

AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT IN NEW ENGLAND IN AMERICA HOLDEN AT HARTFORD BY SPECIAL ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR ON THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF AUGUST, ANNO DOM. 1777.

*Present:*

His Excellency Jonathan Trumbull, Esq<sup>r</sup>, *Governor*.  
 The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Mathew Griswold, Esq<sup>r</sup>, *Deputy Governor*.  
 Jabez Hamlin, Esq<sup>r</sup>,  
 Elisha Sheldon, Esq<sup>r</sup>,  
 Jabez Huntington, Esq<sup>r</sup>,  
 William Pitkin, Esq<sup>r</sup>,  
 Roger Sherman, Esq<sup>r</sup>,  
 Abraham Davenport, Esq<sup>r</sup>,  
 Oliver Wolcott, Esq<sup>r</sup>,  
 Samuel Huntington, Esq<sup>r</sup>, ) *Assistants.*

*Representatives or Deputies of the Freemen of the several Towns are as follow, viz. :*

[The names of the Deputies are not recorded.]

An Act in Addition to a Law of this State intituled An Act for the Punishment of High Treason and other atrocious Crimes against the State.

*Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That no person accused of any of the crimes mentioned in said act, who on examination before proper authority shall be adjudged worthy to be held to tryal for the same, shall be set at liberty on bail but committed to prison, there to remain untill delivered by due course of law.

An Act in further Addition to a Law of this State intituled An Act for the Direction of Listers in their Office and Duty.

Whereas all persons by law rateable ought to be taxed for the support of government and the common defence in proportion to the value of their estates and annual incomes, for which further provision is necessary to be made,

*Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That for the future the civil authority and selectmen in the respective towns, or other persons specially appointed by the town for that purpose, or the major part of them, shall be Assessors, who together with the listers shall according to their best judgment assess all traders, tradesmen, artificers, attorneys at law, physicians, surgeons, tavern-keepers, owners of mills, iron-works, ware-houses, work-houses, graziers, drovers, and others by law rateable for their faculty, at the amount of

their clear annual profits, and add the same to their list of polls and rateable estate at the times appointed by law; any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding. And all persons shall be set in the list at the rate of six *per cent.* for the monies due to them on interest on good security, deducting what they pay interest for, if any be. That cattle and sheep let out on shares or on loan shall be set in the list of the owner at the rate of six *per cent.* on their just value. And persons who make a business of buying and selling the necessaries or conveniences of life and by engrossing the same or other artificial methods enhance the prices thereof and thereby make great gains to themselves, the least dealer in that way shall be set in the list fifty pounds, and others in like proportion according to their gains.

Whereas it is justly apprehended that the distilling of brandy from cyder will occasion a scarcity of that drink, so comfortable and usefull in this State, and in a great measure deprive the inhabitants, especially the poorer sort, of the benefit and use of cyder,

*Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That no person or persons whatsoever within this State shall distill any brandy or spirituous liquor of any kind from cyder at any time before the rising of this Assembly in May next, on penalty that the person or persons who shall be guilty of the breach of this act and duly convicted thereof before any court proper to try the same shall forfeit fourfold the value of such cyder so distilled: one-half to the treasurer of the town wherein the offence shall be committed, and the other half to the person, if a common informer, who shall prosecute the same to effect; and all informing officers are hereby directed to make due presentment of all breaches of this act, in which case the whole forfeiture shall be paid into the town treasury: Provided nevertheless, that it shall be lawfull for the civil authority and selectmen of the several towns, to grant licence in writing under their hands to the inhabitants to distill or procure to be distilled small quantities of cyder to supply their own families with such spirits only as are in their opinion absolutely necessary for their own use and consumption, taking care that no engrosser or monopolist or other person that shall offer or give any extravagant price for such cyder have any permission for that purpose; anything in this act contained notwithstanding.

An Act for repealing an Act entituled An Act to prevent Monopolies and Oppression by excessive and unreasonable Prices of Many of the Necessaries and Conveniences of Life, and also an Act entituled An Act in Addition to and Alteration of an Act of this State entituled An Act to prevent Monopolies and Oppression by excessive and unreasonable Prices of the Necessaries and Conveniences of Life.

*Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That said acts be and the same are hereby repealed and made void.