

## CHAPTER 27.

AN ACT FOR REVIVING AND CONTINUING TWO LAWS THAT ARE  
EXPIRED.

Preamble.

1749-50, chap. 13.

1769-70, chap. 14.

For reviving  
two acts.

Limitation.

WHEREAS an act, passed in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and forty-nine, intituled "An Act to prevent any person's obstructing the fish passing up into Monatiquod River, within the town of Braintree;" and also another act, passed in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty-nine, intituled "An Act in addition" to the above-mentioned act, are expired; and as they have been found useful and very beneficial, —

*Be it therefore enacted by the Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,*

That the before-mentioned acts, now expired, be revived and continued, with all and every clause, matter and thing in them respectively contained, and shall be in force until the first day of November, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-two, and no longer. [*Passed January 7, 1780.*]

## CHAPTER 28.

AN ACT IN ADDITION TO AN ACT INTITLED "AN ACT FOR FURTHER  
AUGMENTING CERTAIN FEES, ALLOWANCES AND PENALTIES, ESTABLISHED BY THE LAWS OF THIS STATE."

Preamble.

1779-80, chap. 23.

Justices em-  
powered to try  
any manner of  
debts to the  
amount of six-  
teen times the  
value of 40 shill-  
ings.

1777-78, chap. 24.

WHEREAS, in and by the said law, no provision is made to enlarge the jurisdiction of justices of the peace, who, by the law of this state, cannot take cognizance of any manner of debt, trespasses, or other matter, exceeding the value of forty shillings, whereby great inconvenience and unnecessary expence may arise to many persons in recovering small debts and damages, —

*Be it therefore enacted by the Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,*

[SECT. 1.] That the justices of the peace of this state be, and they hereby are, [i][e]mpowered to hear, try, adjudge and determine, any manner of debts, trespasses, or other matters, as heretofore by the law of this province, colony or state, to the amount of sixteen times the value of forty shillings.

*And whereas* the fines and penalties annexed to certain offences mentioned in an act or law of this state, made and passed March, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, intituled "An Act in addition to an act intituled 'An Act for forming and regulating the militia within the colony of Massachusetts Bay, in New England, and for repealing all the laws heretofore made for that purpose,'" do not answer the purposes for which they were intended: *and whereas* the act to which this is in addition doth not extend to increasing the fines and penalties annexed to any offences mentioned in any law of this state which hath been made and passed since the last day of December, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, —

*Be it therefore further enacted by the authority aforesaid,*

[SECT. 2.] That all such fines and penalties, annexed to any offences mentioned in the aforesaid additional militia act, shall be increased, and taken to be eight times as much as in said act they are called, and no more; and all such courts as have now, or before the enacting of this law, might have had, jurisdiction, of any of the said offences, shall continue to have jurisdiction of the same, notwithstanding the augmentation of the fines and penalties: and they are hereby authorized to impose and inflict the same, and directed to give judgment accordingly. *[Passed January 10, 1780.]*

Augmentation  
of fines and  
penalties.

## CHAPTER 29.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE SECURITY AND PAYMENT OF THE BAL[L]ANCES THAT MAY APPEAR TO BE DUE BY VIRTUE OF A RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, OF THE SIXTH OF FEBRUARY, ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-NINE, TO THIS STATE'S QUOTA OF THE CONTINENTAL ARMY, AGREEABLE TO THE RECOMMENDATION OF CONGRESS, AND FOR SUPPLYING THE TREASURY WITH A SUM OF MONEY FOR THAT PURPOSE.

WHEREAS it is necessary, immediately, to make provision to enable the treasurer of this state to pay to this state's quota of the Continental Army, the bal[l]ances which may appear to be due to them on the first day of January, in this present year, —

Preamble.

*Be it therefore enacted by the Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,*

[SECT. 1.] That the treasurer of this state be, and he is hereby, directed, on the credit thereof, to issue his notes for the payment of the bal[l]ances which shall appear were, on the said first day of January, due to each officer and soldier belonging to this state's quota of the Continental Army, upon receiving a warrant from the council of this state for the same, in the manner and form following; viz<sup>d</sup>, —

Treasurer  
directed to issue  
his notes.

No. State of Massachusetts Bay, the first day of January, A.D. 1780. In behalf of the state of Massachusetts Bay, I, the subscriber, do hereby promise and oblige myself and successors in the office of treasurer of said state, to pay unto \_\_\_\_\_ or to his order, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_, or before the first day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and \_\_\_\_\_, with interest at six per cent per annum: both principal and interest to be paid in the then current money of said state, in a greater or less sum, according as five bushels of corn, sixty-eight pounds and four-seventh parts of a pound of beef, ten pounds of sheeps wool and sixteen pounds of sole-leather shall then cost, more or less than one hundred and thirty pounds current money, at the then current prices of said articles; this sum being thirty-two times and an-half what the same quantities of the same articles would cost at the prices affixed to them in a law of this state, made in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, intituled "An Act to prevent monopoly and oppression:" the current prices of said articles, and the consequent value of every pound of the sum herein promised, to be determined agreeable to a law of this state, intituled "An Act to provide for the security and payment of the bal[l]ances that may appear to be due, by virtue of a resolution of the general assembly, of the sixth of February, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, to this

Form of notes.

1776-77, chap. 14.