

by the authority of the same, That, from and after the passing of this act, the freemen of the fifth district in the county of Bedford, shall meet and hold their annual election at the house now occupied by John Shoff, in Milford township, in the county aforesaid, any former law to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Passed January 24, 1793. Recorded L. B. No. 5, p. 28.

CHAPTER MDCLII.

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE ACT, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO SECURE THE PERSONS EMPLOYED IN THE BUILDING AND FITTING SHIPS AND VESSELS FOR SEA, BY MAKING THE BODY, TACKLE, APPAREL AND FURNITURE OF SUCH SHIPS AND VESSELS, LIABLE TO PAY THE SEVERAL TRADESMEN EMPLOYED IN BUILDING AND FITTING THEM, FOR THEIR WORK AND MATERIALS."

Whereas in and by an act of the general assembly of this commonwealth, passed the twenty-seventh day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, entitled "An act to secure the persons employed in the building and fitting ships and vessels for sea, by making the body, tackle, apparel and furniture of such ships and vessels, liable to pay the several tradesmen employed in building and fitting them, for their work and materials,"¹ a sufficient and ample remedy was provided for such tradesmen in the court of admiralty of this commonwealth, and experience has proved the necessity of such remedy; and whereas the court of admiralty of this commonwealth no longer exists, and the said act cannot now be carried into effect in any of the courts of this state, or of the United States:

[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 the libel authorized

¹Chapter 1038.

²See Ante.

by the third section of the act, entitled "An act to secure the persons employed in the building and fitting ships and vessels for sea, by making the body, tackle, apparel and furniture of such ships and vessels, liable to pay the several tradesmen employed in building and fitting them, for their work and materials,"² passed the twenty-eighth day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, to be filed in the court of admiralty of this state, may be filed in the office of the prothonotary of the court of common pleas of and for the county wherein the cause of action hath arisen, or shall arise, or in any other county within this state, in all cases by the said act provided for, and thereupon such prothonotary shall cause to be issued a writ, in the nature of a writ of attachment, to be devised by the president of such court, and to be directed to the sheriff of the county, commanding him to arrest, attach and detain such ship or vessel, her tackle, apparel and furniture, to answer the complaint in such libel to be contained, and thereupon the process and proceedings shall be such and the same, and the said court of common pleas shall be, and is hereby, authorized to take the same stipulation, and to pronounce the same interlocutory and final sentence, decree and judgment upon the said libel, and upon any petition of other person or persons concerned, and to enforce the same, by any writ or writs or other compulsory process, to be devised by the president of such court, in like manner, varying the forms as much as shall be proper, as in and by the act of the general assembly, to which this is a supplement, the said court of admiralty was authorized to proceed in like cases. Provided always, nevertheless, That where, in any of the cases occurring under the said act or this act, questions of fact shall arise, an issue or issues be joined by the parties, their attorneys or counsel, under the direction of the court, and shall be tried by a jury of the county forthwith, as in such courts is usual and customary in other disputed facts, unless the parties shall agree to refer the matters in variance by rule of court, as usual in other cases in the said courts.

Passed February 9, 1793. Recorded L. B. No. 5, p. 28, etc.