

Meadville academy.

hereby authorized to remit the whole or any part of the subscription now reduced to judgment, due to said institution with interest thereon accrued, from Patrick Davis of Meadville, and to adjust and settle demands against the original subscribers in such manner as may appear to them just and reasonable, and best calculated to promote the interest of the institution.

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

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

APPROVED—the thirtieth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eleven.

SIMON SNYDER.

CHAPTER XCV.

An ACT to provide for the erection of an additional court within the city and county of Philadelphia.

WHEREAS the court of common pleas of the city and county of Philadelphia from the various objects of its jurisdiction and the great increase and accumulation of business, is incompetent to the speedy and effectual administration of justice to the citizens of that district; For remedy whereof,

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 there shall be a court of record established in and for the city and county of Philadelphia by the name and style of, "The district court for the city and county of Philadelphia," which shall consist of a president and two assistant judges, any two of whom, in case of the absence, or inability of the other, shall have power to try, hear and determine all civil pleas and actions, real, personal, and mixed, and for the trial of all such pleas and actions shall have and exercise the same powers, authorities and jurisdiction as are now vested by law in the court of common pleas for the city and county of Philadelphia; *Provided,* That the said court shall have no jurisdiction either originally or on appeal, except where the sum in controversy shall exceed one hundred dollars.

SECT. II. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That from and after the first Monday of June next, all suits and causes depending in the court of common pleas of the city and county of Philadelphia where the sum in controversy exceeds one hundred dollars, shall be transferred to the said district court, there to be heard, tried and determined and the original jurisdiction of the said court of common pleas of the city and county of Philadelphia, in all civil actions where the

District court for the city and county of Philadelphia to be established.

To consist of a president and two assistant judges.

Any two of whom shall have power to try all civil actions, &c.

Not to have jurisdiction of claims under 100 dollars.

Certain suits now in the common pleas of Philadelphia county to be removed into the district court.

Original jurisdiction of the common pleas to

sum in controversy exceeds one hundred dollars, shall thenceforth cease and determine.

cease in certain cases.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That no suit shall be removed from the district court by certiorari or habeas corpus, but that in all cases the final judgment of the said district court may be examined and affirmed or reversed on a writ of error from the supreme court in a similar manner, and subject to the same limitations and provisions under which writs of error are now issued from the supreme court to the court of common pleas of the city and county of Philadelphia.

No suit to be removed by certiorari or habeas corpus from the district court. But its proceedings may be examined on a writ of error, &c.

SECT. IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the said district court shall hold four terms in the course of each year, one to begin on the first Monday of June, the second on the first Monday of September, the third on the first Monday of December, and the fourth on the first Monday of March respectively; and shall have full power, and are hereby enjoined to hold adjourned courts whenever the state of the business shall require it, and also make such regulations of practice as may most facilitate the progress of justice; *Provided always,* That if the number of suits before the said court should render it necessary, the judges of the said court shall sit daily, (Sundays only excepted,) during at least nine months in every year; *And provided also,* That the determination of no cause or action before the said court shall be delayed beyond the fourth term including that to which the said action was instituted if the parties be prepared for trial at the times appointed by the said court, and if the judges of said court should wilfully delay any cause, suit or action in readiness for trial as aforesaid, it shall constitute a misdemeanor in office.

Shall hold four terms in the year, and when,

And may hold adjourned courts, and make rules of practice.

Judges thereof to sit daily, &c. for nine months, &c.

No cause to be delayed beyond the fourth term, &c.

Delay in the judges to be misdemeanor in office.

SECT. V. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the president of said district court shall receive a yearly compensation of two thousand dollars, and the assistant judges shall each receive the sum of five hundred dollars, payable quarterly out of any unappropriated money in the treasury.

Salaries of the Judges.

SECT. VI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the prothonotary for the time being of the court of common pleas of the city and county of Philadelphia shall perform all the duties of prothonotary of the said district court, and the sheriff and coroner for the time being of the city and county of Philadelphia shall obey all lawful orders of the said district court; and all the costs and fees now established by law in the courts of common pleas shall be charged and payable in similar instances in the district court.

Prothonotary, sheriff and coroner of the city and county to obey the orders of the district court.

Fees to be allowed in.

SECT. VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the said court shall be opened for the purpose of issuing mesne process, on the first Monday of May next, which shall be for that purpose a teste day of all process rela-

Court to be opened, &c. on the first Monday of May next.

Which shall be a

teste day of process, &c.

tive to the first term on or before which day the judges of the said court shall be appointed.

Mode of selecting jurors to serve in the district court.

SECT. VIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the names of jurors, to serve at the said court shall be drawn from the wheels provided for special and general jurors, in the county of Philadelphia, agreeably to the directions of an act entitled, "An act directing the mode of selecting and returning jurors," passed twenty-ninth of March, one thousand eight hundred and five, and the sheriff and commissioners of the said county shall forthwith after the passing of this act put into said wheel the names of a competent number of jurors to serve at said district court for the remainder of the present year, and shall annually afterwards, at the time appointed by law for putting into the said wheel the names of the general and special jurors for the said county, add a competent number to serve at the said district court agreeably to the provisions of the law in such case made and provided.

Limitation of time.

SECT. IX. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That this act shall be and continue in force for the term of six years and no longer.

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

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

APPROVED—the thirtieth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eleven.

SIMON SNYDER.

CHAPTER XCVI.

An ACT establishing an academy in the county of Chester.

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 Ebenezer Wherry, Samuel Glasco, James Ralston, John Ralston, and Randall Evans, are hereby appointed commissioners whose duty it shall be to meet at Marshallton on the first Monday in June next, for the purpose of receiving proposals, and of proceeding from thence to view the ground, if necessary, to enable them or any three of them to fix upon a site on which shall be erected an academy in the county of Chester, and they are hereby empowered to receive a deed in trust for the use of said academy, in doing which they are hereby required on oath or affirmation, to be administered by one of the judges of the court, to pay strict regard to the situation which shall to them appear to offer the greatest and most permanent benefit to the public.

Commissioners appointed.

When and where to meet.

Shall fix upon a site for the erection of an academy in Chester county.

Shall receive a deed of trust &c. To be sworn or affirmed, &c.