

ACTS

PASSED IN THE

General Assembly

OF THE

Province of Pennsylvania.

Held at

PHILADELPHIA

The Fourteenth Day of *October*, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Four, and Continued by Adjournments till the Twenty First Day of *August* next after, being the Twelfth Year of His Majesty's Reign, 1725.

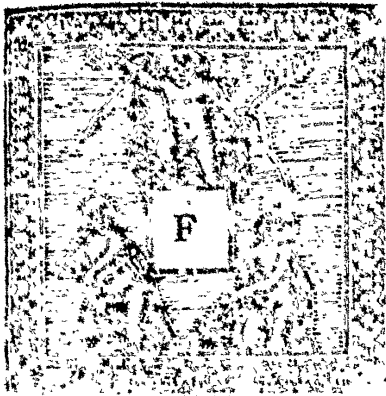


PHILADELPHIA:

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M DCC XXV.

*An Act for the better securing the City of Philadelphia,
from the Danger of Gun-Powder.*



Orasmuch as the City of *Philadelphia*, is destitute of any Magazine, or other suitable Repository, for the safe keeping of *Gun-Powder*; Which being a Commodity of good consideration, in the Trade of this Province; the Merchants and Traders are frequently reduced to the Necessity of keeping it on Ship-Board; within the Port of the said City, or to deposite the same in Stores or Shops, too often, within the Access of Sailors and Servants, to the manifest danger of the People of the said City, in their Persons and Estates.

And, forasmuch as *William Chancellor* of the said City *Sail-maker*, by the Recommendation of divers of the Magistrates, as well as Merchants, and others of the said City, hath undertaken to Build a suitable *Powder-House* or Store for the Receipt of all the *Gun-Powder* which shall or may be Imported into the said City, on a piece of Ground, he lately Purchased from *Daniel Pegg*, lying near the *North-End* of the said City, adjoyning to a Swamp on the *South-side*; and upon the *KING'S High-Road*, on the *East End* thereof.

Be it therefore Enacted by Sir *William Keith Baronet*, Governour of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, &c. By and with the Advice and Consent of the Freemen of the said Province, in General Assembly met, and by the Authority of the same, That the said *William Chancellor* his Heirs Executors or Assigns shall, at his and their proper Costs and Charges, cause to be well Erected and Built, a good substantial, Tight and secure *Powder-House*, or Store for *Gun-Powder*, of Brick or Stone, on the Piece of Ground aforesaid, within Three Months next Ensuing the Publication of this Act; To be well Boarded and Covered, and so fit and Capacious, as may reasonably be expected will contain all the *Gun-Powder* to be, from Time to Time, Imported into the said City. Wherein he the said *William Chancellor* his Executors and Assigns shall lay up, and Store all the *Gun-Powder* to be, from Time to Time, Im-

William Chancellor
to build a Powder
Store.
Within 3 Months.
And shall Store all
the Gun-Powder

*imported and be
accountable for the
same.*

*And shall attend at
9 and 11 and 1
and 3 a-Clock
daily.*

*And upon Receipt
shall give Re-
ceipts.*

ported, or brought into the said City; which shall come to his or their Receipt, pursuant to the Direction of this Act: and for which he and they shall be accountable to the Owners or Deliverers thereof; (Lightening and other unavoidable Accidents Excepted) and shall also cause daily attendance to be given, at the *Powder-Store* aforesaid, betwixt the Hours of Nine and Eleven in the Morning, and One and Three in the Afternoon, for Delivering out the said Commodity; and also at all Times, on due Notice given, for Receiving thereof, at the nearest and most convenient Landing to the said Lott of Ground, and immediately upon his receiving into his Custody, any Quantity of *Powder* as aforesaid, he shall pass his Receipts in Writing for the same, Expressing the Quantity of *Powder*, and describing the Marks and Numbers of the Cask.

*No Person shall keep
in their Houses,
&c. above 12 l
of Gun-Powder.*

*Under the Penalty
of 10 l.*

*Every Master &c.
shall, within 48
Hours deliver his
Powder under the
like Penalty of 10
Pounds.*

And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That no Person whatsoever within the Precincts of the City of *Philadelphia* aforesaid, nor within two Miles thereof, shall, from and after the time the *Powder-Store* aforesaid is so Erected, and finished, presume to keep in any House, Shop, Cellar, Store or Place, of the said City, nor within two Miles thereof, other than the *Powder-Store* aforesaid, any more or greater Quantity, at any one Time, than Twelve Pounds of *Gun-Powder*, under the Penalty of *Ten Pounds*, for every Offence. And whatsoever Master, Merchant or other Person Trading or bringing into the said Port, any *Gun-Powder*, (other than such as shall be specially Licensed in that behalf, by the Governour of this Province for the Time being, Or shall be Commissionated by the King's Majesty, or other Authority, under the Crown of *Great-Britain*;) shall not, within the space of Forty Eight Hours, from his first Arrival, and coming to Anchor there, upon due Notice given him, of the purport of this Act, by the said *William Chancellor* or his Assigns, or any of his or their Deputies, or Servants, Deliver all the *Powder* so brought into the said Port aforesaid, unto the said *William Chancellor*, his Executors or Assigns, He shall forfeit the like Sum of *Ten Pounds*, for every such Offence.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said *William Chancellor*, his Executors and Assigns, shall have and receive for Storage for *Gun-Powder*, at the *Powder-Store* aforesaid, *Twelve-pence per Barrel, per Month*, and so

*The Price of Storage
is 12 d. per Bar-
rel per Month.*

proportionably for half Barrels and other Cask, for the first Six Months: And *Six-pence* per Barrel per Month, and so Proportionably for Half Barrels and other Cask, for every Month, any of the said *Powder* remains in the said Store, above *Six Months*; and likewise shall have and receive for every *Twelve Pounds* or lesser Quantity to be delivered at one Time *Six-pence* over and above the said Storage.

And 6 d. for the delivery of every 12 l. or lesser Quantity.

Provided always nevertheless, And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That what Quantity of Powder soever of the Ship's Store of any Vessel, shall be so as aforesaid Delivered, to be kept at the said *Powder Store*; and shall be re-demanded back again, in Order for it's Exportation out of this Province; the said *William Chancellor*, his Executors or Assigns, shall cause the same to be re-delivered at the nearest and most convenient Landing to the said *Powder-Store*, without Exacting any other perquisite for such re-delivery, than what is herein before allowed for Storage. And if the said *William Chancellor* his Executors or Assigns, shall neglect to give due Attendance, at the *Powder-house* aforesaid, as is herein before directed and appointed, or shall take or Exact greater, or larger Sum or Sums of Money for Storage, and delivery of said *Powder*, than is herein before limited and appointed: He or they so offending, shall (on due Proof thereof made, by one or more Creditable Witnesses, before any one Justice of the Peace of the City or County of *Philadelphia*) forfeit and pay for every such Offence, such Sum of Money as the said Justice shall think fit to award, not Exceeding the Sum of *Thirty Shillings* for any one Offence.

And the ships Store of Powder, shall be delivered back without any other Fee than Storage

Penalty on the Officer for not giving due Attendance, or exacting more than is allowed &c. shall be at the discretion of the Magistrate & not above 30 s.

And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That all and singular the Penalties and Forfeitures, arising by this Act (Excepting those under Forty-Shillings) shall be Recovered in any Court of Record in this Province, by Bill, Plaint or Information, wherein no Essoyn, Protection or Wager of Law, nor any more than one Imparlance shall be allowed. The one Moiety of which Forfeitures and Penalties shall go to the Governour, for the Support of this Government, and the other Moiety thereof, to the Informer or Prosecutor, who shall Sue for the same.

Penalties and forfeitures how to be recovered and how to be applied.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Clause in an Act of Assembly of this Province (Entituled an Act for preventing Accidents, that may happen by Fire, in the Towns of Bristol, formerly called Buckingham, Philadelphia,

A Clause in the former Law repealed

And the Law to continue Twenty Years.
delphia, German-Town, Derby, Chester, New-Castle, and Lewis
 within this Government Enacting that no Person within the
 Town of Philadelphia, within Six Months next following the
 Publication of the same Act, presume to keep in their Houses,
 Shops or Ware-houses, more than Six Pounds of Gun-Pow-
 der, at one Time; unless it be Forty-Perches, distant from any
 Dwelling, under the Penalty of *Ten pounds*, for every such
 Offence; is hereby Repealed and Declared to be Null, void
 and of None Effect; and that this present Act shall con-
 tinue in Force for and during the Term of Twenty One
 Years, and no longer.

Signed by Order of the House

William Biles Speaker.

*An Act for the better preventing Obstructions to the
 Navigation of Chester Creek, and other Navigable
 Creeks and Rivers in this Province.*

*Recital of part of the
 former Law for
 Erecting a Draw-
 bridge on Chester
 Creek.*

WHEREAS in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred
 It was thought Necessary, for the better Accommoda-
 tion of the Borough of Chester, in the County of Chester
 and the Inhabitants of the Lower Parts; of the said County
 as well as Travellers, That the King's High-Road should
 be alter'd and brought nearer to the River, to pass through
 the said Borough, with a Bridge over the said Creek there
 and thereupon, in Consideration of the Owners of Lands
 and especially of the Mills situate on the said Creek; above
 the said Borough, which had been Erect'd at great Charge
 and required the same to maintain and support them, for the
 Benefit of Trade. An Act was passed in the said Year, that
 the Road should be laid out, as aforesaid, through the said
 Borough and a Draw-bridge should be there Built; and that
 a Person should attend the same, to draw it up, that Sloop
 and Shallops might pass to and from the said Mills; and also
 that for the Conveniency of Rafts of Logs, passing to the
 said Mills, the space of Twenty-foot at least, should be kept
 clear, between the Timber or Stone Work, which Draw

bridge