

general jail delivery, orphan's court, and justice of the court of quarter sessions of the peace, agreeably to the constitution and laws of this commonwealth.

When the courts shall commence.

SECT. 2. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That from and after the first Monday of July next, the courts of common pleas and quarter sessions in the said district shall commence and be held in the several counties thereof at the same time that they are now directed by law to be held.

WILLIAM DAVIDSON, *Speaker*
of the *House of Representatives.*

ISAAC WEAVER,
Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED—the twenty-fifth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen.

WILLIAM FINDLAY.

CHAPTER LVI.

AN ACT

To annul the marriage of John Merrills and Marinda his wife.

WHEREAS it has been represented to the legislature that Marinda Merrills, late Marinda Bennet, of the township of Hanover, in the county of Luzerne, on or about the month of November one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, was lawfully married to John Merrills. And whereas at a court of quarter sessions held at Wilkesbarre in and for the county of Luzerne, on the first Monday of August one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, the said John Merrills was duly convicted of larceny and horse stealing, and sentenced by the said court to undergo an imprisonment at hard labor in the jail and penitentiary house of the city and county of Philadelphia, where he is now in confinement.

Therefore,

John Merrills
and wife
divorced.

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 and between John Merrills and Marinda his wife, late Marinda Bennet, both late of the county of Luzerne, be, and the same is hereby annulled and made void, and the parties released and discharged from the said contract, and from all duties and obli-

gations arising therefrom as fully, effectually and absolutely as if they had never been joined in marriage: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to render illegitimate any child or children born of the body of the said Marinda during her coverture, and the said Marinda is hereby constituted the legal guardian of the children of the said marriage. Proviso.

WILLIAM DAVIDSON, *Speaker*
of the *House of Representatives*.

ISAAC WEAVER,
Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED—the twenty-fifth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen.

WILLIAM FINDLAY.

CHAPTER LVII.

AN ACT

For the relief of the widow and heirs of James Carson, deceased, late recorder of deeds for the city and county of Philadelphia.

WHEREAS it hath been represented to the legislature that James Carson, late recorder of deeds for the city and county of Philadelphia, died indebted to the commonwealth for tax on the proceeds of his office, leaving a small and much encumbered estate inadequate to the support of his widow and minor children during their minority, and the payment of said debt, and that an action has been instituted in the supreme court of the eastern district for the recovery of the same.

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 all proceedings to enforce the payment of the balance due to the commonwealth by James Carson, deceased, late recorder of deeds for the city and county of Philadelphia, arising from a tax on said office, be, and they are hereby suspended for five years from and after the passing of this act: Provided, The sureties give their consent to such suspension, and file the same of record in the court wherein the said suit is pending; And provided also, That nothing here-*

Proceedings
for the bal-
ance due by
James Car-
son, decea-
sed, stayed
for five years.