

CHAPTER MCMXXIX.

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE PENAL LAWS OF THIS STATE.¹

Whereas it frequently happens that persons against whom indictments are presented, by the grand inquests for the bodies of the respective counties throughout this commonwealth, are afterwards acquitted by a petit jury trying the truth of the same:

And whereas, by the existing laws, a party so acquitted is equally liable to costs of prosecution as if he were convicted, which operates injustice, and a punishment to the innocent:

For remedy whereof:

[Section I.] (Section I, P. L.) Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That, from and after the passing of this act, all costs accruing on bills of indictment, found by the grand jury of the city, or any county in this commonwealth, charging a party with any felony, breach of the peace, or other indictable offense, shall, if such party be acquitted by a petit jury on the traverse of the same, be paid out of the county stock by the city or county in which the prosecution commenced.

Passed March 20, 1797. Recorded L. B. No. 6, p. 159.

See Act of April 5, 1790, Chapter 1516.

CHAPTER MCMXXX.

AN ACT TO AFFORD RELIEF TO WASHINGTON ACADEMY, IN THE COUNTY OF WASHINGTON.

Whereas it appears that the trustees of Washington academy have procured a lot of land and have partly erected a building thereon, but are unable to complete the same for want of funds:

[Section I.] (Section I, P. L.) Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the governor be, and he is hereby, empowered and required to draw his warrant on the treasury of this commonwealth, in favor of the trustees of Washington Academy, for the sum of three thousand dollars for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to complete the buildings for said institution, which warrant the treasurer is hereby authorized to pay out of the fund appropriated for the support of government.

[Section II.] And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That there be annually admitted into the said academy any number of students who may be offered, in order to be taught reading, writing and arithmetic gratis. Provided the number so admitted and taught, shall, at no time, be greater than ten, and that none of the said students shall continue in the said academy longer than two years.

Passed March 20, 1797. Recorded L. B. No. 6, p. 159.

CHAPTER MCMXXXI.

AN ACT TO EXTEND AN ACT ENTITLED, "A FURTHER SUPPLEMENT TO THE ACT ENTITLED 'AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A BOARD OF WARDENS FOR THE PORT OF PHILADELPHIA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES THEREIN MENTIONED.'"1

Whereas the act entitled, "A further supplement to the act entitled, 'An act to establish a board of wardens for the port of Philadelphia and for other purposes therein mentioned,'" will shortly expire by its own limitation:

And whereas the pilots of the bay and river Delaware, by their petition, have prayed that the said act may be continued for a further period, and it is right and expedient that the prayer of the said petition be granted: