Justices authorized upon view of breach of peace, &c to require the arrest of offenders.

Penalty for disobeying Justice's order.

Constables authorized to convey prisoners beyond the limits of their own town or district.

Acts repealed.

SECT. 3. Be it further Enacted, that any Justice of the Peace, for the preservation thereof, or upon view of the breach thereof, or upon view of any other transgression of Law, proper to his Cognizance, done or committed by any person or persons whatever, shall have authority, (in the absence of the Sheriff, Deputy Sheriff, or Constable) to require any person or persons to apprehend & bring before him such offender or offenders: And every person so required who shall refuse or neglect to obey the said Justice, shall be punished in the same manner as for refusing or neglecting to assist any Sheriff, Deputy Sheriff, or Constable in the execution of his office as aforesaid. And no person who shall refuse or neglect to obey such Justice, to whom he shall be known, or declare himself to be a Justice of the peace shall be admitted to plead excuse on any pretence of ignorance of his office.

SECT. 4. Whereas doubts have arisen whether a Constable, unless empowered by Statute, can lawfully convey any person by him apprehended, or things taken by writ or warrant to him directed any farther than thro' his Town or District; *Be it further Enacted*, that any Constable of any Town or District within this Commonwealth, shall have authority in the execution of the warrant or writ to him directed by lawful authority, to convey as well any Prisoner or Prisoners, as things that they may have taken into their Custody, either to the Justice issuing such warrant or writ or to the Common Goal or house of Correction of the County where such Constable is an Inhabitant, according as in the writ or warrant may be directed.

SECT. 5. Be it further Enacted, that all laws enacted in this Commonwealth, before the first of November, A. D. seventeen hundred & eighty, the subject matter whereof is included in this Act, be and the same are hereby repealed. Approved February 26, 1796.

1795.—Chapter 69.

[January Session, ch. 43.]

AN ACT FOR RECORDING BIRTHS AND DEATHS BY THE CLERKS OF TOWNS & DISTRICTS.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority Clerks of Towns of the same, that it shall be the duty of every Town Clerk, and Districts to record all births and every District Clerk, within this Commonwealth, to and deaths.