

right of the Town of *Belchertown*, of taxing the inhabitants aforementioned, their proportionable part of all public taxes, that shall be ordered to be assessed on the Town of *Belchertown*, until a new valuation shall take place in this Commonwealth, & no longer. *June 16, 1788.*

### 1788. — Chapter 4.

[May Session, ch. 4.]

AN ACT IN ADDITION TO AN ACT INTITLED, "AN ACT FOR INCORPORATING A NUMBER OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF *AMHERST*, IN THE COUNTY OF *HAMPSHIRE*, INTO A SEPARATE PARISH, BY THE NAME OF THE SECOND PARISH, IN THE TOWN OF *AMHERST*."

Preamble.

*Whereas further provision is necessary for the support of public worship, in the said town of Amherst, and to promote the peace & mutual good will of the inhabitants thereof.*

Inhabitants considered as belonging to that parish where they attend public worship, &c.

*Be it therefore Enacted by the Senate & House of Representatives in General Court assembled, & by the authority of the same,* that the inhabitants of the said town of *Amherst*, shall be taken and considered as belonging to that Parish, in the said town, where they have usually attended public worship for the term of one year, next before the passing of this Act, and that in future the inhabitants of the said town, with their heirs and successors, shall have liberty to attend public worship at that Parish in the said town, which they shall prefer, and shall pay parochial taxes where they shall so attend, they producing to the respective Assessors, a Certificate from the minister of the Parish to which they shall remove, or from the Parish Clerk, in case there be no minister, that they have generally attended public worship there, for the space of one whole year together, next preceeding the date of such Certificate; and previous to such removal, entering their names, expressing their intention, with the Clerk of the Parish from which they shall remove.

Taxes already assessed, how collected.

*And be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid,* that all taxes or arrears of taxes, which have been assessed in consequence of, and agreeably to the incorporation Act of the said second Parish, shall be collected in the same manner, as if this Act had not been made: Provided that the sons of the inhabitants of the second Parish, that have been taxed by the first Parish, and those who have re-

moved into the said town, and have attended worship at the second Parish, and have been taxed by the first Parish, shall not be held to pay such assessments.

*And be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid,* that any person removing into said town, may attend public worship, and pay parochial taxes at either Parish, he entering his name with the Clerk thereof, for that purpose.

Non-resident proprietors, how taxed.

*And be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid,* that the real estate owned by non-resident proprietors, shall be taxed for the use of the Parish where the occupier belongs, according to the regulations aforesaid; and if there be no occupier who is an inhabitant in said town, then the taxes of it shall be paid to the Parish, which such proprietor shall direct.

June 17, 1788.

1788. — Chapter 5.

[May Session, ch. 5.]

AN ACT FOR DIVIDING THE COUNTY OF *BERKSHIRE* INTO THREE DISTRICTS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CHOOSING REGISTERERS OF DEEDS IN THE SAID DISTRICTS.

*Whereas a great part of the inhabitants of the County of Berkshire, by reason of their distance from the place where the office of Register of Deeds, by the laws now in being, is directed to be kept, are subjected to great inconvenience in procuring their conveyances of real estate, to be recorded: For remedy whereof in future.*

Preamble.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That the Towns of *Lenox, Pittsfield, Richmond, Stockbridge, Lee, Tyringham, Becket, Washington and Partridgefield,* and such gores or tracts of land unincorporated, as may lie between any of the said Towns, be, & they hereby are constituted a District for the Registry of Deeds; and the inhabitants of the said Towns & Districts, are hereby authorized to choose a Register of Deeds for the said District, in the manner provided by law; and the Register so chosen, shall keep his office within the said Town of *Lenox*; and *Jahleel Woodbridge,* Esquire of *Stockbridge,* is hereby authorized and empowered, to issue his warrants, directed to the Selectmen of the several Towns aforesaid, ordering them forthwith to convene the inhabitants of their respective Towns, qualified to vote for Representatives, that they may proceed to the choice

Lenox and other towns, constituted a district for the registry of deeds.

Authorized to choose a Register.

Jahleel Woodbridge, Esq. to issue his warrants for calling meetings.