

use their best endeavours to extinguish any fire that may happen in the same town, or the vicinity thereof, and shall come to their knowledge, without delay.

And whereas there may, in some towns, be an engine or engines the property of individuals, who would incline the same might be employed for the benefit of the said town, subject to the like regulations and privileges as though the said engine or engines appertained to the said town.

Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That whenever the proprietor or proprietors of any engine or engines shall apply to the Selectmen of any town in which the said engine or engines may be, setting forth, that they have such engine or engines which they are desirous should be employed for the benefit of the said town, the Selectmen of such town, upon application as aforesaid, may appoint engine men in the same manner, with the same privileges, and subject to the same regulations as though the said engine or engines were the property of the said town.

Engine men may be appointed for engines belonging to individuals.

And be it further enacted, That the persons who may be appointed engine men in pursuance of this act, shall be, and they are hereby exempted from common and ordinary military duty, and from serving as jurors, or in the office of a constable, during the time they may be employed in the service aforesaid.

Exempted from military duty, &c.

Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person, being appointed in manner hereinbefore directed, shall, in the opinion of the said Selectmen, be negligent and remiss in the duties required of him, as an engine man, by this act, it shall be the duty of the Selectmen in the same town, upon sufficient evidence thereof, to discharge him from said company, and proceed to appoint another engine man in his room, in the manner hereinbefore directed.

Persons negligent or remiss in duty, shall be discharged.

And be it further enacted, That all the acts heretofore made, providing for the appointment of engine men, be, and they are, hereby repealed.

Acts heretofore made, repealed.

February 7, 1786.

1785. — Chapter 43.

[February Session, ch. 7.]

AN ACT FOR NATURALIZING MICHAEL WALSH.

Chap. 43

Whereas Michael Walsh, resident in Salisbury, has dwelt within this Commonwealth several years, and

Preamble.

demeaned himself well, and has applied to the Legislature to be naturalized:

Naturalization. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the said Michael Walsh be permitted to take and subscribe the oath of allegiance to this Commonwealth, before two Justices of the Peace, quorum unus, of the county where he dwells; and thereupon, and thereafter, he shall be deemed, adjudged and taken to be a citizen of this Commonwealth, and entitled to all the liberties, rights and privileges of a natural born citizen.*

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Justices before whom said Michael Walsh may take and subscribe the oath aforesaid, shall make return thereof to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, who shall record the same in the book ordered to be kept for such purpose.

February 7, 1786.

1785. — Chapter 44.

[February Session, ch. 8.]

Chap. 44 AN ACT FOR NATURALIZING WILLIAM ERVING, ESQ; AND JOHN DUBALLET.

Preamble.

Whereas William Erving, Esq; and John Duballet, residents in Boston, in the Commonwealth aforesaid, have petitioned the General Court that they may be naturalized, and be thereby entitled to all the rights, liberties and privileges of free citizens of this Commonwealth:

Naturalization.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the said William Erving and John Duballet, upon their taking the oaths of allegiance and abjuration required by the constitution of this Commonwealth, before two Justices of the Peace, shall be deemed, adjudged and taken to be free citizens of this Commonwealth, to all intents, constructions and purposes, as if they, the said William Erving and John Duballet, had been inhabitants of the territory, now the Commonwealth aforesaid, at the time of making the present form of civil government.

And it is further enacted, That the Justices before whom the same oaths shall be taken, shall return a certificate of the same into the Secretary's office; and the Secretary is hereby directed to record the same in a book to be kept for that purpose.

February 8, 1786.