

CHAPTER MDLXXXIV.

AN ACT TO GRANT RESTITUTION IN VALUE TO THOMAS GORDON, FOR LANDS SOLD BY THE COMMISSIONERS FOR SALE OF FORFEITED ESTATES, LATE THE PROPERTY OF THE SAID THOMAS GORDON.

Whereas by an act, entitled "An act for vesting in Thomas Gordon, his heirs and assigns, certain estates forfeited to this commonwealth, by virtue of his attainder of high treason,"¹ passed the twenty-ninth of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, it is declared "that all and every the lands, tenements or other estates real and personal, whatsoever and wheresoever, which were, or would have vested in the aforesaid Thomas Gordon, provided he had never become attainted of high treason, and which, by means of such attainder as aforesaid, have been, or may, or can be forfeited to, and vested in, this commonwealth shall be, and they are hereby, restored to and vested in the aforesaid Thomas Gordon, his heirs and assigns forever, in as full and effectual a manner, to all intents and purposes, as if the said attainder of high treason had never happened, and the claim of this state to said estate, acquired under and by virtue of such attainder, is hereby fully released and forever relinquished;" and whereas it appears that part of the estate of the said Thomas Gordon was sold, by the commissioners for sale of forfeited estates for the county of Philadelphia, on the eighth of November, one thousand seven hundred and eighty, whereby a restitution of the specific property so sold cannot legally be made. Therefore, in order to fulfil the intention of the said act as nearly as may be.

[Section I.] (Section I, P. L.) 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 comptroller-general shall

¹ Chapter 1351.

grant unto Thomas Gordon, or his legal representative, a certificate for the full value of the money received by the commonwealth, for or on account of the sale of the estate of the said Thomas Gordon, according to the scale of depreciation fixed by law, which certificate shall bear an interest of six per centum from the date thereof.

Passed Sept. 27, 1791. Recorded L. B. No. 4, p. 226, etc.

CHAPTER MDLXXXV.

AN ACT TO REGULATE THE TRIALS OF CONTESTED ELECTIONS.

Whereas the constitution of this commonwealth requires that contested elections of members of the senate and house of representatives, shall be determined by a committee of each house, respectively, selected, formed and regulated in such manner as shall be directed by law, and that contested elections of a person to serve as governor shall be determined by a committee, to be selected from both houses of the legislature, also to be formed and regulated in such manner as shall be directed by law.

[Section I.] (Section I, P. L.) 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 whenever a petition, signed by at least fifty of the qualified electors of this state, shall be addressed to the legislature, complaining of an undue election, or a false return of a person elected governor, such petition shall be delivered to the speaker of the senate, who shall immediately give information thereof to both houses, the members whereof, on a day and hour to be agreed upon between them, not exceeding ten days from the delivery of such petition, shall convene in a conference room, where the petition shall be read by the speaker of the senate; the names of the members of each house shall then be called over by their re-