

with two sufficient sureties, to the Governor, in a sum not less than three thousand dollars, conditioned for the true and faithful performance of their respective trusts; which bond shall be deposited in the office of the said prothonotary.

SIMON SNYDER, *Speaker*  
of the House of Representatives.

ROBERT WHITEHILL, *Speaker*  
of the Senate.

APPROVED—the second day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and five.

THOMAS M'KEAN, *Governor*  
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

#### CHAPTER XXXIV.

*An ACT dissolving the Marriage of Thomas Adkinson and Rebecca his Wife.*

WHEREAS it appears by the memorial and petition of Rebecca Adkinson, late Rebecca Rittenhouse, of Fayette county, fully supported by official documents and authentic vouchers, that Thomas Adkinson, (then of good character) and the said Rebecca were lawfully joined in marriage on the twelfth day of November, anno domini one thousand eight hundred and one: That in the month of May, anno domini one thousand eight hundred and three, the said Thomas was arrested and committed to the jail of Fayette county, and at June term, in said county, indicted of larceny; that said Thomas having escaped from said prison, the process that

that issued in consequence of the aforesaid indictment was, at the next term, returned "*non est inventus*:" That said Thomas was, in the month of March, anno domini one thousand eight hundred and four, arraigned and convicted, in the court of quarter-sessions of the peace of Allegheny county, of divers felonies, and was thereupon sentenced and adjudged to undergo an imprisonment of five years in the penitentiary-house in Philadelphia, and otherwise to be dealt with as the law directs; in which prison he now remains: And whereas it appears, that the conduct of the said Thomas, from the month of May, one thousand eight hundred and three, to the present time, has been one continued scene of vice, evincing a total dereliction of morality, and an entire neglect of his wife and tender infant, infomuch, that the said Rebecca has lost all confidence in and affection for her said husband, and has prayed the Legislature to dissolve the marriage heretofore contracted between them: And whereas it appears, that the said Rebecca is of good character, and that however enormous the conduct of her husband has been, the existing laws do not authorise the courts of justice to grant a divorce under these circumstances: Therefore,

Section 1. *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 the marriage contract entered into by the said Thomas and Rebecca Adkinson, be, and the same is hereby declared to be null and void, and the parties respectively set free and discharged from the marriage contract, and all the duties arising under the same, as fully and absolutely as if they had never been joined in marriage; but*  
nothing

The marriage contract of Thomas and Rebecca Adkinson, dissolved.

