

or more of the field-officers of some regiment within this province, [e]specially appointed by the governour for that purpose, before they proceed to destroy or take the Indians, as aforesaid, w[hi]ch may entitle them to the aforesaid bounty.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,

[SECT. 3.] That the abovementioned payments respectively to be made for every Indian, as aforesaid, slain or taken, be ordered upon [the] bringing in the prisoner or producing the scalp of the dead person, oath being made before the governour or one or more of his majest[y][ie]'s council, that it is, *bonâ fide*, the scalp of an enemy or rebel Indian killed or slain by him or them.

[SECT. 4.] And if any person or persons shall produce any scalp not being the scalp of an enemy or rebel Indian, slain as aforesaid, with intent to deceive and obtain the reward hereinbefore granted, and be thereof convicted, the person or persons so offending shall suffer three months' imprisonment[en]t, and forfeit double the sum w[hi]ch by v[er]tue of this act should have accrued to him or them for an enemy or rebel Indian *bonâ fide* slain, as aforesaid; one moiety of such forfeiture to be unto his majesty for and towards the support of this government[en]t, and the other moiety to him or them that shall inform and sue for the same in any of his maj[esty's][ies] courts of record within this province.

Provided,

[SECT. 5.] This act shall continue and be in force during the present Indian war and rebellion, and no longer. [*Passed and published August 16.*]

CHAPTER 10.

AN ACT FOR PUTTING THE INHABITANTS OF THE FRONTIER TOWNS WITHIN THIS PROVINCE INTO A POSTURE OF DEFENCE.

WHEREAS, in this time of war[r] the inhabitants of many of the towns within this province are much exposed to the Indian enemy and rebel[l]s, which renders it necessary that some places of defence be made for their reception,—

Be it therefore enacted by His Excellency the Governour, Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,

[SECT. 1.] That the military officers of each frontier town within this province, commissioned, together w[ith] the selectmen of the same, be hereby impowered and required to order what houses within such town shall be made defenceable, and in what manner, whether by stockadoes, or by such other ways or means as they shall think most fitting for the safety of the inhabitants; but not to exceed the number allowed by the field-officers of the regim[en]t in w[hi]ch such town is s[ituat]e[d]: the charge of building or making such defence to be borne by the proprietors and inhabitants of such town, and assessed or proportioned by the selectmen or assessors, as other town charges are.

[SECT. 2.] And where any house or houses in any town that have b[e]e[n] already put into a posture of defence, shall be pitched upon, as aforesaid, to be a place of refuge for the inhabitants, the necessary charge that may have b[e]e[n] expended in fortifying such house[s] shall be appraised by three persons upon oath, to be appointed by the military officers and selectmen of such towns, and the valuation so made (consideration being first had of the present state and circumstances

governor or field-officer, &c.

Payment of the rewards to be made upon bringing in prisoners and making oath about the scalp.

Penalty in case of fraud.

Continuance of this act.

Preamble.

Military officers and selectmen to order what houses are to be fortified in frontier towns. Field-officers to appoint the number of houses to be fortified. Charge of fortifying to be borne by the town.

Houses before fortified, charge to be appraised.

thereof) to be assessed, as afores[ai]d, and to be repaid to him or them that shall have disbursed or laid out the same.

Inhabitants to attend the work in person or with their teams.

[SECT. 3.] And in case of such order to put any house into a defenceable condition, every inhabitant (upon due notice given him by one of the selectmen, or such other as they shall appoint to inspect such business) shall be obliged to attend such work as he shall be ordered, either by himself, or with his team, on pain of forfeiting the sum of five shillings per diem for his not attending such work, and six shillings per diem for such as do not send their team; w[hi]ch forf[ei][ie]ture shall be recovered by complaint made by the selectmen of such town to one of his maj[es]ty's justices of the peace of the county wherein such town lyeth, and shall be employed for defraying the charge of such building.

Penalty.

Field-officers to order the fortifying houses, in case.

[SECT. 4.] And if the military officers and selectmen of any frontier town shall neglect to make suitable provision for the reception and defence of the inhabitants, that then the field-officers of the regim[en]t wherein such town lyeth, shall order what houses shall be made defenceable, and in what manner; and in case of such order, the above rule to be observed with respect to the charge of building, obligation to labour, penalt[ie][y]s and application of fines, as, also, in case of need of reparation of buildings already made, or to be made for the safety of the inhabitants.

Persons and families to be assigned to particular houses.

[SECT. 5.] And when a suitable number of houses are made safe and secure by direction, as afores[ai]d, that then the military officers and selectmen of the town shall order and appoint what persons and families shall retire thither and lodge therein; and if any person or persons refuse so to do, or shall withdraw him or themselves from such place, without leave first obtained from the military officers and selectmen of such town, he or they shall forfeit the sum of ten pounds, to be recovered by the selectmen or town treas[ure]r, in any of his maj[es]ty's courts of record, and applied as is before directed.

Penalty for withdrawing.

Penalty for refusing to receive persons assigned to fortified houses.

[SECT. 6.] And the owner of every house fortify[e]d at the town charge, that shall refuse to receive such of the inhabitants as shall be by the said military officers and selectmen allotted to him, shall be obliged to repay to the town the charge they have been at for fortifying his house, as afores[ai]d, to be recovered by the selectmen or town treasurer, in any of his maj[es]ty's courts of record; and shall also forfeit the sum of fifty ponn[ds], to be recovered as afores[ai]d.

And be it further enacted by the authority afores[ai]d,

Towns subject to this act.

[SECT. 7.] That all the towns within the county of York, together with the towns hereafter p[a]r[tic]ularly enumerated, shall be subject to, and regulated by, this act; that is to say, in the county of Essex, Salisbury, Almsbury, Haverhill and Andover; in Middlesex county, Dracut, Chelmsford, Billerica, Dunstable, Groton, Lancaster, Westborough, Shrewsbury, Worcester, Leicester and Rutland; in Suffolk county, Sutton, Oxford and Woodstock; in the county of Hampshire, Springfield, Brookfield, Brimfield, Sunderlaud, Hadley, Northfield, Deerfield, Hatfield, Northampton and Westfield.

Continuance of the act.

[SECT. 8.] This act to continue and be in force during the present war[r] and rebellion of the Indians, and no longer. [*Passed and published August 16.*]