

the Sheriff of the County, or his Deputy, shall read the same Writ in the Court House or Place where such Court was to have been holden, and shall place an attested Copy of the same Writ up in some public and conspicuous Place there, and shall cause Publication thereof to be made in some other of the most public Places in the County. And the Justices of the said Court of Common Pleas shall have Power from Time to Time to appoint a Clerk to attend them, and record their Proceedings; which Clerk shall be under Oath to the faithful Performance of the Duties of his Office, and shall hold his office during the Pleasure of the said Court.

The Justices empowered to appoint a Clerk.

Said Clerk to be under Oath.

The Time for the Petit Jurors to give their Attendance.

*And it is further enacted*, That the Petit Jurors in the Court of General Sessions of the Peace and Court of Common Pleas, to be held within and for the County of *Suffolk*, shall not be obliged to give their Attendance until the second Tuesday of said Court's Sitting; and at the said Courts to be held in all other Counties, upon the second Day of the said Courts sitting, and Venires shall be issued accordingly.

No Action to be entered after the first Day of the sitting of said Court.

*And it is also enacted*, That no Action shall be entered at any Court of Common Pleas after the first Day of the sitting thereof; and all Pleas in Abatement to the Writ, and Demurrers to Declarations shall be made, signed, and filed before the Jury is impannelled.

Proviso.

*Provided nevertheless*, That where by any inevitable Misfortune or Accident, the Plaintiff shall be prevented from entering his Action upon the first Day of the Courts sitting, he may, upon making the same appear to the Court, enter his Action at any Time before Judgment is given for Cost to the Defendant. *July 3, 1782.*

## 1782. — Chapter 12.

[May Session, ch. 13.]

### Chap. 12 AN ACT FOR THE BETTER REGULATION OF THE TREASURY OF THIS COMMONWEALTH; AND FOR APPOINTING AN ASSISTANT-TREASURER.

Preamble.

*Whereas a full and complete Settlement with the Treasurer of this Commonwealth hath become absolutely necessary to be effected as soon as may be: And whereas also the Depreciation and uncertain Value of Paper Money, and the various Modes of supplying and paying the Army,*

and the peculiar Difficulties attending our public Affairs, have so embarrassed the Treasury, and perplexed the Accounts appertaining to that Office, that it is now become impracticable for the Treasurer, without further Assistance, to perform the ordinary Business of the said Office, and at the same Time pay due Attention to the Accounts and Settlement aforesaid:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That some skilful Accountant of this Commonwealth, duly qualified for the Business of assisting the said Treasurer, be, by the Senate and House of Representatives immediately chosen and appointed Assistant to the Treasurer aforesaid, and so to continue until the First Day of June, which shall be in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-three, unless otherwise ordered by the General Court: And the said Assistant Treasurer being appointed to and duly qualified for the said Office, shall attend solely to the Receipt and Payment of Monies arising by Virtue of the Laws laying certain Duties of Excise on certain Articles therein mentioned, and to Taxes granted after the First Day of March last, and in all Things touching the same, perform the Office of Treasurer of the said Commonwealth, during the Term aforesaid: And the said Assistant Treasurer shall open new Books, and during the Term aforesaid, the same shall keep, and the Accounts enter therein, in such regular and perspicuous Methods as shall be approved by such Committee as the General Court shall from Time to Time appoint; and on the first Thursday of every Session of the General Court, shall lay before the House of Representatives a brief and intelligible Account of all Monies by him received, paid, negotiated or discounted in the said Office, not before exhibited to said House; and all Books and Accounts of the Treasury shall be open to the Inspection of the aforesaid Committee; and the Officers of the Treasury shall pay due Attention to all their reasonable Requests and Demands touching the State and Condition of the same.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the honorable Henry Gardner, Esq; Treasurer of this Commonwealth, shall proceed in the most expeditious Manner to enforce the Payment of Taxes granted before the First Day of March last, upon which Execution is not

Assistant-Treasurer by whom elected.

To continue for one Year.

His Duty.

Hon. Treasurer Gardner to enforce the Payment of Taxes.

already ordered, agreeable to the Acts and Resolves of the General Court for that Purpose, and that he give Notice thereof in the usual Manner; and that he also in Manner aforesaid, request all Persons having Notes or public Securities against this Commonwealth, to be consolidated, except the Depreciation Notes payable in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-three and the succeeding Years, that they bring in the same on or before the First Day of *October* next, to be by him consolidated; and that he diligently attend to every public Matter and Thing pertaining to his said Office of Treasurer, except such Matters as by this Act are directed to be done and transacted by the Assistant Treasurer, that he may facilitate and hasten a Settlement of all his public Accounts in Manner aforesaid.

Notes on public Securities to be consolidated.

Assistant-Treasurer to give Bonds to the Secretary of this Commonwealth.

To take the Oaths.

*And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid,* That said Assistant Treasurer, before he enter on the Execution of the Duties hereby assigned him, shall become bound to the Secretary of this Commonwealth in the Sum of *Thirty Thousand Pounds*, with at least two sufficient Sureties, for the faithful Performance of the Trust committed to him; and shall take the Oaths and make and subscribe the Declaration prescribed by the Constitution to be taken, made and subscribed, by the executive Officers of this Commonwealth.

*July 3, 1782.*

### 1782. — Chapter 13.

[May Session, ch. 14.]

*Chap. 13* AN ACT IN ADDITION UNTO AN ACT INTITLED, "AN ACT FOR LAYING CERTAIN DUTIES OF EXCISE ON CERTAIN ARTICLES THEREIN MENTIONED, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE INTEREST ON GOVERNMENT SECURITIES;" AND FOR ALTERING ANOTHER ACT, INTITLED, "AN ACT IN ADDITION UNTO, AND FOR AMENDING AND EXPLAINING THE ACT MADE IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE, LAYING CERTAIN DUTIES OF EXCISE ON CERTAIN ARTICLES THEREIN MENTIONED, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE INTEREST ON GOVERNMENT SECURITIES."

Preamble.

*Whereas by the former Act the Assessors of the several Towns and Plantations within this Commonwealth are directed to return under Oath, a List of all Carriages therein mentioned within their respective Towns or Plantations, with the Names of the several Owners or Pos-*