

upon prayed the house would permit him to bring in a bill to vest the title of the premises in the petitioner:

[Section I.] (Section II, P. L.) Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That the lot of ground aforesaid, with the buildings and appurtenances, situate, lying and being in the town of Lisburn, in the county of Cumberland, containing, in front, on a street in the general plan of the said town, called Main street, one hundred and thirteen feet, and in depth on the westward side, three hundred and seventy-five feet to Yellow Breeches creek, and in depth on the eastward side two hundred and forty feet, be, and the same is hereby vested in the said John Rankin, his heirs and assigns, to be held by him, the said John Rankin, his heirs and assigns forever, subject to the same rents and conditions that the said Richard Carson formerly held the same, any law, custom or usage to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Passed September 29, 1781. Recorded L. B. No. 1, p. 458, etc.

CHAPTER CMLIII.

AN ACT TO GIVE RELIEF TO CERTAIN PERSONS TAKING REFUGE IN THIS STATE WITH RESPECT TO THEIR SLAVES.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas many virtuous citizens of America and inhabitants of states that have been invaded are obliged, by the power of the enemy, to take refuge in this state:

And whereas, it is just and necessary that the property of such persons should be protected:

[Section I.] Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That all and every person and persons, under the above description, now residing in this state, or who hereafter

may be in like circumstances, shall retain, possess and hold their slaves, anything in the act for the gradual abolition of slavery passed the first day of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty, to the contrary notwithstanding.

(Section III, P. L.) Provided always, That the owner or owners of such slaves, his or their lawful attorney, shall, in six months from the passing of this act, or in six months after their arrival in this state, as the case may be, register said slaves in manner and form directed in the fifth section of the act above mentioned for the gradual abolition of slavery. And be it further provided, That such slaves shall not be aliened or sold to any inhabitant nor retained in this state as slaves longer than six months after the conclusion of the present war with Great Britain.

[Section II.] (Section IV, P. L.) And be it also provided and declared, That nothing herein contained shall be deemed, construed or taken to enslave any person or persons who have been emancipated or freed under or by virtue of the act aforesaid.

Passed October 1, 1781. Recorded L. B. No. 1, p. 459, etc.

CHAPTER CMLIV.

AN ACT TO DISSOLVE THE MARRIAGE OF JACOB BILLMEYER WITH HIS WIFE MARY BILLMEYER LATE MARY EICHELBERGER.

(Section I, P. L.) Whereas, Jacob Billmeyer, of the town of York, in the state of Pennsylvania, conveyancer, hath presented a petition to this house, setting forth that his wife Mary, about eight years since, eloped from his bed and board, without any reasonable cause, and ever since continued to absent herself from his bed and board; and that in the month of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, she, the said Mary, became acquainted with a certain William Cole, with whom she intermarried and cohabited,