

## CHAPTER CIX.

An ACT erecting part of Northumberland county into a separate county, to be called Columbia.

Boundaries of  
the new county.

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 first Monday in September next, all that part of Northumberland county lying within the following boundaries, to wit: Beginning at the nine mile tree on the bank of the north-east branch of the Susquehanna, and from thence by the line of Point township, to the line of Chilisquaque township; thence by the line of Chilisquaque and Point townships, to the west branch of the river Susquehanna; thence up the same to the line of Lycoming county; thence by the line of Lycoming county to the line of Luzerne county; thence by the same, to the line of Schuylkill county; thence along the same, to the south-west corner of Catawissa township; thence by the line of Cattawissa and Shamokin townships, to the river Susquehanna; and thence down said river to the place of beginning, shall be and the same is hereby, according to the present lines, declared to be erected into a county, to be called Columbia.

Called Columbia.

To be organized  
after the first  
Monday in Sep-  
tember next.

SECT. II. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the inhabitants of the said county of Columbia, after the first Monday in September next be entitled to, and shall have all and singular the courts, jurisdictions, offices, rights and privileges, to which the inhabitants of other counties of this state are entitled, by the constitution and laws of this commonwealth.

After first Mon-  
day of March,  
1814, where  
courts are to be  
held.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That from and after the first Monday of March, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, the several courts in and for the said county of Columbia, shall be opened and held at such house as is hereinafter provided for in the said county of Columbia, until a court house shall be erected in and for said county as hereinafter directed, and shall be then held at said court house.

Suits commenced  
before March,  
1814, in North-  
umberland not to  
be affected by  
this act.

SECT. IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That no suit or prosecution which has been heretofore commenced, or which shall be commenced in the courts of the county of Northumberland, before the first Monday of March, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, shall be delayed, discontinued or affected by this act, but the same shall be proceeded in and carried into complete execution as if this act had not been passed.

Provisions rela-  
tive to taxes and  
militia fines.

SECT. V. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That all taxes or arrears of taxes laid, or which have become due within the said county of Columbia, before the passing of this act, and all sums of money due to this commonwealth for militia fines in the said county of Columbia, shall be collected and recovered as if this act had not been passed.

SECT. VI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the sheriff, treasurer, prothonotary, and all such officers as have heretofore usually given surety for the faithful discharge of the duties of their respective offices, who shall hereafter be appointed or elected in the said county of Columbia, before they or any of them shall enter on the execution thereof, shall give sufficient security in the same manner and form, and for the same uses, trusts, and purposes, as such officers for the time being are obliged by law to do in the county of Northumberland.

Sheriffs and other officers to give the usual securities.

SECT. VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the sheriff, coroner and other officers of the county of Northumberland, shall continue to exercise the duties of their respective offices within the county of Columbia, until similar officers shall be appointed agreeably to law, within said county.

Present sheriff and coroner to act until others are appointed.

SECT. VIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the inhabitants of the county of Northumberland, Union and Columbia, shall jointly elect four representatives, and in conjunction with Luzerne, Susquehanna and Union counties, two senators, to serve in the legislature of this commonwealth, in the same mode, under the same regulations, and make return in the same manner, as is or shall be directed by the laws of this commonwealth for conducting and making returns of the elections of the county of Northumberland and Luzerne, any thing in this act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Senatorial district formed.

How election returns to be made.

SECT. IX. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the governor be and he is hereby authorized and required, on or before the first day of May next ensuing, to appoint three discreet and disinterested persons not resident in the counties of Northumberland, Union or Columbia, whose duty it shall be, after being sworn or affirmed before some judge or justice of the peace, to fix upon a proper and convenient site for a court-house, prison and county offices within the aforesaid county of Columbia, as near the centre as the situation thereof will admit, and the said persons or a majority of them having viewed the relative advantages of the several situations, contemplated by the people, shall on or before the first day of July next, by a written report under their hands or under the hands of a majority of them, certify, describe and limit the site or lot of land which they shall have chosen for the purpose aforesaid, and shall transmit the said report to the governor of this commonwealth, and the persons so as aforesaid, shall receive three dollars per day for their services, out of the monies to be raised in pursuance of this act.

Governor to appoint commissioners to fix on a site for public buildings.

Who shall report to him in writing.

Compensation for their services.

SECT. X. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That it shall and may be lawful for the commissioners of the county of Columbia, who shall be elected at the next annual election, to take assurance to them and their successors in office, of such lot or piece of ground as shall have been approved of by the persons appointed as aforesaid, or a majority of them, for the

County commissioners to take assurance for such lot of land as may be approved as a site for the buildings.

Power to levy a tax for defraying the expenses of erecting buildings, and to procure a suitable house for holding courts.

purpose of erecting thereon a court-house, jail and offices for the safe-keeping of the records, and that for defraying the expenses thereof, the county commissioners are hereby authorized to assess, levy and collect in the manner directed by the acts for raising county rates and levies, a sufficient sum to defray the expenses thereof; and the commissioners of the said county are hereby required to procure a suitable house as near the aforesaid lot or piece of ground as conveniently may be, in which house the several courts authorized by this act shall be held until a court-house shall be built.

Congressional district formed.

SECT. XI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the said county of Columbia shall form part of the district composed of the counties of Northumberland, Union, Lycoming, Luzerne, Bradford, Potter, Susquehanna and Tioga, for the election of members of congress.

Jurisdiction of judges of supreme court to extend to said county.

Annexed to middle district.

SECT. XII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the judges of the supreme court shall have like powers, jurisdictions and authorities, within the said county of Columbia, as by law they are vested with, and entitled to have and exercise in other counties of this state, and the said county is hereby annexed to the middle district of the supreme court.

Two associate judges to be appointed.

SECT. XIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That two persons shall be commissioned judges of the court of common pleas, in and for the said county of Columbia, and the courts of common pleas and quarter sessions of the peace in and for said district, shall commence and be holden in the following manner, viz. for the county of Columbia, on the first Mondays in January, April, August and November; in Northumberland, on the second Mondays after the commencement of the courts in Columbia; in Lycoming, on the second Mondays after the commencement of the courts in Northumberland; in Union, on the second Mondays after the commencement of the courts in Lycoming; any thing in the act, entitled, An act erecting part of Northumberland county into a separate county, to be called Union, to the contrary notwithstanding; and the said county of Columbia shall be and is hereby declared to belong to the eighth district, consisting of the counties of Northumberland, Union and Lycoming.

Arrangement of the Court terms.

Columbia attached to the eighth judicial district.

Certioraries and appeals when to be tried.

SECT. XIV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That all certioraries of, and appeals from the judgment of any justice of the peace of the said county of Columbia, and all criminal prosecutions which may originate in the said county before the teste day hereinafter mentioned, shall be proceeded in as heretofore in the courts of common pleas and quarter sessions, of the county of Northumberland; and all process to issue from the courts of the said county of Columbia returnable to the first term in said county, shall bear teste the first Monday in March, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen.

Teste day.

SECT. XV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,*

That the judges of the district elections within each of the said counties, after having formed the returns of the whole election for senators and representatives as the case may be, within that county, in such manner as is or may be directed by law, shall on the third Tuesday in October in each year, send the same by one or more of their number to the court-house in the borough of Sunbury, in the county of Northumberland, when and where the judges so met shall cast up the several county returns, and execute under their respective hands and seals as many returns for the whole district as may be requisite, and also transmit the same as is by law required of the return judges in other districts.

When return judges of election to meet.

Their duties, &c.

SECT. XVI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,*

That in all cases where it would be lawful for the sheriff, jailer, or prison keeper, of the county of Columbia, to hold in close custody the body of any person in the common jail of the county of Columbia, if such jail were at this time erected in and for the said county of Columbia, such persons shall be delivered to and kept in close custody by the sheriff, jailer, or prison keeper of the county of Northumberland, who, upon delivery of such prisoner to him or them at the common jail in said county of Northumberland, shall safely keep him, her or them, until they be discharged by due course of law; and shall also be answerable in like manner, and liable to the same pains and penalties, as if the persons so delivered were liable to confinement in the common jail of Northumberland county; and the parties aggrieved shall be entitled to the same remedies against them or any of them as if such prisoner had been committed to his or their custody by virtue of legal process issued by proper authority in the said county of Northumberland; *provided always*, that the sheriff of Columbia county, be allowed out of the county stock of Columbia county, ten cents per mile as a full compensation for every criminal he may deliver to the jail of Northumberland county by virtue of this act, on orders drawn by the commissioners of Columbia county on the treasurer thereof.

Sheriff or jailer of Northumberland county to receive and safe keep prisoners from Columbia county.

Remedy for parties aggrieved.

Sheriff of Columbia county to be allowed compensation for certain services.

SECT. XVII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,*

That the sheriff, jailer, and prison keeper of the county of Northumberland, shall receive all prisoners aforesaid, and shall provide for them according to law, and shall be entitled to the fees for keeping them, and also to such allowance as is by law directed for the maintenance of prisoners in similar cases, which allowance shall be defrayed and paid by the commissioners of the county of Columbia out of the county stock.

Sheriff and prison keeper of Northumberland to receive and provide for prisoners, and be entitled to such fees.

SECT. XVIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,*

That the sixteenth and seventeenth sections of this act shall be and continue in force for the term of three years, or until a jail shall be erected and built for the county of Columbia and approved of by the court, and grand jury of the county aforesaid,

Sixteenth and seventeenth sections to be in force for three years, or until suitable buildings are erected.

who shall enter their approbation signed by them, on the record of said court, and from thenceforth it shall be lawful for the sheriff of Columbia county to receive all and every person or persons, who may then be confined in the jail of Northumberland county on legal process, issued by proper authority, from Columbia county, and convey them to the jail of Columbia county, and to keep them in custody until they shall be discharged by due course of law.

JOHN TOD, *Speaker*  
of the House of Representatives.  
P. C. LANE, *Speaker of the Senate.*

APPROVED—the twenty-second day of March, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen.

SIMON SNYDER.

CHAPTER CX.

An ACT erecting part of Northumberland county into a separate county, to be called Union.

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 all that part of Northumberland county, lying on the west side of the river Susquehanna and the west branch of the same, be and hereby is erected into a separate county, henceforth to be known and called by the name of Union.

SECT. II. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the inhabitants of the said county of Union, from and after the first day of November next, be entitled to and at all times thereafter shall have all and singular the courts, jurisdictions, offices, rights and privileges, to which the inhabitants of other counties of this state are entitled by the constitution and laws of this commonwealth.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That from and after the third Monday of December next, the courts of common pleas and general quarter sessions in and for the said county of Union, shall be opened and held at such house as may be designed by the commissioners of said county, to be elected at the next general election in the town of Mifflinburg, in the county of Union, until a court house shall be erected in and for said county, as hereinafter directed, and shall be then held at said court house.

SECT. IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That no suit or prosecution which has been heretofore commenced, or which shall be commenced in the courts of the county of Northumberland before the third Monday of December next,

ed. Prisoners then in Northumberland jail to be removed by sheriff to Columbia jail.

Boundaries of a new county to be named Union.

After the first day of November to enjoy all the privileges of a county.

When and where the courts are to be holden.

Suits heretofore commenced not to be affected by this act.