

1788.

## CHAPTER MCCCXLII.

*An ACT to incorporate the members of the religious society of Roman Catholics belonging to the congregation of St. Mary's Church, in the city of Philadelphia.*

Passed 13th September, 1788.—Private Act.—Recorded in Law Book No. III. page 378.

## CHAPTER MCCCXLIV.

*An ACT to incorporate the Presbyterian Church of Middle Octara-ra, in Bart township, in the county of Lancaster.*

Passed 20th September, 1788.—Private Act.—Recorded in Law Book No. III. page 381.

## CHAPTER MCCCXLVIII.

*An ACT for erecting certain parts of the counties of Westmoreland and Washington into a separate county.*

SECT. I. WHEREAS the inhabitants of those parts of the counties of Westmoreland and Washington, which lie most convenient to the town of Pittsburg, have, by petition, set forth, that they have been long subject to many inconveniences, from their being situated at so great a distance from the seat of judicature in their respective counties, and that they conceive their interest and happiness would be greatly promoted by being erected into a separate county, comprehending the town of Pittsburg; and as it appears just that they should be relieved in the premises, and gratified in their reasonable request:

SECT. II. *Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That all those parts of Westmoreland and Washington counties, lying within the limits and bounds hereinafter described, shall be, and hereby are, erected into a separate county; that is to say, beginning at the mouth of Flaherty's run, on the south side of the Ohio river; from thence, by a straight line, to the plantation on which Joseph Scott, Esquire, now lives, on Montour's run, to include the same; from thence, by a straight line, to the mouth of Miller's run, on Chartier's creek; thence, by a straight line, to the mouth of Perry's mill run, on the east side of Monongahela river; thence, up the said river, to the mouth of Becket's run; thence, by a straight line, to the mouth of Sewickly creek, on Youghiogony river; thence, down the said river, to the mouth of Crawford's run; thence, by a straight line, to the mouth of Brush creek, on Turtle creek; thence, up Turtle creek, to the main fork thereof; thence, by a northerly line, until it strikes Puckety's creek; thence, down the said creek, to the Allegheny river; thence, up the Allegheny river, to the northern boundary of the state; thence, along the same, to the western line of the state; thence, along the same, to the river Ohio; and thence, up the same, to the place of beginning; to be henceforth known and called by the name of Allegheny county.*

Allegheny county erected, and its boundaries described.

[SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* 1788.  
That the inhabitants of the said county of Allegheny shall, under the limitation hereafter mentioned, at all times hereafter, enjoy all and singular the jurisdictions, powers, rights, liberties and privileges whatsoever, which the inhabitants of any other county of this state do, may, or ought to enjoy, by the constitution and laws of this state.

Privileges of the new county.

SECT. VI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in Allegheny;  
That the Justices of the Supreme Court, and the Justices of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery of this state, shall have like powers, jurisdictions and authorities, in the said county, as in the other counties of this state, and are hereby authorized and empowered to deliver the gaols of the said county of capital and other offenders, in like manner as they are authorized to do in the other counties of this state.

SECT. VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* and of the Quarter Sessions, Common Pleas and Orphans Courts.  
That the Justices of the courts of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas now commissioned within the limits of the said county, and those that may hereafter be commissioned, or any three of them, shall and may hold courts of General Quarter Sessions of the peace and Gaol Delivery, and courts of Common Pleas, and shall have all and singular such powers, rights, privileges, jurisdictions and authorities, to all intents and purposes, as other Justices of the courts of General Quarter Sessions and Justices of the Common Pleas, in other counties of this state, may, can, or ought to have in their respective counties; which courts shall sit and be held for the said county (until the trustees herein after appointed shall have erected a court-house, agreeably to the directions of this act) in the town of Pittsburg, four times in each and every year, on the Tuesdays next preceding the county courts of Fayette county; and the court of Quarter Sessions shall sit three days in each session, if occasion be, and no longer; and also that Orphans' Courts in and for the said county of Allegheny shall be held in such manner, and shall have such powers, authorities and jurisdictions, as are by the laws and constitution of this commonwealth, provided as to the Orphan Courts of any county or counties within this commonwealth.

[This section is altered by the existing constitution.]

SECT. XII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* The usual bail to be given by the county officers,  
That the Sheriffs, Treasurers, Collectors of excise, and all such officers, as have heretofore usually given bail for the faithful discharge of their respective offices, who may hereafter be appointed or elected in the said county of Allegheny, before they, or any of them, shall enter upon the execution of their respective offices, shall give sufficient security, in the like sums, in the like manner and form, and for the like uses, trusts and purposes, as such officers are obliged by law, for the time being, to do in the counties of Westmoreland and Washington.

Passed 24th September, 1788.—Recorded in Law Book No. III. page 412. (n)

(n) The sections omitted in this act are,

§ 4. A temporary provision respecting the general elections in Allegheny county.

§ 5. Apportioning the representation between Westmoreland, Washington and Allegheny counties.

§ 8. Trustees of the public buildings to choose lots in the reserved tract op-

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 posite Pittsburg, to erect a court-house on. (Repealed by act of 13th of April, 1791, (chap. 1566,) and the public buildings to be erected at Pittsburg.)

§ 9. Providing for levying money to erect the public buildings.

§ 10. Suits in Westmoreland and Washington counties not to be discontinued, but to proceed in the original counties respectively.

§ 11. County officers to act until similar ones chosen in the new county; and arrearages of taxes to be paid, as if this act had not passed.

§ 13. Commissioners appointed to run boundary lines.

By act of 17th of September, 1789, (chap. 1424,) all that part of Washington county, viz. Beginning at the river Ohio, where the boundary line of the state crosses the said river, from thence in a straight line to White's mill, on Raccoon creek, from thence by a straight line to Armstrong's mill, on Miller's run, and from thence by a straight line to the Monongahela river, opposite the mouth of Perry's run, where it strikes the present line of Allegheny county, is annexed to the said county.

By the 14th section of the act for the sale of the vacant lands of the commonwealth, of 3d of April 1792, (chap. 1613,) all the lands within the triangle on Lake Erie, purchased from the United States, were declared to be part of Allegheny county. Allegheny was reduced to its present boundaries by the erection of Beaver, Butler, Mercer, Crawford, Erie, Warren, Venango and Armstrong counties, by act of 12th of March, 1800, (chap. 2119.)

By the last enumeration, the counties of Allegheny and Butler, were found to contain, together, 5,468 taxables, viz. Allegheny 4,024 and Butler 1,444. And those two counties, united with Beaver, 7,405, and by the act to apportion the representation in pursuance thereof, passed 21st of March, 1808, (chap. 2931.) Allegheny and Butler, united, send four members to the house of representatives, and Allegheny, Beaver and Butler, send two members to the senate.

There having been only one election district, at Pittsburg, the second and third election districts of Allegheny county, were established by act of 29th of September, 1789, (chap. 1444, § 2, 3.)

The 4th election district was established by act of 30th of September, 1791. (chap. 1579, § 6.)

A new district erected by act of 13th of April, 1795, (chap. 1820.)

Two additional districts established

by act of 21st of March, 1797, (chap. 1922)

Three additional districts established by act of 4th of April, 1798, (chap. 1994, § 4, 5.)

Eight additional districts established by acts of 8th of April, 1799, (chap. 2049, 2050.)

By the reduction of the boundaries of Allegheny, when eight new counties were erected, the election districts would of course be greatly reduced; Therefore,

By act of 4th of February, 1801, (chap. 2162,) a new district was erected, and called the seventh district.

The place of holding the elections for the district of Plum and Versailles townships was altered by act of 3d of March, 1800, (chap. 2104,) and of 11th January, 1803, (chap. 2297.)

Deer township erected into a district, 12th of March, 1802, (chap. 2240.)

M'Kees-Port district established by act of 29th of March, 1802, (chap. 2263.)

Place of holding elections in Noblesburg district, changed by act of 22d of January, 1803, (chap. 2304.)

Pine township erected into a separate district, by act of 7th of February, 1803, (chap. 2312.)

The place of holding elections in Moon township fixed by act of 3d of April, 1804, (chap. 2507.)

And Robinson township erected into a separate district ib. § 10.

Pitt and St. Clair townships erected into separate districts, and the place of holding elections in Moon township fixed, by act of 4th of April, 1805, (chap. 2599, § 3, 4, 5.)

Mifflin township, Indiana township, and Versailles township, erected into separate districts, by act of 28th of March, 1808, (chap. 2972, § 10, 21, 30.)

Place of holding elections in Deer township, changed by act of 20th of March, 1810, § 26.

By the judiciary act of 24th of February, 1806, the counties of Beaver, Allegheny, Washington, Fayette and Greene, compose the fifth judiciary district.

The courts in Beaver are held on the first Monday in January, last Monday in March, and first Mondays in August and November; and the courts in Allegheny on the Mondays succeeding the courts in Beaver. The term continues one week.

Allegheny county is part of the western district of the supreme court, which holds its session at Pittsburg in this county.