

CHAPTER MCCLXXXIII.

AN ACT FOR FACILITATING THE REDEMPTION OF THE BILLS OF CREDIT EMITTED IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE AND FOR REDEEMING PART OF THE FUNDED DEBT OF THE STATE BY THE SPEEDY COLLECTION OF THE ARREARAGES DUE FOR UNPATENTED LANDS WHICH WERE LOCATED BEFORE THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCY.

(Section I. P. L.) Whereas in and by an act of the general assembly of this commonwealth passed the sixteenth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, entitled "An act to compel the speedy settlement and paying or securing of the debts due to this state for lands held by location or other office right obtained before the tenth day of December, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, and yet remaining unpatented,"¹ it was amongst other things in substance enacted and declared that every person entitled either in law or equity to lands in this state within the limits of the purchase or purchases made from the Indians before the declaration of the independency of the United States by virtue of any grant, warrant, location or office rights whatsoever made or accrued before the tenth day of December, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, upon which a patent had not been issued, might, and every such person was thereby enjoined and required as soon as conveniently might be to apply to the proper officers of the land office, and to settle and adjust the sum and sums of money due to the state for the purchase of such lands respectively and to pay or secure the same in the manner in the said act mentioned and if any one so entitled as aforesaid to any lands yet remaining unpatented should refuse or neglect to pay or secure the purchase money or arrearages thereof due to the state and demand a patent for such land in the manner in the said act directed on or before the tenth day of April, which would be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, every such person so refusing or neglecting should be barred and precluded from the benefit intended by the said act with respect to farther time of payment and should

be forthwith prosecuted and proceeded against for the moneys due on such lands by sale of the said lands according to law without further delay:

And whereas the time so limited as aforesaid is now nearly expired and it is deemed expedient farther to extend the same:

And whereas so much of the said arrearages and sums of money due to this state for lands as aforesaid as should be sufficient to redeem the bills of credit emitted by virtue of the act passed the seventh day of April, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one, entitled "An act for emitting the sum of five hundred thousand pounds in bills of credit for the support of the army and for establishing a fund for the redemption of the same and for other purposes mentioned," were by the said act solemnly pledged and appropriated for the redemption of the said bills of credit:

And whereas by the payment of part of the arrearages and by the appropriation of other funds the greater part of the said bills of credit have been redeemed and the sum remaining to be redeemed will require but a moderate proportion of the said arrearages to complete the same and it is just and proper that the residue of the said arrearages should be otherwise appropriated towards discharging the other debts due from the state:

And whereas many citizens of this state thus indebted for lands by them held as aforesaid are possessed of certificates of debts due from the state and drawing interest from the treasury thereof and are desirous of discharging their debts to the state by paying as much thereof in the said certificates as may be received consistently with the aforesaid appropriation and the residue in the aforesaid bills of credit or other current money:

Therefore:

(Section II. P. L.) [Section I.] 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 time limited in the act first herein recited for paying or securing to the state the payment for lands, held or claimed as in the said act is described and for demanding or taking out patents for the same be and hereby

is extended to the tenth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight and the periods prescribed by the said acts for the payments to become due on the securities therein directed to be taken shall be and are hereby respectively extended to one year later than the periods in the said acts mentioned.

(Section III. P. L.) [Section II.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every person entitled to demand a patent for land in this state according to the direction of the said recited act on paying one-fourth of the amount of the purchase money or the arrearages now due with the interest thereon lawful money of this state or in the bills of credit emitted by virtue of the aforesaid act passed the seventh day of April, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one, together with the whole of the office fees in current lawful money shall at his option pay the residue of such purchase money and interest in lawful money or the bills of credit aforesaid or in certificates of debt due from this state and now by law entitled to draw interest from the treasury thereof commonly called funded certificates, on which certificates the interest shall be computed and allowed till the time of such payment. Provided nevertheless, That such payment or payments be made and completed on or before the tenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, every such person so refusing or neglecting shall be barred and precluded from all the benefit intended by this act with respect to further time of payment and the mode of such payment and shall be forthwith prosecuted and proceed against by the sale of his said land according to law as if this act had not been made.

Passed May 28, 1787. Recorded L. B. No. 3, p. 205, etc. See the Act of Assembly passed March 29, 1788, Chapter 1348.