

1785.

The subscribers to the Callowhill market empowered to elect superintendants and a clerk of the market, till the money borrowed for the building is paid; after which two superintendants and the other officers to be chosen by the freeholders,

**SECT. III.** *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 it shall and may be lawful to and for the subscribers for building the market-houses on Callowhill and New Market-streets, in the Northern-Liberties aforesaid, to meet on the third Saturday of March, in every year, at some convenient place in the said township, and then and there elect or appoint out of their number six fit persons, to serve as superintendants of the said market, and one fit person as a clerk of the said market, so long, until by the income and profits of the said market all the money borrowed on certificates, or is otherwise due to the present superintendants and workmen, for building the said market, shall be fully paid and satisfied; and that thereafter, and from thenceforth, no more than two superintendants, a clerk of the market, and one treasurer, shall be annually elected by the freeholders and electors of the said township of the Northern-Liberties, agreeably to the directions of the aforesaid act.

Suspension of a part of the former law, for the above purpose,

**SECT. IV.** *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That so much of the act of Assembly, to which this is a supplement, as relates to the electing annually six superintendants and one clerk of the market, until all the money borrowed on certificates be fully paid, be, and the same is hereby, repealed, and made void.

Passed 31st of August, 1785.—Recorded in Law Book No. II. page 549.

## CHAPTER MCLXI.

*An ACT for confirming a road and establishing a ferry, and erecting a bridge across the Neshaminy creek.*

**SECT. I.** WHEREAS Charles Bessonet, of the borough of Bristol, in the county of Bucks, and Gershom Johnson, of the city of Philadelphia, proprietors of the stages from Philadelphia to Trenton, on the New-York road, by their petition to the legislature, have set forth, "That being actuated by principles of public good, as well as their own private advantage, they have made a purchase of land for a public road or highway, forty feet wide, beginning at the sixteen mile stone, on the road already laid out from the city of Philadelphia, to the borough of Bristol, in Bucks county, and from thence, along the old road, north forty-seven degrees east, forty perches, to the intersection of the present road leading to Neshaminy ferry, and the south west line of Joshua Vandegrift's land; thence, on the same land, north forty-seven degrees east, ninety-four perches; thence north twenty-six degrees east, fifty-four perches, to the north east line of said Vandegrift's land; thence, through land of William Allen, north seventy-two degrees and a quarter east, eighty-eight perches and eight tenth parts of a perch; thence, still through the same land, south seventy degrees east, eight perches, to the water's edge at Neshaminy creek, at high water mark; thence across the said Neshaminy creek, south seventy-six degrees and three quarters east, twenty-one perches, to high water mark, and a poplar tree on

the Bristol side thereof; thence, on land of John Edgar, north eighty-three degrees and an half east, four hundred and thirty-seven perches; thence, through land of Joseph Tomlinson, south seventy-nine degrees east, fifty-eight perches and eight tenth parts of a perch, to the Old Ford road, leading from Neshaminy to Bristol; thence, on the said road, south sixty-nine degrees east, one hundred and twenty-seven perches, to the junction of the said Ford road, and the road leading from Bristol to the present ferry over Neshaminy aforesaid; and from thence to the nineteen mile stone, on the road leading from Philadelphia to Bristol, south sixty-four degrees and an half east, thirty-two perches; making, in all, the distance of three miles and eight tenth parts of a perch, with an intent of establishing a ferry or bridge across the said creek; and for which purpose they will build and run out wharves at the landing places on each side of the said creek, and build flats or boats to accommodate travellers for the present, at their own private cost and charges, until said bridge shall be finished; and therefore have prayed for a law for establishing the said ferry and bridge, when built, and vesting the premises in them, their heirs and assigns, with liberty to take such toll or fees from travellers, as may be thought reasonable and just; promising also, that if, at any future day, the legislature should think proper to vest the said bridge proposed to be built in the public, for the purpose of a free bridge, they will give up the said bridge, upon their receiving a reasonable compensation for their trouble and expenses, to be estimated by indifferent persons, chosen equally by the parties; and it being fit and right to encourage all laudable undertakings for the improvement of the ways, and the good of the public: Therefore,

SECT. II. *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 property of the said ferry and bridge, when built, shall be vested in the said Charles Bessonnet and Gershom Johnson, their heirs and assigns, according to the form, true intent, and meaning of the several deed or deeds of conveyance of the premises herein before recited and described, and subject to such limitations, restrictions and appointments, as in and by the said deed or deeds are contained or expressed; and that the said Charles Bessonnet and Gershom Johnson, their heirs and assigns, shall and may demand and receive such rates for ferriage of travellers and others, and such tolls for the passage across the said bridge, as shall or may be directed and appointed by the court of General Quarter Sessions of the peace in and for the county of Bucks, which court are hereby authorized and required, from time to time, to regulate, fix and appoint the same; and, in default of such regulation, to demand and receive reasonable ferriages and tolls.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Charles Bessonnet and Gershom Johnson, their heirs and assigns, to erect and build, maintain, support and repair the said bridge, and the aforesaid road, and to build and repair the said wharves, at the place and in the manner herein before recited, and to proceed in all things according

The Neshaminy ferry and bridge vested in C. Bessonnet and G. Johnson;

who may demand such ferriage, or toll, as the Quarter Sessions shall fix;

or if not so fixed, as shall be reasonable.

The parties empowered to build the bridge;

1785. to the prayer of their petition herein before recited, and the true intent and meaning of this act.

Provided the same is duly attended, and capable of being opened for the passage of vessels.

SECT. IV. *Provided always*, That the said bridge, so to be erected and built, shall be constructed in such manner, and duly attended with sufficient persons to manage and direct the said bridge, so that the same shall be capable of being opened, and shall be actually opened by the said Charles Bessonet and Gershom Johnson, their heirs and assigns, from time to time, to admit shallops, flats and boats, to pass and repass through the same, without delay or obstruction.

If the legislature should hereafter make the bridge free, mode of compensating the parties.

SECT. V. *Provided also, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That whensoever, at any time after the erection or building of the said bridge, it shall seem expedient to the legislature to constitute and make the said bridge, so erected and built, a free bridge, by a law, to be enacted for that purpose, three commissioners shall be appointed by the legislature on the part of the commonwealth, and three by the said Charles Bessonet and Gershom Johnson, their heirs or assigns, who, or any four or more of them, shall estimate what sum or sums of money the said Charles Bessonet and Gershom Johnson, their heirs and assigns, shall be entitled to receive, as a compensation for their trouble and expenses in building and maintaining the said bridge, which sum or sums shall be paid to them out of the treasury of this commonwealth.

Passed 6th September, 1785.—Recorded in Law Book No. III. page 1.

## CHAPTER MCLXIV.

*An ACT to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein. (c)*

*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 elections for the city of Philadelphia shall be holden at the State-house in the city of Philadelphia. And the elections for the county of Philadelphia, exclusive of the city of Philadelphia, which for that purpose shall be divided into two districts; *viz.* The freemen of the townships of Germantown, Roxborough and Bristol, shall hold their elections at the Union school-house, in Germantown; and the free-

Election districts of the city and county of Philadelphia:

(c) All the provisions of this act have been repealed and supplied, except such part thereof as respects Election Districts. Most of the Election Districts have also been altered or limited by subsequent acts, and others erected in each county. For the existing law regulating the General Elections within this commonwealth, see chap. 2009, and for the various alterations that have been made in the Election Districts, in the several counties of the state, see the titles, Election Dis-

tricts, and the name of the County, in the index. (*Note to former edition.*) [The act is however retained, as all other Election District acts are. Although many of them must be entirely obsolete by reason of subsequent alterations. But no editor who is not acquainted with the situation of every township in every county, could explain the actual situation of Election districts. But to the citizens of the counties, respectively, they will be intelligible.]