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An Act to encourage the establishment of certain manufactories within
this State.

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It would appear to this General Assembly, that from the many local
advantages and facilities which many parts of this State present for the establish-
ment of manufactories for the manufacture of articles of the first importance upon
an enlarged scale, and from a consideration of the limited extent of the territory
of the State within which all agricultural pursuits are necessarily bounded, it being
the duty of the Legislature to protect and encourage by every lawful means in
their power such manufactories as are or shall be established:

Sec. 1. Be it therefore enacted, by the Senate and House of Repre-
sentatives of the State of Delaware in general Assembly met, That from and
after the passing of this act, every artificer or workman, concerned ~~and~~ employed
as such in the manufacture of Paper, Iron, Gun Powder, Woolen yarn, woollen
cloth, cotton yarn or cotton cloth, at or in any manufactory of any such articles
now established, or which ^{may} hereafter be established within this State wherein
the greatest power or force employed is produced by water mill machinery, or
in any woollen or cotton manufactory, wherein not less than two hundred spindles
are employed, shall be and they are hereby declared to be exempted from all
militia fines and forfeitures.

Sec. 2. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of the owner or
other person actually superintending any such manufactory, to make out a
list on or before the first day of April in every year, containing the names, surnames, age
and particular concern or employment of every artificer or workman of the age of Eighteen
years and under forty five years, then concerned or employed in such manufactory and
the said owner or person actually superintending such manufactory, shall and he is hereby

- required to make a return of such list, duly certified under his hand and seal,⁹⁴ to the Captain or commanding officer of the militia company for the district in which such manufactory shall be established, on or before the said first day of April every year; and if, at any time after the return shall be made as aforesaid, any other artificer or workman shall be taken into the concern or employment of such manufactory, it shall be the duty of the owner or person actually superintending the same to certify as aforesaid to the Captain of the militia company of the district aforesaid, the name, surname, age, concern or employment of such artificer or workman, if of the age of eighteen years and under forty five years, within ten days after he shall have been ~~employed~~ entered and ~~engaged~~ engaged in such concern or employment: and if any artificer or workman so returned to the Captain of the militia company shall be discharged or shall withdraw himself from the concern or employment in which he had been engaged, it shall be the duty of the owner or person actually superintending such manufactory, to notify the same to the Captain of the militia company or officer commanding the same within ten days next after such discharge or withdrawing.

Sect 3. And be it enacted, That if any such owner or superintendant shall refuse or neglect to make such return, or give notice as aforesaid to the Captain or commanding officer of the militia company for the district wherein such manufactory is established or shall knowingly and wilfully with intent to evade the operation of the militia laws of this state, return and certify any person as an artificer or workman concerned or employed in such manufactory who shall not be such, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of thirty dollars for every such neglect ^{refusal} or false return, to be recovered before any justice of the peace in like manner as debts above forty shillings and upwards and

not exceeding twelve pounds are by law made recoverable, to be paid ⁷⁵ to the commissary of military stores for the county and applied, as other militia fines, are by law directed to be applied.

— Sect. 4. And be it enacted, That if any person shall contract with entice, or persuade or endeavour to seduce or encourage any artificer or workman, actually concerned, employed, or engaged in the manufacture of paper, iron, Gun-powder, wollen yarn, woollen cloth, cotton yarn or Cotton cloth, at or in any manufactory of such articles established within this State, whereat the greatest power or force employed is produced by water-work machinery, to leave or go out and depart from this State for the purpose of being engaged concerned or employed in any such manufactory in any other State, Republic, Kingdom or empire and shall thereof be convicted upon indictment before the Court of General Sessions of the Peace and gaol-delivery for the County wherein such offence shall be committed, every person so convicted, shall for every artificer or workman so contracted with, enticed, persuaded, encouraged, or seduced or attempted so to be, forfeit and pay the sum of two hundred dollars, to be paid to the State Treasurer for the use of the State: and on conviction for every subsequent offence shall forfeit and pay the sum of four hundred dollars; and in default of payment of such fine together with costs, shall be committed to the County gaol there to remain until the fine together with costs shall be fully paid and satisfied or he be discharged by due course of law.

(Filed at Dover)
Jan. 26. 1811

James Lydie Speaker
of the Senate

Christy S. ...
of the House of Representatives

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