

CHAPTER MCLXXXII.

AN ACT TO RE-ESTABLISH THE ANCIENT CORPORATION OF THE
BOROUGH OF BRISTOL IN THE COUNTY OF BUCKS.

(Section I. P. L.) Whereas the corporation of the borough of Bristol in the county of Bucks as it derived its charter privileges and immunities from the crown of Great Britain was on the declaration of the independence of this state thereby immediately dissolved:

And whereas it appears necessary to a majority of the freemen of the said borough that its ancient constitution be restored under the authority of the legislature of the state of Pennsylvania and that the officers of the said borough be re-established by law and have perpetual succession so that the inhabitants of the said borough may have the power of regulating their markets, fairs, wharfs, streets, and other public concerns, in like manner as they had under their late charter:

[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 for the time being shall as soon as conveniently may be by letters patent under the great seal appoint for the said borough of Bristol two burgesses, one whereof to be named chief burgess and one high constable of the inhabitants of the said borough which said chief burgess shall take the like oath or affirmation of allegiance to the state and the oath or affirmation for the execution of his office, as by the laws of the commonwealth are provided in such cases before the president or vice-president aforesaid. And the said president or vice-president in council shall, from time to time, as often as the freeholders and housekeepers of the said borough shall neglect or refuse to hold their annual election of burgesses or other officers, nominate and appoint such officers. And the chief burgess to be nominated as aforesaid by the said president or vice-president in council, and all future chief burgesses, that shall

be elected by the said freeholders and housekeepers, shall take the oath or affirmation of allegiance and of office in manner aforesaid and the [said] chief burgess after he shall have taken the oath or affirmation as aforesaid or any two justices of the peace of the said county of Bucks are hereby required and empowered to administer the said oath or affirmation of allegiance and of office to the other burgess and to the said high constable.

[Section II.] (Section III. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all the rights, liberties, franchises, immunities, powers and privileges, by the aforesaid charter to the former burgesses, high constable, freeholders, housekeepers, and inhabitants of the said borough of Bristol granted, shall be and are hereby restored to the burgesses, high constable, freeholders, housekeepers and inhabitants of the said borough, and from and after the first appointment of burgesses and other officers of the said borough to be made by the president or vice-president, as aforesaid, shall be re-established, and shall continue in the burgesses, high constable, freeholders housekeepers and inhabitants of the borough of Bristol in the said county of Bucks and their successors forever to the same effect as if such right, franchises, immunities, powers and privileges in the said charter granted were in and by this act enumerated and repeated.

[Section III.] (Section IV. P. L.) Provided nevertheless, That this act nor anything therein contained shall be extended to oblige the sheriff of the county of Bucks or the clerks of the courts of the same county for the time being to reside in the said borough or to appoint any deputy to reside therein nor to enable the inhabitants and housekeepers of the said borough or their successors to elect or have more than two burgesses of the said borough in office at any time hereafter nor to admit any person to vote at the election of burgesses or other officers or at any town meeting or to hold any office in the same borough, unless he be legally qualified to elect and be elected a representative in the general assembly for the county of Bucks.