

CHAPTER MDCCXV.

AN ACT FOR MORE EFFECTUALLY SECURING THE TRADE, PEACE AND SAFETY OF THE PORT OF PHILADELPHIA, AND DEFENDING THE WESTERN FRONTIERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

Whereas the declared neutrality of the United States renders it expedient to provide for more effectually securing the trade, peace and safety of the port of Philadelphia, during the continuance of the war which now rages in Europe; and the legislature, at the same time, desirous of co-operating with the general government, in defending the western frontiers of this commonwealth from the incursions and depredations of the hostile Indians. Therefore:

[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 governor shall raise, by voluntary enlistments from the militia of this commonwealth, three infantry companies of active and experienced riflemen, and one company of artillery, to serve under his orders and instructions for the term of eight months, to be computed from and after the first day of April next, unless sooner discharged; but if the state of war in Europe and on the frontiers of this commonwealth shall be such, as in the judgment of the governor to require the continuance of the said companies in the service of the commonwealth after the expiration of the said term of eight months, it shall be lawful for him to continue the same accordingly, until the meeting of the legislature next ensuing the expiration of the said term of eight months, or for any shorter period; and each and every of the said companies shall consist of one captain, one lieutenant, one ensign, four sergeants, four corporals, one drummer and fifer or two buglers, and sixty-five rank and file or privates; and the said officers shall be appointed

and commissioned by the governor, and, together with the non-commissioned officers, drums and fifes or buglers and privates, shall receive the following monthly pay, to wit: each captain, forty dollars; each lieutenant, twenty-six dollars; each ensign twenty dollars; each sergeant, eight dollars; each corporal, seven dollars; each drum, fife or bugler, seven dollars; and each private, six dollars and sixty-seven cents.

[Section II.] (Section II. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the following disposition and arrangement of the said companies, subject to the proviso hereinafter contained, shall be carried into effect, unless the governor shall at any future period see cause to alter the same and give directions accordingly, that is to say, the said artillery company shall be stationed and maintained at Fort Mifflin on Mud Island in the River Delaware, for the purpose of securing the trade, peace and safety of the port of Philadelphia, one of the said infantry companies shall be employed in protecting the frontiers of the county of Westmoreland, another of the said infantry companies shall be employed in protecting the frontiers of the county of Washington, and the third of the said infantry companies shall be employed in protecting the frontiers of the county of Allegheny; and the brigade-inspector of the proper county shall station the company to be employed in protecting the same, as aforesaid, at such places and in such proportions as his judgement shall be best calculated for that purpose.

[Section III.] (Section III. P. L.) Provided always, nevertheless, and it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall be lawful for the governor to detach from the said artillery and infantry companies as many men as can be conveniently spared from the specific objects of protection and defence for which they are respectively hereinbefore particularly destined, and to station the detachment so made at such place or places at or near Presque Isle, on Lake Erie, as shall in his judgment be best calculated to carry into effect the act entitled "An act for laying out a town at Presque Isle,"¹

¹Chapter 1677.

passed on the eighth day of April last, to protect the infant settlements beyond the river Allegheny and to promote the general defence of the frontiers.

[Section IV.] (Section IV. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That a sum not exceeding fifty thousand dollars be appropriated, as well to discharge the expenses already incurred in maintaining a party of militia at Fort Mifflin, on Mud Island aforesaid, as to accomplish the objects of this law and to provide the necessary arms, ammunition and provision for the companies hereby authorized to be raised, which sum shall be payable out of the aggregate fund, upon the warrants of the governor; and account of the disbursements thereof shall be laid by the governor before the general assembly at the next ensuing session.

Passed February 28, 1794. Recorded L. B. No. 5, p. 184, 185 & 186. See Act of September 23, 1794, Chapter 1787, as to re-enlisting men for service at Fort L'Boeuf. See Act of April 1, 1795, Chapter 1821, appropriating \$2,000 to pay troops. See Act passed April 18, 1795, Chapter 1856, giving Governor discretionary power to enlist an additional force.

CHAPTER MDCCXVI.

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THIS COMMONWEALTH,"² PASSED THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF APRIL, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE.

Whereas it appears from a memorial and statement presented to the legislature of this commonwealth by the surveyor-general, the receiver-general and the secretary of the land-office of the commonwealth, aforesaid, that from the increase of business in the said office, the sums already appropriated by the aforesaid recited act, for the purpose of clerk hire, hath been found insufficient for that purpose. Therefore:

²Chapter 1574.