

# HOUSE . . . . No. 911

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Bill accompanying the petition of David P. Rice and others that the power of juries in civil and equity cases be enlarged. Joint Judiciary. January 17.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixteen.

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### AN ACT

To enlarge the Power of the Jury in Civil and Equity Cases and to restrict the Power of a Judge to declare a Non-Suit.

*Be'it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 In all trials of civil or equity causes whether in the  
2 nature of contract, tort or divorce or otherwise, when  
3 a jury has been sworn and any evidence, direct or cir-  
4 cumstantial, has been presented which is at all material  
5 to the issues involved, the presiding judge shall submit  
6 the whole cause in the usual manner to the jury sitting  
7 in the cause; and any existing law or precedent antago-  
8 nistic to this section is hereby annulled and repealed.

