

the manner hereinbefore described, pursuant to a vote or votes of the members of the said society, appropriating the same at one of their quarterly meetings.

Passed September 20, 1781. Recorded L. B. No. 1, p. 452, etc.

CHAPTER CML.

AN ACT TO MAKE MORE EFFECTUAL PROVISION FOR THE DEFENSE OF THIS STATE.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas the intelligence received of the preparations made by the enemy at New York indicate an invasion of the state, against which it is our duty to make every provision of defense which the circumstances of this commonwealth admit, and that the executive authority of the state be furnished with sufficient powers to draw forth the resources thereof with the utmost vigor and dispatch:

[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 president (or vice-president) in council be and is hereby authorized to call forth such and so many wagons as shall appear to them necessary for the transportation of the necessary baggage and stores of such troops, either continental or militia; as may be called forth into actual service on this emergency, or for the transportation of the records, books and papers, or other public property, either of the United States or of this state.

[Section II.] (Section III, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the late wagon-masters of the several counties in this state, and their deputies (or such other persons as shall be appointed by the supreme executive council) and the constables be empowered and are hereby required to do the several duties in the premises which were enjoined by the former wagon laws of this state, and that the

owners of all such wagons be entitled to receive the sum of twenty-five shillings specie per diem for a wagon and four horses with suitable gears, and the sum of fifteen shillings specie per diem for a wagon and two horses with gears as aforesaid, they, the said owners, finding the driver and necessary forage for their respective teams.

[Section III.] (Section IV, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in case a sufficient number of wagons cannot be procured in the manner above mentioned, the president or vice-president in council be and hereby is authorized and empowered to direct his warrant, under his hand and seal, to such persons in the city or any county in this state as shall be deemed proper, authorizing such persons to seize and impress any wagons, horses and gears, boats, sloops or shallops for the transportation of the several articles above mentioned, and in the meantime to detain all wagons, horses, boats or other vessels which any persons may endeavor to remove.

[Section IV.] (Section V, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the president or vice-president in council be and hereby is in like manner authorized and empowered to seize and impress arms, ammuniton and military stores and provisions and forage of all kinds whatsoever, belonging to any private person or companies, and apply them, if need be, to the public use, such seizure to be certified and the value thereof [ascertained] as nearly as possible in specie.

[Section V.] (Section VI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the president or vice-president in council be in like manner authorized and empowered to billet and quarter such troops as may be called together for the special defense of the state, in this emergency, upon any public houses, or in case of their insufficiency upon private houses, having due respect to the number and convenience of families.

(Section VII, P. L.) And whereas, the usual mode of calling out the militia by classes may be attended with fatal delay to the interests and property of the good people of this state:

[Section VI.] (Section VIII, P. L.) Be it therefore further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the president or

vice-president in council be and is hereby authorized and empowered (if the designs of the enemy shall, in their judgment, make it necessary) to call forth the whole of the militia without any respect to classes, and in that case every person now serving on a tour of militia duty shall repair to [and] join his own proper battalion, orders being first received therefor, and shall be allowed for the service already done.

[Section VII.] (Section IX, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons called forth by the president or vice-president in council in manner aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to perform a tour of militia duty, the person or persons so neglecting or refusing shall be subject to the same fines and penalties as in other cases when called forth in classes, by virtue of the law for regulating the militia of this state, anything in the said law to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

[Section VIII.] (Section X, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the president or vice-president in council be authorized to draw upon the treasury for such money as may be necessary in the present emergency for repairing and procuring arms and ammunition and for other contingent expenses attending the present service.

[Section IX.] (Section XI, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the president or vice-president in council be authorized and empowered, when occasion shall require, to impress by warrant, under hand and seal, such and so many horses and wagons, with suitable gears, as he may judge necessary for the removal of the families and property of those inhabitants of the city of Philadelphia and the Northern Liberties and the district of Southwark, who may be in actual service against the enemy, and of such other citizens and persons who, in his opinion, may be entitled to and require the same, the hire of all such wagons and horses to be paid by the persons making use thereof: Provided nevertheless, That if any horses or wagons shall be impressed by virtue hereof and no use made thereof by the citizens [or persons] for whom they may be impressed, the expense thereof shall be paid by the state treasurer, upon the order of the president or vice-president in council.

[Section X.] (Section XII, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That this act shall be and remain in force until ten days after the meeting of the next general assembly of this commonwealth, and no longer.

Passed September 28, 1781. Recorded L. B. No. 1, p. 455, etc.

CHAPTER CMLI.

AN ACT TO ALTER AND SUPPLY AN ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT FOR RECRUITING THE PENNSYLVANIA LINE IN THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES."¹

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas a number of the classes have not procured recruits according to the directions of the act, entitled "An act for recruiting the Pennsylvania line in the army of the United States,"¹ which this act is intended to alter and supply, passed on the twenty-fifth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one:

(Section II, P. L.) And whereas, it is absolutely necessary that money be procured from the delinquent classes and that the recruiting of the said line be carried on to effect in the most expeditious manner:

Therefore:

[Section I.] (Section III, 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 the commissioners of the several counties within this state proceed, without delay, to levy the sum of twenty pounds specie on each of the delinquent classes within the city and the several counties, and cause the same to be collected and paid into the treasury of each county in the manner and under the pains and penalties directed in and by the act, entitled "An act to raise effective supplies for the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one."²

¹ Passed June 25, 1781, Chapter 946.

² Passed June 21, 1781, Chapter 944.