

ther providing in case of sickness ; one law passed the next year in addition thereto, one other Law made in the year One thousand seven hundred & forty two, to prevent the spreading of the small Pox, & other infectious Sickness, & to prevent the concealing the same, be & they are hereby repealed, except that the same shall remain in force for the purpose of recovering all fines incurred by force thereof.

Approved June 22, 1797.

1797. — Chapter 17.

[May Session, ch. 17.]

AN ACT FOR INCORPORATING CERTAIN PERSONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUILDING A BRIDGE OVER DEERFIELD RIVER SO CALLED, WHERE WILLIAMS'S FERRY IS NOW KEPT, AND FOR SUPPORTING THE SAME.

Whereas the erecting a Bridge over the river in the Town of Deerfield, where Williams's Ferry is now kept, will be of great public utility, & Jonathan Hoit and David Smead Esqr. have petitioned this Court for an Act of Incorporation to empower them to build the said Bridge; and many persons under the expectation of such an Act, have subscribed to a Fund for the purpose of erecting and completing the same:

Preamble.

SECT. 1. *Be it therefore Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same,* that Jonathan Hoit and David Smead Esqr. so long as they shall continue to be proprietors in the said Fund, together with all those who are, or shall hereafter become Proprietors to the said Fund, shall be a Corporation and Body Politic under the name of the Proprietors of De[e]rfield River Bridge ; and by that name may sue & prosecute & be sued & prosecuted to final Judgement and Execution, and do & suffer all matters & things which Bodies corporate may or ought to do and suffer ; and the said Corporation shall have full power & authority to make have and use a Common Seal, & the same to break & alter at pleasure.

Proprietors of Deerfield River Bridge, incorporated.

SECT. 2. *Be it further Enacted,* that the said Jonathan Hoit and David Smead Esqr. or either of them, may by advertizement in the Greenfield Gazette, warn or call a Meeting of the said Proprietors, to be holden at any suitable time and place after ten days from the publication of said Advertizement ; and the said Proprietors by a vote

First meeting.

A clerk to be chosen.

Rules to be established.

Toll established.

of the majority of those present or represented at the said Meeting, (accounting and allowing a vote to each single share in all cases) shall choose a Clerk, who shall be duly sworn to the faithful discharge of his office; and also shall agree on a method for calling future meetings; and at the same or any subsequent meeting, may make and establish any rules & regulations that shall be necessary or convenient for regulating said Corporation, and for effecting, completing & executing the purposes aforesaid, & for collecting the Toll hereafter granted; & the same rules & regulations may cause to be kept and executed, or for the breach thereof may order & enjoin fines or penalties, not exceeding Ten Dollars; *Provided* the Rules and Regulations are not repugnant to the Laws or Constitution of this Commonwealth. And the said Proprietors may also choose & appoint any other Officer or Officers of the said Corporation, that they may deem necessary; & all representations at the said Meetings, shall be proved in writing, signed by the person making the same, by special appointment, which shall be filed with or recorded by the Clerk; and this Act, and all rules, regulations and votes of the said Corporation, shall be fairly and truly recorded by the Clerk in a book or books for that purpose provided and kept.

SECT. 3. *Be it further Enacted*, that for the purpose of reimbursing the said Proprietors, the monies by them expended or to be expended in building & supporting the said Bridge, a Toll be and is hereby granted & established for the sole benefit of the said Proprietors, according to the rates following; to wit — for each foot passenger two cents; for one person and horse, four cents; for a single horse, cart, sled or sleigh, six cents; for a Sleigh drawn by two horses, eight cents; for a single horse, chaise, chair or sulkey, eight cents; for coaches, chariots, phaetons & curricles, twenty cents each; for all other wheel carriages drawn by more than one beast, seventeen cents; for neat cattle, and horses passing the said Bridge, exclusive of those ridden or in carriages or teams, each two cents; for swine and sheep each dozen six cents; and at the same rate for a greater or less number; and to each Team one person and no more shall be allowed as Driver to pass free of Toll; and at all times when the Toll Gatherer shall not attend his duty, the gate or gates shall be left open; and the said Toll shall commence on the day of the open-

ing of said bridge for passengers, and shall continue for and during the term of seventy Years ; at the end of which term the said Bridge shall be disposed of by the Govern- ment as the Legislature shall think proper ; *provided nevertheless*, that from and after the expiration of thirty Years from the first taking Toll for the passing of said Bridge, the said Legislature shall have full power & au- thority from time to time to alter and regulate the several rates of Toll aforesaid as they may think proper.

SECT. 4. *Be it further Enacted*, that the said Bridge shall be well built, at least Twenty four feet wide, of sound and suitable materials, with well constructed substantial Piers on each side, and well planked on the top and sides with planks proper for such a Bridge ; and the same shall be kept in good safe and passable repair for the term afore- said, and at the end of said term shall be in like repair ; and at the place where the Toll shall be received, the said Proprietors shall erect and constantly expose to open view, a Sign or Board with the rates of Toll of all the tollable articles, fairly and legibly written thereon in large or Capital Letters.

Bridge, con-
struction, etc.

To be kept in
repair.

Sign-board to
be erected.

SECT. 5. *And be it further Enacted*, that if the said Proprietors shall neglect or refuse for the space of three Years after the passing this Act, to build the said Bridge, and complete the same, then this Act shall be void and of no effect.

Time limited
for building.

Approved June 22, 1797.

1797. — Chapter 18.

[May Session, ch. 18.]

AN ACT IMPOWERING SETH SPRING, TO BUILD A BRIDGE ACROSS THE MAIN BRANCH OF SACO RIVER, FROM SPRING'S ISLAND IN BIDDEFORD TO PEPPERRELBOROUGH.

SECT. 1ST. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled and by the Authority of the same*, that Seth Spring of Biddeford, in the County of York, Gentleman, be authorised & impow- ered to erect a Bridge, at his own expence, across the main branch of Saco River, above Saco Falls, from Spring's Island (so called) in Biddeford aforesaid to the River side of the road in Pepperrelborough.

Seth Spring
impowered to
build a bridge.

SECT. 2D. *Be it further Enacted*, that the said bridge shall be built of good and sufficient materials and raised eight feet at least above the level of the present road on

Construction,
etc.