

CHAPTER MDCCIII.

AN ACT TO AFFORD RELIEF TO CERTAIN DISTRESSED FRENCH
EMIGRANTS.

Whereas the calamities attending national and intestine war and commotion having compelled great numbers, principally inhabitants of Hispaniola, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three, to abandon their estates and dwellings, and seek refuge where it might be found, many of them without time to collect and bring away their property, and others, having with them valuable effects, were plundered on their passage, and rendered, on reaching the shores of the United States, destitute of the means of support:

[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 it shall and may be lawful to and for the governor of this commonwealth, and he is hereby authorized and empowered, to draw one or more warrants on the state treasurer, for any sum or sums of money not exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars in the whole, in favor of Godfrey Haga, Edward Pennington, Robert Ralston, Samuel P. Griffiths, Joseph Lownes, Samuel Mecklin and Joseph Sanson, who are hereby appointed commissioners to receive and distribute the same, in such manner and proportions, either in specie or necessaries by them provided, to and among such persons suffering as aforesaid, as to them, the said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall appear proper objects of this charity, excepting and excluding from the benefit of the aid hereby granted, in [sic] in all cases where it can be done consistent with the benevolent design of this act, such persons as being possessed of slaves, do, by any act or device, contravene or evade the law of this state, made and provided for the gradual abolition of slavery, so as, contrary to the true intent and meaning thereof,

to deprive the persons by them so held or claimed as slaves of their just right to freedom.

[Section II.] (Section II, P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the state treasurer shall pay the sum or sums of money to be mentioned in the said warrant or warrants, out of the fund appropriated to the support of government and shall charge and be allowed the same in the settlement of his accounts; and that the said commissioners shall keep and render to the governor, to be laid before the legislature, a just account of the distribution and expenditures of the said moneys, and of the number and description of the persons relieved thereby.

Passed February 25, 1795. Recorded L. B. No. 5, p. 381, etc.

CHAPTER MDCCIV.

AN ACT EMPOWERING CERTAIN TRUSTEES, THEREIN NAMED, TO SELL AND DISPOSE OF A CERTAIN HOUSE AND LOT OF GROUND, SITUATED IN THE BOROUGH OF EASTON, AND COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON, IN THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, AND APPROPRIATE THE MONEYS ARISING FROM THE SALE THEREOF TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF A PARSONAGE, OR DWELLING HOUSE, FOR THE MINISTER OF THE FOUR PROTESTANT EVANGELIC REFORMED GERMAN CONGREGATIONS, TO WIT, OF EASTON, NAZARETH AND PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIPS, IN THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON; AND STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, AND GREENWICH TOWNSHIP, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, FOR THE TIME BEING.

Whereas the trustees, elders and deacons of the four Protestant Evangelic Reformed German congregations, to wit, of Easton, Nazareth and Plainfield townships, in the county of Northampton, and state of Pennsylvania, and Greenwich township, in the county of Sussex, and state of New Jersey, in behalf of the said congregations, by their petition, have represented to this house, that by virtue of a certain indenture or deed of conveyance, bearing date the fourth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four, Philip