

CHAPTER XXIV.

An ACT dissolving the marriage of Eleanor Houltz, and Abraham Houltz.

WHEREAS it appears to the legislature, that Eleanor Donaldson was, on the seventh day of February, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, married to Abraham Houltz, with whom she lived eleven years and nine months, in which time they had seven children; and that about the sixteenth of August, eighteen hundred and eight, the said Abraham left the said Eleanor, his lawful wife, and five small children, to conflict with poverty and distress; and that some time in the month of October, in the same year, the said Abraham Houltz, who then called himself Abraham Woods, was married to another woman; and it further appears that the said Eleanor is a woman of good moral character: Therefore,

SECT. 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 Eleanor Houltz, and Abraham Houltz, her husband, be and the same is hereby declared to be null and void; and she is hereby set free, and discharged from the marriage contract, and all the duties arising under the same, as fully and absolutely, as if she 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 Eleanor, during the coverture.*

JOHN TOD, *Speaker*
of the House of Representatives.

P. C. LANE, *Speaker of the Senate.*

APPROVED—the third day of February, one thousand eight hundred and twelve.

SIMON SNYDER.

CHAPTER XXV.

An ACT for the relief of the widow of Joseph Bruton, deceased, a soldier, who received a wound in the revolutionary war.

SECT. 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 state treasurer be and he is hereby directed to pay Bridget Bruton, widow of Joseph Bruton, deceased, or her lawful attorney, the sum of forty dollars, out of any unappropriated money in the treasury; and an annuity of twenty dollars for the use of said Bridget Bruton, to be paid half yearly to Joseph Clunn of the borough of Bristol, his executor or executors, administrator or*

The marriage of Eleanor Houltz and her husband, annulled.

But not to affect the legitimacy of the children.

40 dollars to be paid to Bridget Bruton;

and an annuity of 20 dollars.

administrators, his or their lawful attorney, to commence on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and twelve ; which annuity shall be expended by the said Joseph Clunn, his executor or executors, administrator or administrators, his or their lawful attorney, in providing comfortable lodging, clothing and diet, for the said Bridget Bruton, and it shall be the duty of the said Joseph Clunn, his executor or executors, administrator or administrators, his or their lawful attorney, to make an annual return to the orphans' court of Bucks county, on oath or affirmation, how, and in what manner he or they have executed the trust, in him or them confided by this act ; and any duty performed by the clerk of the said court, relative to the said return, shall be done without fee or reward.

To be paid to Joseph Clunn as trustee.

How to be appropriated.

Accounts of, to be submitted to the orphans' court; &c.

JOHN TOD, *Speaker*
of the House of Representatives.

P. C. LANE, *Speaker of the Senate.*

APPROVED—the third day of February, one thousand eight hundred and twelve.

SIMON SNYDER.

CHAPTER XXVI.

An ACT to regulate voting by proxy, in the several incorporated banks within this commonwealth.

SECT. I. 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 power to vote by proxy for any bank directors, shall be obtained, and dated within one year previous to the time of holding the election, at which such proxy shall be presented ; and no transfer, or extension thereof, to a third person shall be admitted ; any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Proxies shall not vote, after one year from the date of their authorities, &c.

JOHN TOD, *Speaker*
of the House of Representatives.

P. C. LANE, *Speaker of the Senate.*

APPROVED—the third day of February, one thousand eight hundred and twelve.

SIMON SNYDER.

CHAPTER XXVII.

An act granting an annuity to John M'Guire, a disabled revolutionary soldier.

WHEREAS it satisfactorily appears to the legislature, that John M'Guire served in the army during the war ; and