

# FRECKLES

By **Gene Stratton-Porter**

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## SYNOPSIS.

Freckles, a homeless boy, is hired by Boss McLean to guard the expensive timber in the Limberlost from timber thieves.

Freckles does his work faithfully, makes friends with the birds and yearns to know more about nature. He lives with Mr. and Mrs. Duncan.

He resolves to get books and educate himself. He becomes interested in a huge pair of vultures and calls his bird friends his "chickens."

Some of the trees he is guarding are worth \$2,000 each. Freckles' books arrive. He receives a call from Wessner.

Wessner attempts to bribe Freckles to betray his trust, and Freckles whips him. McLean overhears them and witnesses the fight.

Freckles' honesty saves a precious tree. He finds the nest of the vulture and is visited by a beautiful young girl.

She calls Freckles McLean's son. Freckles calls her "the angel" and helps the Bird Woman in taking photographs. McLean promises to adopt Freckles.

Freckles and the angel become very friendly. Assisted by the Bird Woman, they drive Wessner and Black Jack, timber thieves, from the Limberlost.

CHAPTER X.  
**FRECKLES WINS HONOR.**

WHEN the men reached the trail Freckles yelled at the top of his voice: "Head them off on the south, boys! Fire from the south!"

As he had hoped, Jack and Wessner instantly plunged into the swale. A storm of lead splattered after them. They crossed the swale, running low, with not even one backward glance, and entered the wood beyond the corduroy.

Then the little party gathered at the tree.

"I'd better fix this saw so they can't be using it if they come back," said Freckles, talking out his hatchet and making the saw teeth fly.

"Now we have to get out of here without being seen," said the Bird Woman to the angel. "It won't do for me to make enemies of these men, for I am liable to meet them about my work any day."

"You can do it by driving straight north on this road," said Freckles. "I will go ahead and cut the wires for you. The swale is almost dry. You will only be sinking a few inches at most. In a few rods you will strike a cornfield. I will take down the fence and let you into that. Follow the furrows and drive straight across it until you come to the other side. Be following the fence south until you come to a road through the woods east of it. Then take that road and follow east until you reach the pike. You will come out on your way back to town and two miles north of anywhere they are likely to be. Don't for your lives ever let it out that you did this," he earnestly cautioned, "for it's black enemies you would be making."

Freckles snatched the wires, and they drove through. The angel leaned from the carriage and held out his revolver. Freckles looked into her face and lost his breath. Her eyes were black and her face a deeper rose than usual. He felt that his own was white as death.

"Did I shoot high enough?" she asked sweetly. "I really forgot about lying down."

Freckles winced. Did the child know how near she had gone? Surely she could not. Or was it possible that she had the nerve and skill to fire like that purposefully?

"I will send the first reliable man I meet for McLean," said the Bird Woman, gathering up the lines. "If I don't meet one when we reach town we will send a messenger. If it wasn't for having the gang see me I would go myself."

Round eyed, Freckles watched the Bird Woman and the angel drive away. After they were out of sight and he was safely hidden among the branches of a small tree, he remembered that he had never thanked them nor said goodby. Would the Bird Woman and the angel come again? No other women that he had ever known would. But were they like any other women he had ever known? He thought of the Bird Woman's unruffled face and the angel's revolver practice, and presently he was not so sure that they would not come back.

What were the people out in the big world like? His knowledge was so very limited. There had been people at the home who exchanged a stilted, perfunctory sort of kindness for their salaries. The visitors that called on receiving days he had divided into three classes—the kind that came with a tear in the eye and hypocrisy in every feature of their faces; the kind that came in silks and jewels and handed out to those poor, little mother-hungry souls worn toys that their children no longer cared for, in exactly the same spirit in which they pitched biscuits to the monkeys at the zoo; and for the same reason—to see how

they would take them and be amused by what they would do; and the third class, that he considered real people, who made him feel they cared that he was there and would have been glad to see him elsewhere.

Now, here was another class that had met him as a son and brother. With them he could be for the only time in his life forget the lost hand that every day tortured him with a new pang. What sort of people were they and where did they belong among the classes he knew? He had to give it up because he had never known others like them, but how he loved them!

Out in the world where he was soon going were the majority like them or were they of the hypocrite and bun-throwing classes? Freckles did not know, but he reached the ultimate conclusion that people like the Bird Woman, the angel, McLean and the Ducans were very rare, hence their exceeding preciousness.

He had forgotten the excitement of the morning and the passing of time when distant voices aroused him, and he softly lifted his head. Nearer and nearer they came, and as the heavy wagons rumbled down the east trail he could hear them plainly. The gang were shouting themselves hoarse for the Limberlost guard. Freckles didn't feel that he deserved it. He would have given much to be able to go out to the men and explain how it was, but only to McLean could he tell his story.

At the sight of Freckles the men threw up their hats and cheered. McLean shook hands with him warmly, but big Duncan gathered him into his arms and hugged him like a bear and choked over a few words of praise. The gang drove in and finished felling the tree.

When the last wagon rolled away McLean sat down on the stump and Freckles told the story he was aching to tell. The boss could scarcely believe his senses. Also he was greatly disappointed.

"I have been almost praying all the way over, Freckles," he said, "that you would have some evidence by which we could arrest those fellows and get them out of our way, but this will never do. We can't mix those women up in it. They have helped you save the tree and my waver as well. Going about the country as she does, the Bird Woman could never be expected to testify against them."

"No, indeed, nor the angel either, sir," said Freckles.

"The angel?" queried the astonished McLean.

The boss listened in silence while Freckles told of the coming and christening of the angel.

"I know her father well," said McLean at last, "and I have often seen her. You are right, she is a beautiful young girl. I do not understand why her father risks such a jewel in this place."

"He's daring it because she is such a jewel, sir," said Freckles eagerly.

"Why, she's trusting a rattlesnake to rattle before it strikes her, and, of course, she thinks she can trust mankind as well. The man isn't made that wouldn't lay down the life of her father, she don't need any care. Her face and the pretty ways of her are all the protection she would need in a band of howling savages."

"Did you say she handled one of the revolvers?" asked McLean.

"She scared all the breath out of me body," admitted Freckles. "Seems that her father has taught her to shoot. The Bird Woman told her distinctly to let her go and blaze away high, just to help scare them. The spunky little thing followed them right out into the west road, spitting lead like hail and clipping all about the heads and heels of them."

"Now, will they come back?" asked McLean.

"Of course," said Freckles. "At least Black Jack will. Wessner might not have the pluck. And the next time—Freckles hesitated.

"What?"

"It will just be a question of who shoots first and straightest."

"Then the only thing for me to do is to double the guard and get the gang here the first minute possible. As soon as I feel that we have the rarest of the stuff out below we will come. The fact is in many cases until it is felt it's hard to tell what a tree will prove to be. It won't do to leave you here longer alone. Jack has been shooting twenty years to your one, and it stands to reason that you are no match for him. Which of the gang would you like best to have with you?"

"No one, sir," said Freckles emphatically. "Next time is where I run. I won't try to fight them alone. I'll just be getting wind of them and then make tracks for you. I'll need to come like lightning, and Duncan has no extra horse, so I'm thinking you'd best get me one, or perhaps a wheel would be better. I used to do extra work for the home doctor, and he would let me take his bicycle to ride about the place. And at times the head nurse would lend me his for an hour. A wheel would cost less and be faster than a horse and would take less care."

As they walked up to the cabin together McLean insisted on another guard, but Freckles was stubbornly set on fighting his battle alone. He made one mental condition. If the Bird Woman was going to give up the Little O'-leek series he would yield to the second guard solely for the sake of her work and the presence of an angel in the Limberlost.

With McLean it was a case of letting his sober, better judgment be overridden by the boy he was growing so to love that he could not bear to cross him, and to have Freckles keep his trust and win alone meant to him more than any money he might lose.

The next morning McLean brought the wheel, and Freckles took it down to the trail to test it. It was new, chainless, with as little as possible to catch in hurried riding, and in every way the best of its kind. Freckles

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"IT WILL JUST BE A QUESTION OF WHO SHOOTS FIRST."

went skimming around the trail on a preliminary trip before he locked it in his case and started his minute examination of his line on foot. He glanced around his room as he left it. On the moss in front of his prettiest seat lay the angel's hat.

He went and picked it up, oh, so carefully, gazing at it with hungry eyes, but touching it only to carry it over to his case, where he hung it on the shining handle bar of the new wheel and locked it in among his treasures. Then he went out to the trail with a new look on his face. He was not in the least afraid of anything that morning. He felt he was the veriest Daniel, and all his lions seemed weak and harmless.

Black Jack was not a man to give up his purpose or to have the hat swept from his head by a bullet and bear it meekly. Moreover, Wessner would cling to his revenge.

When Freckles gained his room he tenderly laid the hat upon his book-shelf and to wear off its awkwardness, mounted his wheel and went spinning about the line again.

"Well, I be drawed out!" exclaimed Mrs. Duncan an hour later.

Mrs. Duncan an hour later.

Freckles stood before her, holding the angel's hat.

"I've been thinking this long time that ye or Duncan would see that sun bonnets wrenna braw enough for a woman of my standing, and ye're a guid laddie to bring me this beautiful hat."

She turned it about, examining the weave of the straw and the foliage trimmings, passing her rough fingers over the satin ties delightedly. As she held it up, admiring it, Freckles' astonished eyes saw a new side of Sarah Duncan. She was jesting, but under the jest the fact loomed strong that there was something in her soul crying out after that bit of feminine finery. He resolved that when he reached the city he would send her a hat as she had said if it took \$50 to do it.

She lingeringly handed it back to him.

"It's unco guid, y'ea to think of me," she said lightly, "but I maun question your taste a wee. D'ye no think ye had best return this and get a woman with half her hair gray a little plainer headress? Seems like that's far ower gay for me. I'm no' saying that it's no' exactly what I'd like to hae, but I maun mak mysel' ridiculous. Ye'd best give this to somebody young and pretty, say about sixteen. Where did ye come by it, Freckles? If there's anything been dropping lately ye ha' forgotten to mention it."

"Do you see anything heavenly about that hat?" queried Freckles, holding it up.

The morning breeze waved the ribbons gracefully, binding one about Freckles' sleeve and the other across his chest, where they caught and clung as if magnetized.

"Yes," said Sarah Duncan, "it's exactly what I'd call a heavenly hat."

"Sure," said Freckles, "for it's belonging to an angel!"

Then he told her about the hat and asked her what he should do with it.

"Take it to her, of course!" said Sarah Duncan.

"You think I should be taking it home?" he said.

"Of course ye must," said Mrs. Duncan. "Ye get a wawa and take the blessed little angel her beautiful hat."

"Are you sure it will be all right?" urged Freckles. "Do you think if Mr. McLean came he would care?"

"No," said Mrs. Duncan, "I dinna."

If ye and me agree that a thing ought to be done, and I watch in your place, why, it's bound to be all right with McLean. Ought ye put on your Sabbath day clothes?"

Freckles shook his head. He knew what he had to do, but there was no use in taking time to try to explain it to Mrs. Duncan while he was so hurried. He exchanged his wading boots for shoes, gave her his club and went spinning toward town. He knew very well where the angel lived. He had passed her home many times, and he passed it again without even taking his eyes from the street, steering straight for her father's place of business.

Carrying the hat, Freckles passed a long line of clerks and at the door of the private office asked to see the proprietor. When he had waited a moment a tall, spare, keen-eyed man faced him and in brisk, nervous tones asked, "How can I serve you, sir?"

Freckles handed him the package and answered: "By delivering to your daughter this hat, which she was after leaving at me place the other day when she went off in a hurry. And by saying to her and the Bird Woman that I'm more thankful than I'll be having words to express for the brave thing they was doing for me. I'm McLean's Limberlost guard, sir."

[Continued next week.]

## New strength for Bad Backs

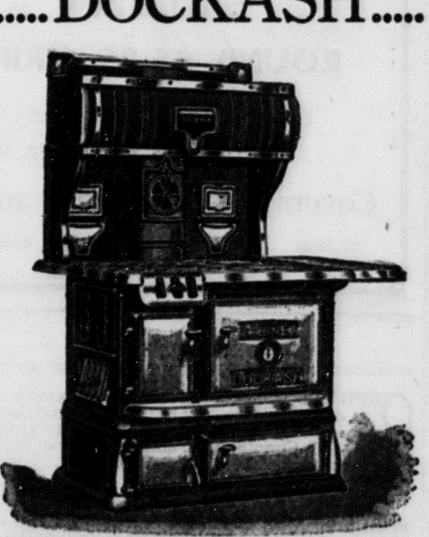
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Does your back ache, feel weak and painful? Do you suffer headaches, languor and depression? Is the urine discolored, passages irregular? The kidneys are calling for help. Sick kidneys cannot do their work. Give them the help they need. Backache is generally kidney ache. To cure it you must cure the kidneys. Use a tested and proven kidney remedy. Doan's Kidney Pills have stood the test. A remedy especially for kidney ailments. Convincing proof in Bellefonte endorsement: Mrs. H. I. Taylor, 70 S. Water St., Bellefonte, Pa., says: "We think just as highly of Doan's Kidney Pills to-day as we did two years ago, when we publicly recommended them. They are procured at Green's Pharmacy and brought relief from backache and kidney trouble. On several occasions since then we have taken Doan's Kidney Pills and they have always been of the greatest benefit. We recommend Doan's Kidney Pills to other kidney sufferers at every opportunity." For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—take no other. 57-59

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Loss of vitality, vigor or tone, and is often a forerunner of prostrating disease. It is serious and especially so to people that must keep up and doing or get behindhand. The best medicine to take for it is the great constitutional purifier, Hood's Sarsaparilla, which purifies and enriches the blood and builds up the whole system. "Since I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla my appetite is greatly increased, I also sleep better. I recommend this medicine to all who are suffering from indigestion, nervousness or impure blood." John B. Jr., 623 Lafayette Av., Brooklyn, N. Y.

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## Pennsylvania R.R.

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Tickets good going on Special Train and connecting trains, and good returning on regular trains within FIFTEEN DAYS. Stop-off within limit allowed at Buffalo returning. Illustrated booklet and full information may be obtained from Ticket Agents.

\*Tours to Thousand Islands, July 18, August 15 and 29; Maritime Provinces, July 24; Montreal, July 31; Adirondacks, July 31; Muskoka, August 1; Quebec, August 7; Yellowstone Park, August 10; Great Lakes, September 12. 57-36-1at

## Constitutional Amendments

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION SUBMITTED TO THE CITIZENS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION, BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AND PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH IN PURSUANCE OF ARTICLE XVIII OF THE CONSTITUTION.**

Number One.  
**A JOINT RESOLUTION**

Proposing an amendment to article nine, section four of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the State to issue bonds to the amount of fifty millions of dollars for the improvement of the highways of the Commonwealth.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania be, and the same is hereby proposed, in accordance with the eighteenth article thereof:—

"That section four of article nine, which reads as follows:—

'Section 4. No debt shall be created by or on behalf of the State, except to supply casual deficiencies of revenue, repel invasion, suppress insurrection, defend the State in war, or to pay existing debt; and the debt created to supply deficiencies in revenue shall never exceed, in the aggregate at any one time, one million of dollars,' amended so as to read as follows:

'Section 4. No debt shall be created by or on behalf of the State, except to supply casual deficiencies of revenue, repel invasion, suppress insurrection, defend the State in war, or to pay existing debt; and the debt created to supply deficiencies in revenue shall never exceed, in the aggregate at any one time, one million of dollars. Provided, however, That the General Assembly, irrespective of any debt, may authorize the State to issue bonds to the amount of fifty millions of dollars for the purpose of improving and rebuilding the highways of the Commonwealth.'

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 1.  
**ROBERT MCAFEE,** Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Two.  
**A JOINT RESOLUTION**

Proposing an amendment to section seven, article three of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, to permit special legislation regulating labor.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:

Section 2. Amend section seven, Article Three, of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, which reads as follows:—

'Section 7. The General Assembly shall not pass any local or special law authorizing the creation, extension, or impairing of liens:—

'Regulating the affairs of counties, cities, townships, wards, boroughs, or school districts;

'Changing the names of persons or places;

'Changing the venue in civil or criminal cases;

'Authorizing the laying out, opening, altering or maintaining roads, highways, streets or alleys;

'Relating to ferries or bridges, incorporating ferry or bridge companies, except for the erection of bridges crossing streams which form boundaries between this and any other State;

'Vacating roads, town pikes, streets or alleys;

'Authorizing the adoption of or legitimation of children;

'Locating or changing county-seats, erecting new counties, or changing county lines;

'Incorporating cities, towns, or villages, or changing their charters;

'For the opening and conducting of elections, or fixing or changing the place of voting;

'Granting divorces;

'Erecting new townships or boroughs, changing township lines, borough limits or school districts;

'Creating offices, or prescribing the powers and duties of officers in counties, cities, boroughs, townships, election or school districts;—

'Changing the law of descent or succession;

'Regulating the practice or jurisdiction of, or changing the rules of evidence in, any judicial proceeding or inquiry before courts, aldermen, justices of the peace, sheriffs, commissioners, arbitrators, auditors, masters in chancery, or other tribunals, or providing or changing methods for the collection of debts, or the enforcing of judgments, or prescribing the effect of judicial sales of real estate;

'Regulating the fees, or extending the powers and duties of aldermen, justices of the peace, magistrates or constables;

'Regulating the management of public schools, the building or repairing of school houses and the raising of money for such purposes;

'Fixing the rate of interest;

'Affecting the estates of minors or persons under disability, except after due notice to all parties in interest, to be recited in the special enactment;

'Remitting fines, penalties and forfeitures, or refunding moneys legally paid into the treasury;

'Exempting property from taxation;

'Regulating labor, trade, mining or manufacturing industries, or amending, renewing or extending the charters thereof;

'Granting to any corporation, association or individual any special or exclusive privilege or immunity, or to any corporation, association or individual the right to lay down a railroad track;

'Nor shall the General Assembly indirectly enact such special or local law by the partial repeal of a general law; but laws repealing local or special acts may be passed:

'Nor shall any law be passed granting powers and privileges in any case where the granting of such powers and privileges shall have been provided for by general law, nor where the courts have jurisdiction to grant the same or give the relief asked for,—so as to read as follows:—

'Section 7. The General Assembly shall not pass any local or special law authorizing the creation, extension or impairing of liens:—

'Changing the names of persons or places;

'Changing the venue in civil or criminal cases;

'Authorizing the laying out, opening, altering, or maintaining roads, highways, streets or alleys.'

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 2.  
**ROBERT MCAFEE,** Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Four.  
**A JOINT RESOLUTION**

Proposing an amendment to section one of article nine of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, relating to taxation.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:—

Section 2. Amend section one of article nine of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, which reads as follows:—

'All taxes shall be uniform, upon the same class of subjects, within the territorial limits of the authority levying the tax, and shall be levied and collected under general laws; but the General Assembly may, by general laws, subject to taxation may be classified for the purpose of raising, graded or appropriated taxes; but the General Assembly may, by general laws, exempt from taxation public property used for public purposes, actual places of religious worship, places of burial not used or held for private or corporate profit, and institutions of purely public charity, so as to read as follows:—

'All taxes shall be uniform upon the same class of subjects, within the territorial limits of the authority levying the tax, and shall be levied and collected under general laws; but the subjects of taxation may be classified for the purpose of raising, graded or appropriated taxes; but the General Assembly may, by general laws, exempt from taxation public property used for public purposes, actual places of religious worship, places of burial not used or held for private or corporate profit, and institutions of purely public charity.'

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 4.  
**ROBERT MCAFEE,** Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Five.  
**A JOINT RESOLUTION**

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

Section 15. No obligations which have been heretofore issued, or which may hereafter be issued, by any county or municipality, other than Philadelphia, to provide for the construction or acquisition of waterworks, subways, underground railways or street railways, or appurtenances thereof, shall be considered as a debt of a municipality, within the meaning of section five of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or as a debt of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, if the net revenue derived from said property for a period of five years, either before or after the acquisition thereof, or where the same is constructed by the county or municipality, after the completion thereof, shall have been sufficient to pay interest and sinking fund charges during said period upon said obligations, or if said obligations shall be secured by liens upon the respective properties, and shall impose no municipal liability. Where municipalities or counties shall use obligations to provide for the construction of property, as herein provided, said municipalities or counties shall also be liable to provide for the interest and sinking fund charges accruing thereon until said obligations are redeemed or redeemed in whole or in part for a period of one year; and said municipalities and counties shall not be required to levy a tax to pay said interest and sinking fund charges, as required by section five of article nine of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, until after nine of the assessed valuation of the taxable property therein, if said increase of indebtedness shall have been assented to by three-fifths of the electors voting at a public election, in such manner as shall be provided by law.

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 5.  
**ROBERT MCAFEE,** Secretary of the Commonwealth.

## Constitutional Amendments

Relating to ferries or bridges, or incorporating ferry or bridge companies, except for the erection of bridges crossing streams which form boundaries between this and any other State;

Granting divorces;

Relating to cemeteries, graveyards, or public grounds not of the State;

Authorizing the adoption, or legitimation of children;

Locating or changing county-seats, erecting new counties, or changing county lines;

Incorporating cities, towns or villages, by changing their charters;

For the opening and conducting of elections, or fixing or changing the place of voting;

Erecting new townships or boroughs, changing township lines, borough limits or school districts;

Creating offices, or prescribing the powers and duties of officers in counties, cities, boroughs, townships, election or school districts;

Changing the law of descent or succession;

Regulating the practice or jurisdiction of, or changing the rules of evidence in, any judicial proceeding or inquiry before courts, aldermen, justices of the peace, sheriffs, commissioners, arbitrators, auditors, masters in chancery, or other tribunals, or providing or changing methods for the collection of debts, or the enforcing of judgments, or prescribing the effect of judicial sales of real estate;

Regulating the fees, or extending the powers and duties of aldermen, justices of the peace, magistrates or constables;

Regulating the management of public schools, the building or repairing of school houses and the raising of money for such purposes;

Fixing the rate of interest;

Affecting the estates of minors or persons under disability, except after due notice to all parties in interest, to be recited in the special enactment;

Remitting fines, penalties and forfeitures, or refunding moneys legally paid into the treasury;

Exempting property from taxation;

Regulating labor, trade, mining or manufacturing industries, or amending, renewing or extending the charters thereof;

Granting to any corporation, association or individual any special or exclusive privilege or immunity, or to any corporation, association or individual the right to lay down a railroad track;

Nor shall the General Assembly indirectly enact such special or local law by the partial repeal of a general law; but laws repealing local or special acts may be passed;

Nor shall any law be passed granting powers and privileges in any case where the granting of such powers and privileges shall have been provided for by general law, nor where the courts have jurisdiction to grant the same or give the relief asked for,—so as to read as follows:—

Section 7. The General Assembly shall not pass any local or special law authorizing the creation, extension or impairing of liens:—

Changing the names of persons or places;

Changing the venue in civil or criminal cases;

Authorizing the laying out, opening, altering, or maintaining roads, highways, streets or alleys.

Number Three.  
**A JOINT RESOLUTION**

Proposing an amendment to section three of article eight of the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (if the Senate concur), That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:—

Section 2. Amend section three of article eight, which reads as follows: "All judges elected by the electors of the Commonwealth may be elected at either a general or municipal election, as circumstances may require. All the electors or judges of the courts of the several judicial districts, and for county, city, ward, borough, and township officers, for regular term of service, shall be held on the municipal election day; namely, the Tuesday next following the first Monday of November in each odd-numbered year, but the General Assembly may by law fix a different day, two-thirds of all the members of each of the several judicial districts holding office at the present time, whose terms of office may end in an odd-numbered year, shall be held on their offices until the first Monday of January in the next succeeding even-numbered year."

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 3.  
**ROBERT MCAFEE,** Secretary of the Commonwealth.

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Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:—

Section 2. Amend section one of article nine of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, which reads as follows:—

'All taxes shall be uniform, upon the same class of subjects, within the territorial limits of the authority levying the tax, and shall be levied and collected under general laws; but the General Assembly may, by general laws, subject to taxation may be classified for the purpose of raising, graded or appropriated taxes; but the General Assembly may, by general laws, exempt from taxation public property used for public purposes, actual places of religious worship, places of burial not used or held for private or corporate profit, and institutions of purely public charity, so as to read as follows:—

'All taxes shall be uniform upon the same class of subjects, within the territorial limits of the authority levying the tax, and shall be levied and collected under general laws; but the subjects of taxation may be classified for the purpose of raising, graded or appropriated taxes; but the General Assembly may, by general laws, exempt from taxation public property used for public purposes, actual places of religious worship, places of burial not used or held for private or corporate profit, and institutions of purely public charity.'

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 4.  
**ROBERT MCAFEE,** Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Five.  
**A JOINT RESOLUTION**

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

Section 15. No obligations which have been heretofore issued, or which may hereafter be issued, by any county or municipality, other than Philadelphia, to provide for the construction or acquisition of waterworks, subways, underground railways or street railways, or appurtenances thereof, shall be considered as a debt of a municipality, within the meaning of section five of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or as a debt of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, if the net revenue derived from said property for a period of five years, either before or after the acquisition thereof, or where the same is constructed by the county or municipality, after the completion thereof, shall have been sufficient to pay interest and sinking fund charges during said period upon said obligations, or if said obligations shall be secured by liens upon the respective properties, and shall impose no municipal liability. Where municipalities or counties shall use obligations to provide for the construction of property, as herein provided, said municipalities or counties shall also be liable to provide for the interest and sinking fund charges accruing thereon until said obligations are redeemed or redeemed in whole or in part for a period of one year; and said municipalities and counties shall not be required to levy a tax to pay said interest and sinking fund charges, as required by section five of article nine of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, until after nine of the assessed valuation of the taxable property therein, if said increase of indebtedness shall have been assented to by three-fifths of the electors voting at a public election, in such manner as shall be provided by law.

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 5.  
**ROBERT MCAFEE,** Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Five.  
**A JOINT RESOLUTION**

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

Section 15. No obligations which have been heretofore issued, or which may hereafter be issued, by any county or municipality, other than Philadelphia, to provide for the construction or acquisition of waterworks, subways, underground railways or street railways, or appurtenances thereof, shall be considered as a debt of a municipality, within the meaning of section five of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or as a debt of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, if the net revenue derived from said property for a period of five years, either before or after the acquisition thereof, or where the same is constructed by the county or municipality, after the completion thereof, shall have been sufficient to pay interest and sinking fund charges during said period upon said obligations, or if said obligations shall be secured by liens upon the respective properties, and shall impose no municipal liability. Where municipalities or counties shall use obligations to provide for the construction of property, as herein provided, said municipalities or counties shall also be liable to provide for the interest and sinking fund charges accruing thereon until said obligations are redeemed or redeemed in whole or in part for a period of one year; and said municipalities and counties shall not be required to levy a tax to pay said interest and sinking fund charges, as required by section five of article nine of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, until after nine of the assessed valuation of the taxable property therein, if said increase of indebtedness shall have been assented to by three-fifths of the electors voting at a public election, in such manner as shall be provided by law.

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 5.  
**ROBERT MCAFEE,** Secretary of the Commonwealth.