

## CHAPTER MXCIX.

## AN ACT CONFIRMING AN AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO BETWEEN THIS STATE AND THE STATE OF VIRGINIA.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas George Bryan, John Ewing and David Rittenhouse were duly appointed commissioners on behalf of this commonwealth and fully authorized to meet and agree with other commissioners on the part of Virginia upon the western boundary: And whereas the said George Bryan, John Ewing and David Rittenhouse in pursuance of the said trust and power, did, on the thirty-first day of August, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine meet certain commissioners on the part of Virginia, to-wit: James Maddison and Robert Andrews, and an agreement was then entered into, concluded and signed by and between the said commissioners on the part of their respective states by whom they were for the purpose aforesaid delegated which agreement was upon the twenty-third day of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty unanimously confirmed by this commonwealth, as follows: Resolved, That although the conditions annexed by the legislature of Virginia to the ratification of the boundary line agreed to by the commissioners of Pennsylvania and Virginia on the thirty-first of August, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine may tend to countenance some unwarrantable claims which may be made under the state of Virginia, in consequence of pretended purchases or settlements pending the controversy, yet this state determining to give to the world the most unequivocal proof of their earnest desire to promote peace and harmony with a sister state so necessary during this great contest against the common enemy do agree to the conditions proposed by the state of Virginia in their resolves of the twenty-third day of June last, to wit: That the agreement made on the thirty-first day of August, one thousand seven hundred and

seventy-nine between James Maddison and Robert Andrews commissioners for the commonwealth of Virginia and George Bryan, John Ewing and David Rittenhouse, commissioners for the commonwealth of Pennsylvania be ratified and finally confirmed, to wit: That the line commonly called Mason and Dixon's line, be extended due west, five degrees of longitude to be computed from the river Delaware for the southern boundary of Pennsylvania; and that a meridian drawn from the western extremity thereof to the northern limits of the said states respectively, be the western boundary of Pennsylvania forever on condition that the private property and rights of all persons acquired under, founded on, or recognized by the laws of either country previous to the date hereof be saved and confirmed to them although they should be found to fall within the other, and that in the decision of disputes thereon preference shall be given to the elder or prior right which ever of the said states the same shall have been acquired under, such persons paying, within whose boundary their lands shall be included the same purchase or consideration money which would have been due from them to the state under which they claimed the right and where any such purchase or consideration money hath since the declaration of American independence been received by either state for lands, which, according to the before recited agreement, shall fall within the territory of the other, the same shall be reciprocally refunded and repaid and that the inhabitants of the disputed territory, now ceded to the state of Pennsylvania shall not before the first day of December in the present year, be subject to the payment of any tax, nor at any time to the payment of any arrears of taxes or impositions heretofore laid by either state, and we do hereby accept and fully ratify the said recited condition and the boundary line formed.

(Section II, P. L.) And whereas it is right and just that the said agreement and every part thereof should be confirmed by this state saving unto all persons their rights acquired as aforesaid before the ratification before cited in order that no cause whatever should interrupt that harmony which it is the desire of this commonwealth to preserve with a sister state:

[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 the agreement and stipulations before recited and every part thereof entered into as aforesaid is hereby ratified and confirmed and declared to be valid and binding on behalf of this commonwealth and as effectually and to all intents and purposes as if the said agreement was especially recited in this act.

Passed April 1, 1784. Recorded L. B. No. 2, p. 322, etc.

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## CHAPTER MC.

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AN ACT TO ENABLE THE COMPTROLLER-GENERAL TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES FOR THE BALANCES DUE ON THE ACCOUNTS OF THE LATE RANGING COMPANIES RAISED FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE FRONTIERS, AND OTHER ACCOUNTS DUE TO THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas there are considerable balances due to the citizens of this state including the several companies of rangers raised for the defense of the frontiers thereof, stationed in the counties of Northampton, Bedford, Northumberland, Westmoreland and Washington:

And whereas the present state of our finances is such that [those] balances cannot be immediately discharged:

And whereas it is just and reasonable that such assurance of this state should be given as may secure to the persons concerned a prospect of payment:

[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 upon liquidation of the several accounts of the officers, soldiers and citizens of this state, the comptroller-general shall and he is hereby authorized and directed to grant certificates to each and every of them for the balance due to them respectively in specie which certificates