

forth, that in the year One thousand seven hundred and sixty-five, the said inhabitants petitioned the General Court to be incorporated into a town by the name of Richmond; and that through mistake, (as they suppose) the said town was incorporated by the name of Richmont, and praying that this Court would alter the name of the said town from Richmont to Richmond.

Enacting clause.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the name of the said town shall be no more Richmont, but that it shall be called by the name of Richmond: Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

March 3, 1785.

### 1784. — Chapter 46.

[January Session, ch. 14.]

#### Chap. 46

#### AN ACT AGAINST SODOMY.

Persons convicted, to suffer death.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That if any man shall lay with mankind as he layeth with a woman; or any man or woman shall have carnal copulation with any beast or brute creature, and be thereof duly convicted, the offender, in either of those cases, shall be adjudged guilty of felony, shall be sentenced to suffer the pains of death, and the beast shall be slain, and every part thereof burned.

Such process, &c. used, as in cases of murder.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That such order and form of process shall be had and used, in trial of such offenders, and such judgment given, and execution done, upon the offender, as in cases of murder.

March 3, 1785.

### 1784. — Chapter 47.

[January Session, ch. 15.]

#### Chap. 47

AN ACT FOR INCORPORATING THE PLANTATION OF SHAPLEIGH, IN THE COUNTY OF YORK, INTO A TOWN BY THE NAME OF SHAPLEIGH; AND FOR ANNEXING CERTAIN LANDS TO LEBANON.

Preamble.

Whereas it will promote the growth of the said plantation, (which, by the return of their rateable polls, already exceed one hundred and fifty) and remedy many inconveniences they must necessarily, in an unincorporated state, labour under:

*Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the tract of land in the county of York, lying below Little Ossapee River, granted and confirmed to the proprietors claiming the same under Nicholas Shapleigh, by an act made and passed in the year seventeen hundred and eighty-two, together with a gore of land on the northeasterly side thereof, adjoining the same, which the proprietors of lands, under the will of Bridget Phillips, for a valuable consideration, have released to the said Shapleigh proprietors; which tracts contain about sixty square miles, and are bounded, west-erly, by Salmon Fall river, and by a line run by order of Governor Belcher, in the year seventeen hundred and forty-one, between New Hampshire and the late Province of Maine, northerly by Little Ossapee pond and river; easterly, by lands of the said Phillips's proprietors in part, and partly by a gore of land belonging to the Commonwealth; southerly, by lands of the Commonwealth in part, and partly by lands lying in no place incorporated, but laid out and held by virtue of province grants; with the inhabitants thereon, be, and hereby are incorporated into a town, by the name of Shapleigh, with all the powers, privileges and immunities that towns in this Commonwealth have or do enjoy.*

Boundaries.

Invested with powers, &amp;c.

*And be it further enacted, That Benjamin Chadbourn, Esq; be, and he hereby is, empowered to issue his warrant to some principal inhabitant of the said town, requiring him to call a meeting of the said inhabitants, in order to choose such officers as towns by law are empowered to choose in the month of March, annually.*

Benjamin Chadbourn, Esq; to call a meeting.

*And be it further enacted, That the several tracts of land laid out to Woodman, Cook and Bayley, by virtue of grants made from the late province of Massachusetts Bay, lying westerly of the town of Lebanon, and between that town, and Salmon Fall River, be and hereby are, annexed to the town of Lebanon.*

Lands annexed to Lebanon.

*Provided, That nothing in the foregoing act shall be so construed as to exempt any person from paying taxes already assessed upon him, but all persons shall be severally held and obliged to pay such taxes assessed upon them respectively, and the payment thereof may and shall be enforced in like manner as if this act had never been passed.*

Proviso.

What lands con-  
sidered as part  
of Sandford.

*Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all gores and tracts of land adjoining to the town of Sandford, not belonging to any other incorporated town, except such as belong to the plantation of Massabesec, shall be annexed to, and considered as part of the said town of Sandford.*

*March 5, 1785.*

### 1784. — Chapter 48.

[January Session, ch. 16.]

Chap. 48

AN ACT AGAINST BURGLARY.

*Be it declared and enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That if any person shall in the night time burglariously break and enter any dwelling house, with intent to kill, rob, steal, commit rape, or to do or perpetrate any other felony, the person so offending, and being thereof convicted, shall suffer the pains of death.*

*March 7, 1785.*

### 1784. — Chapter 49.

[January Session, ch. 17.]

Chap. 49 AN ACT FOR DIRECTING THE USE AND APPROPRIATION OF A CHARITABLE DONATION, MADE IN A CERTAIN CLAUSE IN THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF *EPHRAIM WILLIAMS, ESQ*; FOR THE SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE OF A FREE SCHOOL, IN *WILLIAMSTOWN*, IN THE COUNTY OF *BERKSHIRE*; AND FOR INCORPORATING CERTAIN PERSONS AS TRUSTEES, IN ORDER MORE EFFECTUALLY TO EXECUTE THE INTENTION OF THE TESTATOR, EXPRESSED IN THE SAME.

Preamble.

*Whereas Israel Williams, Esq; and John Worthington, Esq; executors of the last will and testament of Ephraim Williams, Esq; deceased, have represented to this Court, that the said Ephraim Williams, on the twenty-second day of July, Anno Domini, One thousand seven hundred and fifty-five, made his last will and testament; in which, after divers bequests, devises and dispositions, is contained the following clause, viz. :*

Clause in the  
will.

*“Item. It is my will, desire and pleasure, that the remaining part of the lands not yet disposed of, shall be sold at the discretion of my executors, within five years after an established peace; and the interest of the money, and also the interest arising from my bonds and notes, shall be*