

BY-LAWS

AND

ORDINANCES

OF THE

CITY OF PITTSBURGH,

AND THE

ACTS OF ASSEMBLY

Relating Thereto;

WITH

NOTES AND REFERENCES TO JUDICIAL DECISIONS THEREON,

AND

AN APPENDIX,

RELATING TO SEVERAL SUBJECTS CONNECTED WITH THE
LAWS AND POLICE OF THE

CITY CORPORATION.

(PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CITY COUNCILS.)



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at the top, or shall fire any gun or other fire-arm, or shall make, or cause to be made, or sell or utter, or offer to expose to sale, any squibs, rockets or other fire works, within any of the said towns or boroughs, without the Governor's special license for the same, every such person or persons, so offending, shall be subject to the like penalties and forfeitures, and to be recovered in like manner, as in and by an act, passed in the eighth year of the reign of King George the first, entitled *An act for preventing accidents that may happen by fire*, are directed to be levied and recovered.—[*Act of 26th of August, 1721, 1 Smith, p. 130, is the act referred to.*]

Chapter 555.

Act of 21st February, 1767. 1 *Dallas*, 472. 1 *Smith*, 298. *Pardon*, 792.

An Act to prevent the mischiefs arising from the increase of vagabonds, and idle and disorderly persons within this province.

That all persons, who shall unlawfully return to such city, township or place, from whence they have been legally removed, by order of two Justices of the Peace, without bringing a certificate from the city, township or place, to which they belong; and all persons, who, not having wherewith to maintain themselves and their families, live idly and without employment, and refuse to work, for the usual and common wages given to other labourers in the like work in the city, township or place, where they then are; and all persons going about from door to door, or placing themselves in streets, highways, or other roads, to beg or gather alms in the city, township or place, where they dwell, and all other persons wandering abroad and begging, and all persons who shall come from the neighbouring colonies, or any of them, into any township or place within this province, and shall be found loitering or residing therein, and shall follow no labour, trade, occupation or business, and have no visible means of subsistence, and can give no reasonable account of themselves, or their business in such township or place, shall be deemed, and are hereby declared to be, idle and disorderly persons, and liable to the penalties hereby imposed; and that it shall and may be lawful for any Justice of the Peace of the county, where such idle and disorderly persons shall be found, to commit such offenders (being thereof legally convicted before him, on his own view, or by the confession of such offenders, or by the oath or affirmation of one or more credible witness

What sort of persons to be deemed idle and disorderly, &c.

or witnesses) to the work-house of the said county, if such there be, otherwise to the common jail of the county, there to be kept at hard labour, by the keeper of such work-house or jail, for any time not exceeding one month.

II. That if any persons shall be found offending in any township or place against this act, it shall and may be lawful for any constable of such township or place, and he is hereby enjoined and required, on notice thereof given by any of the inhabitants thereof, to apprehend and convey, or cause to be conveyed, such person so offending to a Justice of the Peace of the county, who shall examine and try such offenders, and on such confession or proof, shall commit them to the work-house or jail of the county, there to be kept at hard labour during the term aforesaid: And if any constable, after such notice given as aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to use his best endeavours to apprehend and convey such offenders before the Justice of the Peace aforesaid, being thereof legally convicted before such Justice of the Peace, every such constable shall forfeit and pay to the Overseers of the poor of the township or place where such offence shall be committed, to the use of the poor thereof, the sum of ten shillings, to be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods, by warrant from such Justice, and the overplus, if any, after the charge of prosecution and of such distress shall be satisfied, shall be returned to such offender.

III. That any person or persons who shall conceive him, her or themselves aggrieved by any act, judgment or determination of any Justice, or Justices of the Peace out of Sessions, in and concerning the execution of this act, may appeal to the next General Quarter Sessions of the city or county, giving reasonable notice thereof, whose order thereupon shall be final.

Chapter 703.

Act of 24th December, 1774. 1 *Dallas*, 701. 1 *Smith*, 421. *Purdon*, 507.

An Act to suppress the disorderly practice of firing guns, &c. on the times therein mentioned.

SECT. I. That if, after the publication of this act, any person or persons shall, on any thirty-first day of December, or first or second day of January, in every year, wantonly, and without reasonable occasion, discharge and fire off any hand-gun, pistol or other fire-arms, or small cast, throw or fire any squibs, rockets or other fire works, within the in-

Penalty on persons discharging any gun, &c. on the 31st of December, &c.

habited parts of this province, to the disturbance of any of his majesty's subjects there inhabiting and being, every such person so offending, and being thereof convicted before any one Justice of the Peace of the county, or Mayor or other head officer, a Justice of Peace of any city or town corporate where such offence shall be committed, either by confession of the party so offending, or the oath or affirmation of one or more credible witnesses (which oath or affirmation the said justice or other officer aforesaid is hereby empowered and required to administer) shall for every such offence forfeit, for the use of the poor of the township or district where such offender lives, the sum of ten shillings, to be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels, by warrant, under the hand and seal of the Justice or other officer before whom such offenders shall be convicted, returning the overplus, if any, to the owner, the reasonable charge of distraining being first deducted; and for want of such distress, such offender shall be committed to prison for the space of five days, without bail or mainprize.

II. That if any person or persons, after the publication of this act, shall willingly permit or suffer, within the time aforesaid, any person or persons to discharge or fire off, at his or her house, any hand-gun, pistol, or other fire-arms, or to cast, throw or fire any squibs, rockets or other fire-works, as aforesaid, every person so as aforesaid offending, and being thereof convicted in manner aforesaid, shall for every such offence forfeit and pay, for the use aforesaid, the sum of twenty shillings, to be recovered in manner aforesaid.

III. That the Constable of each respective city, borough, township or place, in every county of this province, having any knowledge of any offences against this act, shall, and he is hereby required, under the penalty of twenty shillings, to present, on oath or affirmation, every such offence to one of the next Justices of the Peace of their respective counties, or before the Justices of the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the same county, together with the name or names of all such offenders, that they may be tried, agreeable to the directions of this act.

IV. *Provided always*, That if any person shall conceive himself aggrieved by the judgment of any such Justice, he or she may appeal to the next County Court of Quarter Sessions of the said county, who shall, on the petition of the party, take such order therein as to them shall appear just and reasonable, and the same shall be conclusive to all parties.

V. *Provided always*, That no person or persons shall be prosecuted or troubled for any offence against this act, unless the same be prosecuted within four months after the offence committed.

Penalty on house-keepers permitting guns, &c. to be fired off at their houses.

Constables having knowledge of any offences against this act, to present the same on oath or affirmation.

Persons aggrieved may appeal, &c.

Limitation of prosecution.