

SECT. I. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That it shall and may be lawful for each and every auctioneer already licensed, or who may hereafter be licensed by the governor of this commonwealth, under the subsisting laws thereof, to make sale, by public auction, of any lands or tenements, goods, wares, merchandize, or other property whatsoever, at any place or places, which the said auctioneers respectively may deem most beneficial to him, within the city of Philadelphia, the district of Southwark, or the township of the Northern-Liberties or Moyamensing. 1791.

Licensed auctioneers may sell property at any place within the city, &c.

SECT. II. *Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That such parts of any former act or acts of Assembly of this commonwealth, as prevent either of the said auctioneers now licensed or hereafter to be licensed as aforesaid, from holding public sales in the city of Philadelphia, the district of Southwark, or townships of the Northern-Liberties and Moyamensing, shall be, and the same are hereby declared to be null and void, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, any clause matter or thing therein contained, to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding. Repeal of such parts of former laws as are contrary to this act.

Passed 26th February, 1791.—Recorded in Law Book No. IV. page 125.

CHAPTER MDXIX.

An ACT for erecting the townships of Hamilton and Lower-Smithfield, in the county of Northampton, into a separate election district, and the townships of Upper-Smithfield and Delaware, in the said county, into a separate election district.

SECT. I. **WHEREAS**, by a representation made to the legislature by the freemen of the townships of Hamilton, Lower-Smithfield, Upper-Smithfield and Delaware, in the county of Northampton, it appears they labour under great inconveniences, owing to their remoteness from the place where the general election for said townships is now held: For remedy whereof,

SECT. II. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That the townships of Hamilton and Lower-Smithfield, in the county of Northampton, be, and the same are hereby erected into a separate election district, to be called the fourth district of said county, and that the freemen of the said townships of Hamilton and Lower-Smithfield, shall hereafter meet at the house now occupied by Col. Jacob Stroud, in the said township of Lower-Smithfield, for the purpose of holding elections, conformably to the constitution and laws of this commonwealth. Fourth election district erected.

Elections where held.

SECT. III. *Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the townships of Upper-Smithfield and Delaware, in the said county of Northampton, be, and the same are hereby erected into a separate election district, to be called the fifth district of said coun- Fifth election district erected.

1791. *Elections where held.* ty, and that the freemen of said townships of Upper-Smithfield and Delaware, shall hereafter meet at the house now occupied by Johannes Van Etten, in the said township of Delaware, for the purpose of holding elections, conformably to the constitution and laws of this commonwealth.

Passed 5th March, 1791.—Recorded in Law Book, No. IV. page 129.

CHAPTER MDXX.

An ACT to enable the Governor to appoint Notaries Public, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

SECT. I. **WHEREAS** the establishment of public notaries has been found useful in all commercial countries :

SECT. II. *Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That after the first day of September next, the governor shall appoint and commission a competent number of persons, of known good character, integrity and abilities, as notaries public for the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to reside within such place or places within this state, as the governor shall in and by the respective commissions direct; and the said notaries, whilst residing in such place or places, shall hold their said respective commissions during good behaviour. *Provided always,* That there shall not be at any time more than six notaries appointed and commissioned to reside within the city and county of Philadelphia,* nor more than three to reside in any other county within this state. *And provided also,* that no person shall be commissioned as a notary, who shall not have resided within this commonwealth two years next previous to his appointment.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the said notaries, so commissioned as aforesaid, and every of them, shall have the power of administering oaths and affirmations according to law, in all matters belonging or incident to the exercise of their notarial office, and that all and every person and persons, that shall be legally convicted of having wilfully and knowingly made or taken a false oath or affirmation, before any notary or notaries, in any matter or matters within his or their official duty, shall suffer the pains and penalties of wilful and corrupt perjury.

SECT. IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the said notaries, and every of them, shall have the power to receive the proof or acknowledgment of all instruments of writing relating to commerce or navigation, such as bills of sale, bottomries, mortgages, and hypothecations of ships or vessels, charter parties of affreightment, letters of attorney, and such other writings, as have been usually proved or acknowledged before notaries within this commonwealth, and also to make declarations, and testify the truth thereof under their seals of office, concerning all matters by them done in virtue of their respective offices.

The govern-
or to appoint
notaries,

where to
reside.

Number
regulated.

*[See note.]

Proviso.

Power of
notaries to
administer
oaths, &c.

Further
powers of
notaries.