

Four poor children to be taught gratis.

in consequence of the aforementioned grant, any number of poor children that may at any time be offered, in order to be taught gratis; *provided*, the number so admitted and taught, shall at no time be greater than four, and that none of the said children so admitted shall continue in said academy to be taught gratis, should others apply, longer than two years.

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 CXIX.

An ACT granting a tract of donation land, to Thomas Little, a soldier in the revolutionary war.

Donation tract granted to Thomas Little.

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 the officers of the land office are hereby authorized and required to draw and patent in the usual manner, a tract of donation land, unto Thomas Little of Franklin township, Fayette county, containing two hundred acres.*

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 CXX.

An ACT laying a tax on dogs, in the counties of Washington and Fayette, and for other purposes.

Commissioners to cause the number of dogs to be ascertained above a certain age.

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 it shall be the duty of the commissioners of the counties of Washington and Fayette, and they are hereby required to cause an accurate return to be taken annually, by the assessors of the several townships within the said counties, of all dogs upwards of three months old, owned or possessed by any person or per-*

sons within their respective townships, particularly noting the number owned or possessed by each person, and kept about the same house and when the said commissioners shall have ascertained the number of dogs, they shall, after excluding one dog, levy and cause to be collected from every person or persons, owning or possessing a second dog, kept about the same house, one dollar, and for every additional dog two dollars, by the collectors of the several townships, at the same time and in the same manner the county rates and levies are collected, for which the said collector shall be allowed five per centum out of the money so collected; and it shall be the duty of the county treasurers to keep separate accounts of the money arising from the tax on dogs, and the said money shall be and hereby is appropriated as a fund for remunerating the inhabitants of each of the said counties, for any loss they may sustain after the passing of this act, by sheep being destroyed by a dog or dogs, or shall have sustained the loss of any horse, cattle or swine, by the bite of a mad dog.

Rate of tax upon dogs.

Collectors duties and compensation.

Duty of county treasurer.

How money to be appropriated.

SECT. II. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That when any inhabitant of the counties aforesaid shall have any sheep destroyed by a dog or dogs, or have lost any horse, cattle or swine, by the bite of a mad dog, he or she may apply to the appraisers appointed by this act, and they or any two of them, are hereby authorized and required to view and ascertain the damages sustained by the owners of such sheep, horse cattle or swine, destroyed as aforesaid, and when they shall have ascertained the legality of the claim, and the damage so sustained, they or any two of them shall certify the same under their hands and seals, to the commissioners of the counties respectively, who shall accept the said certificate and give a receipt for the same, and shall have it filed in their office; and at the close of each year they shall make an estimate of such certificates as shall have been presented to them, and also of the amount of all such tax of the same year; and if upon such estimate it should appear that the amount of the said tax would be insufficient to discharge the amount of damages, they shall apportion the amount, and pay to each sufferer in proportion to the loss sustained; and if upon the settlement of such accounts at the close of any succeeding year, there should appear to be a sufficient overplus, after paying the amount of all such damages of that year, as would discharge the arrearages of the former certificates, the commissioners shall then notify the holders of such certificates that they may present them to the treasurer for payment; and if at any time after settling as aforesaid, there should appear to be an overplus, it shall then be applied for other county uses, and accounted for as other monies are.

Mode of proceeding to recover damages for loss of sheep, &c.

Duty of commissioners.

If tax insufficient to be proportioned among the sufferers.

If a balance remain for one year, may be appropriated to meet deficiencies of the loss.

Surplus may be applied for county purposes.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the persons elected to audit and settle the accounts of the

Auditors to be appraisers of

damages done
by dogs.

Their powers.

Compensation.

supervisors of the highways, or any two of them, in the several townships of the said counties, shall be and they are hereby appointed appraisers of the damage done by dogs within their respective townships, who shall have the like powers of qualifying themselves and witnesses, and of issuing subpoenas for witnesses, respecting the premises, as are given and granted to arbitrators in the act, entitled "An act regulating Arbitrations," passed the twentieth of March, one thousand eight hundred and ten; and the appraisers aforesaid shall each receive the sum of fifty cents per day, for each day they shall attend upon such business, which fifty cents shall be immediately paid to each of the said appraisers by the person for whom they have made such appraisement. and the appraisers shall add the same to the damages sustained which he shall be entitled to receive at the same time and in the same manner as the damages are to be received and paid.

Evidence of
ownership of
dogs.

Penalty on at-
tempts to evade
the tax.

What dogs out-
lawed.

List of owners
and the number
of dogs to be put
up at certain
places.

Dogs caught at
worrying sheep
may be killed.

Owner refusing
to kill his dog
caught in the act,
liable for all
damages.

SECT. IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That every dog kept or staying about any house, shall be deemed sufficient evidence of ownership to authorize the assessor to return the person inhabiting said house as the owner of such dog, and any person sending his or her dog from house to house, or from place to place, in order to evade the said tax, shall be liable to pay double tax therefor; and every dog not returned, shall be deemed to have no owner and may be lawfully killed by any person seeing him running at large; and it shall be the duty of the assessor of each township to make out a correct list of all the dogs returned to them for taxation, with the owners' names annexed opposite thereto, and cause said list to be put and kept up in the most conspicuous place of the said house where the township elections are held on the day of said election.

SECT. V. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any dog shall be seen worrying sheep, it shall be lawful for any person seeing the same to kill such dog; or if any dog shall be known to worry sheep or to have been bit by a mad dog, and information thereof be given to the owner of such dog, if he doth not kill or cause him to be killed, he shall make full compensation for all damages done by said dog; and any person seeing said dog running at large, may lawfully kill him.

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.