

true and faithful performance of their respective trusts; which bond shall be deposited in the office of the said prothonotary.

Approved March 2, 1805. Recorded in L. B. No. 10, p. 81.

CHAPTER MDLVIII.

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 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, insomuch 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 authorize the courts of justice to grant a divorce under these circumstances: Therefore,

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 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 herein contained shall be construed to affect or render illegitimate any child or children born of the body of the said Rebecca during the coverture.

Approved March 2, 1805. Recorded in L. B. No. 10, p. 83.

CHAPTER MMDLIX.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE GOVERNOR TO INCORPORATE A COMPANY FOR MAKING AN ARTIFICIAL ROAD FROM THE RIVER SCHUYLKILL AT READING, IN THE COUNTY OF BERKS, TO OR NEAR HUMMELSTOWN IN THE COUNTY OF DAUPHIN.

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 Joseph Heister, Peter Frailey, John Huy, John Keim, senior, George Ege, Conrad Staugh, Christian Lower, of the county of Berks, and John Mayer, Philip Greenawalt, Peter Shindle, David Krause, Henry Gilpin, Henry Meyer, Abram Raguel, Henry Berry, Andrew Kellinger, John Kean, Jacob Greenawalt, George Hoyer and Robert Harris, of the county of Dauphin, be, and they are hereby appointed commissioners, to perform the several duties hereinafter mentioned, that is to say, they shall procure eight books, and in each of them enter as follows: "We the subscribers, promise to pay to the president, mana-