

the same; and shall be accountable for the same when received, as for other monies received by said Toll.

Exemption  
from toll.

SECT. 5. *Be it further Enacted*, that Jonathan Poor, Daniel Hale, Amos Hale, Samuel Plumer, John Thurston, Benjamin Thurston, Mark Plumer, David Plumer, Stephen Poor and Simeon Plumer and their families or the Occupants of their estates contiguous to said Bridge, and their Minister and Physician be & they hereby are exempted from paying the Toll required by this law, so long as they shall keep in good repair, in the Judgment of the Trustee of said Bridge, the whole of the abutment of said Bridge, from the South Shore to the first arch, including the caps and railing.

*Approved February 13, 1798.*

### 1797. — Chapter 48.

[January Session, ch. 16.]

AN ACT FOR INCORPORATING CERTAIN PERSONS, FOR BUILDING A BRIDGE OVER CHICAPEE RIVER, BETWEEN WILBRAHAM AND LUDLOW, AND FOR SUPPORTING THE SAME.

Preamble.

*Whereas the erecting a Bridge over the River between Wilbraham and Ludlow will be of public utility, and Samuel Fisk Merrick and others have petitioned this Court for that purpose;*

Boundaries.

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 Samuel Fisk Merrick, Gideon Burt, Elisha Shepard junr. Jason Chapin, William Buel, Benjamin Phillips, Joel Lyman, Charles Wiley, John Stickney, James Warner, Azriel Warner, William Brewer, Aaron Graves, Leonard Millar, Solomon Charles, David Worriner, Thomas Jones, Reuben Sikes, Oliver Bliss, Silas Bliss, James Shaw, Moses Bartlet, Elisba Shepard, David Hitchcock and Ephraim Moore, together with those who may hereafter associate with them be and they are hereby constituted a Corporation and Body Politic by the name of the Wilbraham Bridge Company, for the purpose of building and supporting a Bridge over Chicapee River between Wilbraham and Ludlow and as such they may sue and be sued and may appoint one or more Agents or Attorneys to prosecute or defend them, and may have and keep one Common Seal which they may alter break or change at pleasure.

SECT. 2. *And be it further Enacted*, that for reimbursing to the said Samuel Fisk Merrick and others before named and their Associates the money that may be expended in building and supporting said Bridge, a Toll be and hereby is granted & established for the sole benefit of the said Samuel Fisk Merriek and others before named and their Associates according to the rates following, viz. For each Foot-passenger One Cent and a half, for each person and a horse Five Cents, for each horse and chaise, riding-chair or sulkey Twelve Cents and a half, for each Sleigh, sled or cart drawn by one horse Eight Cents, for each sleigh drawn by more than one horse, Twelve Cents & a half; for each sled, or cart or waggon or other carriage drawn by more than one beast with one driver Twelve Cents and a half; for each coach & other four wheel carriage for the conveyance of persons Twenty five Cents; for neat cattle in a drove each One Cent; for horse kind in a drove or led One Cent each; for swine or sheep each half a Cent. And in all cases the same Toll shall be paid for all carriages & vehicles passing said Bridge whether the same be loaded or not.

Toll estab-  
lished.

SECT. 3. *And be it further Enacted* that the said Bridge shall be well built of good & suitable materials at least thirty feet wide with sufficient rails on each side; And the said proprietors or Corporation shall keep the said Bridge in good safe and passable repair during the time they shall be proprietors of the same. And if the said Proprietors or Corporation shall unreasonably neglect or refuse to keep said Bridge in good repair as aforesaid, on such refusal or neglect being made to appear to the Justices of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace in the County of Hampshire, it shall be in the power of said Court to prohibit the Proprietors aforesaid from receiving Toll from any person or persons passing said Bridge, until it shall be put by them in such repair as shall be deemed sufficient. And the Toll shall commence whenever the said Bridge shall be fit & safe for carriages to pass over it and shall continue to the said Corporation and their Successors forever; subject however to alteration of the General Court after the term of Twenty Years. And at the place where the Toll shall be received there shall be erected a Sign-Board with the rates of Toll fairly and legibly written thereon.

Bridge con-  
struction, etc.

To be kept in  
repair.

Time of building, limited.

SECT. 4. *And be it further Enacted* that if the said Samuel Fisk Merrick and others before named & their Associates shall neglect for the Term of three years after passing this Act to build said Bridge, then this Act shall be void.

*Approved February 16, 1798.*

### 1797. — Chapter 49.

[January Session, ch. 17.]

AN ACT FOR INCORPORATING CERTAIN PERSONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUILDING A BRIDGE OVER YORK RIVER, AT A PLACE CALLED TRAFTON'S FERRY.

Preamble.

*Whereas the erecting a Bridge over the said River in the Town of York at the place aforesaid will be of great public utility and Esaias Prebble and William Frost Esqrs. Alexander Rice, Abel Moulton, Josiah Chase & John Main and others have petitioned this Court for an Act of Incorporation to empower them to build the said Bridge,*

Persons incorporated.

SEC. 1. *Be it therefore Enacted by the Senate & House of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same,* that the said Esaias Prebble, William Frost, Alexander Rice, Abel Moulton, Josiah Chase & John Main so long as they shall be proprietors in a fund to be raised for the purpose of building said Bridge together with all those who shall hereafter become proprietors in the said fund, shall be a Corporation & Body Politic under the name of the proprietors of York Bridge; and by that name may sue & prosecute & be sued & prosecuted, to final Judgment & Execution & do & suffer all other matters & things which bodies Corporate may or ought to do, & suffer; & the said Corporation shall have full power to build a Bridge over said River at the place aforesaid, with authority to make have & use a Common Seal, & the same to break alter & renew at pleasure.

May sue and be sued.

First Meeting.

SEC. 2. *Be it further Enacted* that the said Esaias Prebble, William Frost, Alexander Rice, Abel Moulton, Josiah Chase & John Main or any three of them, may by advertisement in the Eastern Herald and Gazette of Maine printed at Portland, warn or call a Meeting of the said Proprietors to be holden in York at any suitable time after fifteen days from the publication of said advertisement. And the said proprietors by a vote of the majority of those present or represented at the said Meeting, ac-