

separate book for each of the county districts of Tioga and Potter, for the purpose of recording therein the deeds of lands lying in the said county districts respectively, and such other instruments of writing as by law ought to be recorded; and it shall be the duty of the recorder of deeds for the county of Westmoreland, in like manner to provide a book for the purpose of recording therein the deeds of lands lying within the county districts of Jefferson, and such other instruments of writing as by law ought to be recorded; and it shall be the duty of the recorder of deeds for the county of Somerset, to provide a book for the purpose of recording therein the deeds of lands, lying within the county district of Cambria, and such other instruments of writing as by law ought to be recorded; and the said recorders shall enter and record in the said books respectively, every such deed or instrument of writing as shall come to their hands to be recorded; and shall deliver over said books to the recorders of Potter, Tioga, Jefferson and Cambria counties, when such recorders shall or may be appointed and apply for the same.

Approved February 3, 1806. Recorded in L. B. No. 10, p. 217.
 Note (*) Chapter 2478; 17 Statutes at Large, p. 769.

CHAPTER MMDCXLI.

AN ACT DISSOLVING THE MARRIAGE OF JACOB SELL AND EVE HIS WIFE.

Whereas it appears by the memorial and petition of Jacob Sell of Adams county, fully supported by authentic documents and vouchers, that Jacob Sell when a young man, in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, married a woman of the name of Eve Helman, who five months after her marriage was delivered of a female child, and both being conscious that the child was not the said Sell's; and firmly impressed with a belief that under these circumstances happiness was not to be expected, mutually agreed to separate: she the said Eve having acknowledged the fact, agreed in consideration of the sum of ten pounds paid by the said Sell, the

receipt of which the said Eve has also acknowledged, and further by a written instrument duly executed in which she has disclaimed any pretensions to further demands, which she might be supposed to lay claim to in virtue of said marriage contract. And whereas the said Sell having considered himself entirely freed from any obligations to the said Eve, as in any respect arising from the said marriage, did in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty, marry another wife by whom he has, now living, six children: And whereas by the united exertions of himself and his present wife, they have by hard labor and honest industry, acquired a considerable property, some of which he having transferred, but being unable to complete a title thereto, by reason of a claim which the aforesaid Eve may be supposed to possess by the present existing laws, as a right of dowry therein, and in consequence of which payment by the purchasers thereof may be withheld: And whereas the said Sell having now become old, and in a declining state of health, and having expressed to the legislature an anxious desire of distributing the property which he conceives he is justly entitled to, to the use and benefit of his present wife and family, and to the exclusion of a woman who has in no wise contributed thereto: And whereas the existing laws do not authorize the courts of justice to grant a divorce under such circumstances: Therefore,

Section I. (Section I, P. L.) 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 Jacob Sell and a certain Eve Helman, to whom he had been married, be, and the same is hereby declared to be null and void, and the parties set free and discharged from the marriage contract, and all the duties arising under the same, as fully as if they had never been joined together in marriage; and the children of the said Jacob Sell by the woman whom he last married, shall be, and are hereby declared to be legitimate to all intents and purposes, as fully and effectually, as if the said Jacob and Eve had never been married.