sooner, if the said demand shall be satisfied; and in that case the supreme executive council are hereby authorized and empowered by proclamation under the seal of the state to revoke and determine the same.

[Section VI.] (Section VIII, P. L.) And be it further enacted

by the authority aforesaid, That the supreme executive council shall and is hereby authorized and empowered to draw orders on the state treasurer in favor of the commissioners for such sums and in such times as they shall think proper for the purpose of carrying this act into execution.

[Section VII.] (Section IX, P. L.) [And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the following persons shall be and they are hereby appointed commissioners in and for the several counties hereinafter mentioned; to-wit: for the county of Philadelphia, Jacob Reed, Nathan Levering, Thomas Dungan, Jenkin Evans, Robert McDowell, Andrew Reed and Peter Holston; for the county of Bucks, John Thompson, Joshua Anderson, Andrew Long, Senior, Robert Robinson, Robert Stewart, [and] Nathaniel Vansant; for the county of Chester, Andrew Boyd, Senior, Thomas Cheney, John Beaton, Edward Parker and Thomas Heslip; for the county of Lancaster, Richard Foree, David Wattson, Thomas Edwards, James Anderson, Junior, Hugh Pedon, William Swan, Jacob Fouts, Martin Holman, James Jack, Esquire, and William Clark; for the county of Berks, Joseph Heester, Michael Lindemuth, Jacob Weaver, Henry Spycker, Jacob Boyer, Jacob Bishop and Jacob Morgan, Senior, and for the county of Northampton, Anthony Learch, David Deshler, Thomas Moore and Thomas Wilson.]

Passed October 9, 1779. See the Act of Assembly passed January 2, 1778, Chapter 782.

CHAPTER DCCCLXV.

AN ACT TO EMPOWER THE SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT TO APPREHEND SUSPECTED PERSONS, AND TO INCREASE THE FINES TO WHICH PERSONS ARE LIABLE, FOR NEGLECTING TO PERFORM THEIR TOUR OF MILITIA DUTY.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas there is reason to suspect that there are sundry persons within this commonwealth, who by their general conduct have manifested an enmity to the liberty and