

and the assistant watchman shall receive a salary of twelve hundred dollars per annum: *provided*, that the watchmen, in addition to their present duties, shall perform the duties of messengers to the treasurer, auditor and insurance commissioner.

To be paid from  
Jan. 1, 1873.

SECTION 2. The above salaries shall be paid from the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved June 12, 1873.*

**Ch. 374.** AN ACT IN ADDITION TO AN ACT RELATING TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

*Be enacted, &c., as follows:*

Fire department  
to have right of  
way in streets  
in Boston.

SECTION 1. The officers and men of the fire department of the city of Boston, with the engines and apparatus thereof, shall have the right of way, while going to a fire upon any alarm thereof, through any street, lane or alley in the said city, subject to such rules and regulations as the city council may prescribe. Whoever wilfully and maliciously obstructs or retards the passage of such engines and apparatus while so going to a fire as aforesaid, shall be punished by imprisonment in the jail not exceeding three months, or by fine not exceeding fifty dollars.

Amendment to  
1850, 262, § 1.

SECTION 2. The first section of chapter two hundred and sixty-two of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and fifty is hereby amended by adding at the end of the proviso thereto, the words "unless the said city council shall, by ordinance, otherwise provide for their appointment."

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved June 12, 1873.*

**Ch. 375.** AN ACT FOR FIXING THE TIME AND PLACE OF HOLDING PROBATE COURTS IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK.

*Be enacted, &c., as follows:*

Courts to be  
held every Mon-  
day of each  
month.

SECTION 1. The sessions of the probate court in the county of Suffolk shall be held at Boston every Monday in each month in the year.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved June 12, 1873.*

**Ch. 376.** AN ACT TO PREVENT FRAUD AT ELECTIONS IN CITIES.

*Be enacted, &c., as follows:*

Supervisors of  
elections to be  
appointed by  
S. J. C. upon  
the request of  
five legal voters.

SECTION 1. Whenever prior to an election, five legal voters of any ward of a city shall make known in writing to a justice of the supreme judicial court, in term time or

vacation, their desire to have such election guarded and scrutinized, it shall be the duty of such justice, upon such notice as he shall deem meet, or without notice, prior to such election, to appoint and commission two legal voters of such ward who shall be of different political parties, and shall be known and designated as supervisors of election. Before entering upon the duties of their office, the said supervisors shall be duly sworn to the faithful and impartial discharge of the same. Nothing herein contained shall authorize or require the appointment of more than one set of supervisors in each ward for any election.

SECTION 2. It shall be the duty of said supervisors to attend the meeting of such ward held for such election, to challenge any vote offered by any person whose qualifications the supervisors, or either of them, shall doubt, to be and remain where the ballot-box or boxes are kept at all times after the polls are open until each and every vote cast at such time and place shall be counted, the canvass of all votes polled (be) wholly completed and the proper and requisite certificates and returns made out and the votes duly sealed up according to law, and to personally inspect and scrutinize from time to time and at all times on the day of election, the manner in which the voting is done and the way and method in which the check-lists are kept, and the manner in which the checking of the names of voters is done, and to the end that each candidate for any office voted for at such election, shall obtain the benefit of every vote cast for him, the said supervisors are required to personally scrutinize, count and canvass each and every ballot cast in such ward at such election, and in the event of a disagreement between the count and canvass of the said supervisors or either of them and the count and canvass of the ward officers of such ward, to make a full return of the result of their count and canvass, or of either of them, to the mayor and aldermen of said city forthwith. Said supervisors and officers of such ward shall not make any announcement of the result of their count of votes until after the close of the polls.

SECTION 3. The said supervisors are authorized and directed, at such elections, to take, occupy and remain in such position or positions, from time to time, in the ward-room as will in their judgment, best enable them, or either of them, to see each person offering to vote, and as will best conduce to the most rigid scrutiny of the manner in

To attend meeting and to personally inspect the manner in which voting is done and check-lists are kept, &c.

To occupy such position as will enable them to see each person who offers his vote.

which the voting is being conducted; and at the closing of the polls they are, and each of them is required, to place themselves and himself in such position in relation to the ballot-box or boxes, for the purpose of engaging in the work of canvassing the ballots, in such ballot-box or boxes contained, as will enable them or him to fully perform the duties of such canvass provided in this act, and shall there remain until every duty in respect to said canvass, certificates and returns shall have been wholly completed.

Penalty for obstructing supervisor in performance of his duty.

SECTION 4. Whoever shall do any act with the intent to intimidate, hinder or interrupt any supervisor of election in the legal performance of his duty or the exercise of his rights under this act, whether said intent is effected or not, shall be punished by imprisonment in the jail not exceeding two years, and by fine not exceeding one thousand dollars.

No statement to be made of the number of ballots cast until the close of the polls.

SECTION 5. Until the close of the polls and the public declaration of the vote at an election, no statement shall be made by any supervisor, warden, inspector or clerk, of the number of ballots cast, the number of voters present, the number of votes given for any person or for any officer, the name of any person who has voted, the name of any person which has been voted on, nor of any other fact tending to show the state of the polls.

Penalty on inspector or supervisor.

SECTION 6. Any inspector or supervisor violating the provisions of this act shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars or imprisonment in the house of correction for twenty days.

*Approved June 12, 1873.*

**Ch. 377.** AN ACT RELATING TO THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN STATE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.

*Be enacted, &c., as follows:*

Visiting agent, state charities.

SECTION 1. The salary of the visiting agent of the board of state charities shall be at the rate of three thousand dollars per annum.

Clerks of senate and house of representatives.

SECTION 2. The salaries of the clerks of the senate and of the house of representatives shall be at the rate of three thousand dollars each per annum.

Sergeant-at-arms.

SECTION 3. The salary of the sergeant-at-arms shall be at the rate of three thousand dollars per annum.

Adjutant-general.

SECTION 4. The salary of the adjutant-general shall be at the rate of three thousand dollars per annum.