

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,

Manner of appointing a register of deeds and county treasurer.

[SECT. 6.] That the methods, directions and proceedings by law provided as well for the electing and choosing a register of deeds and conveyances, as a county treasurer, which officers shall be appointed in the same manner as is by law already provided, on the first Thursday of Sept[em]b[er] next, and also for the bringing forward and trying any actions, causes, pleas or suits, both civil and criminal, in the several counties of this province, and courts of judicature within the same, and choosing of jurors to serve at the courts of justice, shall extend and be attended, observed and put in practice within the said county of Worcester, and by the courts of justice within the same; any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Provided, always,

Proviso about taxes.

[SECT. 7.] That the inhabitants of the several towns and places herein before enumerated and set off a distinct county, shall pay their proportion to any county rates or taxes already made and granted, in the same manner as they would have done had not this act been made. *[Passed April 2; published April 5, 1731.]*

CHAPTER 9.

AN ACT FOR NATURALIZING PROTESTANTS OF FOR[R]EIGN NATIONS, INHABITING WITHIN THIS PROVINCE.

Preamble.

WHEREAS divers Protestants, of the French and other for[r]eign nations, have removed themselves and their families into this province, who are well affected to his majesty's governm[en]t, and useful members of the Commonwealth; but being born out of the king's ligeance, have not by law a right to the privileges and immunities of his majesty's natural-born subjects, but are under divers disabilities, and subjected to many inconveniencies and difficulties in their persons and estates; to the intent, therefore, that such persons and all other well-disposed Protestants of for[r]eign nations, may have due encouragem[en]t to settle themselves and their families within this province,—

Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governour, Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,

Foreign Protestants to be naturalized within this province.

[SECT. 1.] That from and after the publication of this act, all Protestants of for[r]eign nations, that have inhabited or resided within this province for the space of one year, are hereby declared to be naturalized, to all intents, constructions and purposes whatsoever, within this province; and from henceforth, and at all times hereafter, shall be entitled to have and enjoy all the rights, liberties and privileges within this province, and no otherwise, which his majesty's natural-born subjects in the said province ought to have and enjoy, as fully, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, as if they had been born within the said province.

Provided, always,—

And it is hereby enacted,

Oaths to be taken by such as are naturalized.

[SECT. 2.] That all for[r]eign Protestants that shall have the benefit of this act, shall take the oaths by law appointed to be taken instead of the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, subscribe the test or declaration, and take, repeat and subscribe the abjuration oath, in presence of the governour and council of this province, which shall be made of record in the council books, and for

which each person so swearing and subscribing shall pay to the secretary of the province five shillings, and he shall demand no more. Secretary's fee.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,

[SECT. 3.] That if any for[r]eign Protestant having so sworn and subscribed as aforesaid, shall and do demand a certificate of his being entered upon record in manner aforesaid, the secretary of this province, for the time being, is hereby directed and required to grant the same under his hand, for which he may demand two shillings and sixpence, and no more; which certificate shall at all times be a sufficient proof that such person is naturalized by this act, and as effectual as if the record aforesaid were actually produced by them or any of them. Certificate to be given by the secretary.

[*Passed April 2; published April 5, 1731.* His fee.]

CHAPTER 10.

AN ACT IN FURTHER ADDITION TO THE ACT ENCOURAG[E]ING THE KILLING OF WOLVES, MADE IN THE FIFTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF KING WILLIAM AND QUEEN MARY.

Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governour, Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,—

[SECT. 1.] That from and since the third day of July last past, unto the publication of this act, and from thenceforth unto the expiration thereof, the reward for killing a grown wolf shall be the sum of four pounds, and for a wolf's whelp (other than such as shall be taken out of the belly of any bitch wolf), the sum of twenty shillings; to be paid according to the provision made in this act. 1693, chap. 6, and see 1723-29, chap. 10.
Reward of four pounds for killing a wolf.
Wolf's whelp, twenty shillings.

And for preventing of fraud in any person that shall bring the head of a wolf or wolf's whelp to the constable of any town, killed without the bounds of the province,—

Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid,

[SECT. 2.] That when and so often as any person shall bring the head of any grown wolf or wolf's whelp, to the constable of any town or district within this province, and it be suspected that such wolf or wolf's whelp was not killed within the same, such person or persons shall not be entitled to the reward in this act provided, until he or they make oath before one of his majesty's justices of the peace, or selectmen of the town in such town where no justice of the peace dwells, who are hereby empowered to administer the same, that such wolf or whelp was *bona fide* killed within this province. Oath to be made for the killing of a wolf.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,

[SECT. 3.] That if any Indian or Indians shall kill any wolf or wolf's whelp within this province, they shall be entitled to the same reward in this act provided for the killing of wolves or wolves' whelps, in case such Indian or Indians bring the body of such wolf or wolf's whelp to a constable, and satisfy the selectmen of the town where the wolf or wolf's whelp is brought, that they were killed in this province, Indians entitled to the reward, in case.

And whereas it has been represented to this court that it has been practised in some parts of the province to bring the pate or scalp of a wolf to a constable, instead of a head, w[hi]ch, if not prevented for the future, may be of evil consequence,—

Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid,

[SECT. 4.] That no constable or selectmen for the future shall take or receive any pate or scalp of any wolf, or give receipt of the same for the payment thereof, on penalty of forfeiting the sum of four pounds; No pate or scalp to be received, or receipt passed by a con-