

Treasurer's
power.

before a justice of the peace to the faithful[1] discharge of his trust; and such treasurer is hereby impowered to demand, sue for, recover and receive all such sums of money, debts and dues as shall at any time belong to the said proprietors, or be anyways due or coming to them, and make payment thereof again to such persons, and for such uses, as he shall be lawfully ordered and directed from the proprietors; and of all this render his reasonable account, on demand; and such treasurer shall continue in his office till the proprietors shall see cause to chuse another. [*Passed August 8.*]

CHAPTER 3.

AN ACT TO ENABLE PROPRIETORS OF GENERAL [AND] [OR] COMMON F[E]I[E]LDS TO RAISE TAXES, &c.

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

Proprietors of
common fields
impowered to
raise taxes;

[SECT. 1.] That, in every town in this province where several allotments of lands are inclosed in one general or common f[e]i[e]ld or inclosure, and as such improved, or where all the proprietors of lands shall hereafter see cause to inclose, fence and improve the same in such manner, that, in such case, the proprietors of such general f[e]i[e]lds, respectively, shall be and are hereby fully authorized and impowered, in a proprietors' meeting for that purpose regularly convened, by a major vote of the proprietors then present (the vote to be collected according to the interest of the proprietors), to agree upon and pass one or more votes for the raising and collecting such sum or sums of money, from time to time, as they shall judge necessary, for the carrying on or managing any publick affairs relating to such proprietries; and that they be alike impowered to chuse three or five assessors for the assessing and apportioning such sum or sums, so agreed on and voted, upon the proprietors of such lands, according to their several interests therein, and to appoint a collector or collectors to gather in and collect the same; which collector or collectors shall be and are hereby fully impowered to levy and collect the sum or sums so set and apportioned for such proprietors to pay, in the same manner as constables of towns within this province are impowered to levy and collect the publick rates or taxes, and to pay in the same to the proprietors or their clerk, who is hereby impowered to grant warrants for the levying and collecting such assessment at such time as shall be by them appointed for the payment thereof, and such clerk shall be accountable to the proprietors therefor; the person or persons so assessing the said proprietors, and the collector or collectors that shall be so appointed for the gathering and collecting the sum or sums so granted and agreed upon by the said proprietors, to be assessed and collected as aforesaid, shall be under oath for the true and faithful[1] performance of their services respectively; which oath shall be administered to them as the law provides for swearing town officers.

—and to choose
assessors and
collectors.

Proprietors or
their clerk to
grant warrants
for such taxes.

Assessors and
collectors to be
under oath.

Provided, nevertheless,

Aggrieved pro-
prietors to have
liberty of ap-
pealing.

[SECT. 2.] That any such proprietor, who apprehends himself aggr[e]i[e]ved or over-rated in the making or apportioning such assessment, shall have liberty to apply to the justices of [the] general sessions of the peace, in the respective counties where such lands lye, for rel[e]i[e]f; and, in such case, the said justices are hereby fully impowered to grant rel[e]i[e]f accordingly. [*Passed August 8; published August 10.*]