

or either of those cases, the legislature may at any time thereafter resume all and singular the rights, liberties, and franchises hereby granted to the said company.

JOHN ST. CLAIR, *Speaker*  
*of the House of Representatives.*

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

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

SIMON SNYDER.

CHAPTER CV.

*An ACT regulating the proceedings of justices of the peace and aldermen in cases of trespass, trover and rent.*

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 justices of the peace of the several counties of this commonwealth and the aldermen of the city of Philadelphia shall have jurisdiction of actions of trover and conversion and of actions of trespass brought for the recovery of damages for injury done or committed on real and personal estate in all cases where the value of the property claimed or the damages alledged to have been sustained shall not exceed one hundred dollars.*

SECT. II. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall be the duty of the justice or alderman before whom any such suit or action is brought, if the demand does not exceed ten dollars to proceed to hear and determine as to him justice and right shall appear to belong, but if the demand in controversy should exceed that sum then on the request of either party or his or her agent, three reputable citizens shall be chosen by the parties or their agents as referees, or if they cannot agree or if only one party or his or her agent should appear, then the justice or alderman shall appoint the referees who shall be sworn or affirmed justly and truly to assess the damages alledged to have been sustained or the value of the property in dispute which they or a majority of them shall have power to assess; provided, that if both parties or their agents shall not prefer a reference, the justice or alderman shall proceed to hear and determine, and if the sum adjudged does not exceed five dollars and thirty-three cents, the same shall be final and conclusive, and each referee shall be entitled to receive one dollar for every day he shall have attended in each case: provided, that if the defendant shall before the trial of the action make oath or affirmation that the title to lands will come in question in the said action then the justice or alderman shall dismiss the same. And in case of such dismissal the costs shall be paid in equal shares by the plaintiff*

Jurisdiction of aldermen and justices of the peace extend.

May decide when suit is not for more than 10 dolls.

Above that sum, how referees are to be appointed.

To be sworn, &c.

Proviso, when reference is not asked.

Cause to be dismissed if title to land comes in question.

Costs how paid.

and defendant: *Provided always*, that if the damages so found by the justice, alderman or referees shall not amount to more than one dollar the plaintiff or plaintiffs shall not recover more costs than damages.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That either party shall have the right of appealing to the court of common pleas of the proper county where the judgment given by the justice or alderman alone shall exceed five dollars and thirty-three cents and where judgment given on the award of referees shall exceed twenty dollars.

Right of appeal in certain cases.

SECT. IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the process, return thereof, notices, awards, judgments, and appeals and the proceedings of justices, constables, referees, and courts and every proceeding necessary to carry this act into effect, which is not herein specially provided for, shall be made and done, under and according to the provisions and regulations in similar cases contained in the act, entitled "An act to amend and consolidate with its supplements the act, entitled "An act for the recovery of debts and demands, not exceeding one hundred dollars, before a justice of the peace, and for the election of constables, and for other purposes."

Process, &c. to be regulated agreeably to former act.

SECT. V. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That nothing in this act contained, shall be construed to extend to actions of ejectment, replevin or slander, actions on real contracts for the sale or conveyance of lands and tenements, actions for damages in personal assault and battery, wounding or maiming, or to actions for false imprisonment.

To what actions jurisdiction not to extend.

SECT. VI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the said justices of the peace and aldermen shall have original jurisdiction of all cases of rent, not exceeding one hundred dollars, to be recovered as debts of similar amount are recoverable.

Cases of rent not exceeding 100 dolls.

SECT. VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the said aldermen and justices shall take cognizance by amicable suit, of all causes of action, within their jurisdiction, whether such jurisdiction arises from this act, or from an act to amend and consolidate with its supplements, the act entitled "An act for the recovery of debts and demands not exceeding one hundred dollars, before a justice of the peace, and for the election of constables, and for other purposes."

Further jurisdiction.

SECT. VIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That "An act about cutting timber trees," and the act entitled "A supplement to the act entitled an act to extend the powers of the justices of the peace of this state," excepting the fifth, sixth and seventh sections thereof, passed March first, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine, and "An act for the better regulating and enforcing the proceedings in cases of damages un-

Certain parts of former acts repealed.

der twenty dollars, before a justice of the peace or alderman, passed March twenty-first, one thousand eight hundred and six, and "An act extending the power of justices of the peace and aldermen in certain cases," passed April thirteenth, one thousand eight hundred and seven, and "An act further to extend the jurisdiction of the aldermen and justices of the peace of this commonwealth," passed April fourth, one thousand eight hundred and nine be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECT. IX. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That this act shall take effect from and after the first day of September next, and not before.

When this act to be in force.

JOHN ST. CLAIR, *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 fourteen.

SIMON SNYDER.

CHAPTER CVI.

*An ACT for the relief of Henry Shuler and Matthias Armbruster, old soldiers.*

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 state treasurer be and he is hereby authorized to pay William P. Maclay of Mifflin county, or his order, forty dollars immediately after the passing of this act, to be applied to the use of Henry Shuler ; and that an annuity of forty dollars, to commence the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, be paid half yearly to the said William P. Maclay, or his order, to be applied to the use of the said Henry during life ; and the said William P. Maclay shall annually render to the Orphans' court of Mifflin county, on account of the receipts and expenditures and in what manner he has applied the money for the use of the said Henry Shuler, and said accounts shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the court without fee or reward.

Gratuity and annuity granted to Henry Shuler.

Accounts to be rendered to Orphans' court.

SECT. II. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the state treasurer be and he is hereby directed to pay unto Matthias Armbruster of the city of Philadelphia, or order, the sum of forty dollars immediately after the passing of this act ; and an annuity of forty dollars to be paid half year-

Gratuity and annuity to M. Armbruster.