

HOUSE No. 1000.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, BOSTON, Feb. 13, 1901.

The Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

I have the honor to transmit for your consideration a communication, accompanied by a draft of a bill, from the Hon. Elihu Root, Secretary of War of the United States, requesting the consent of the Commonwealth to the acquisition by the United States of land on Peddock's Island in Boston Harbor adjoining the present military reservation on said island.

W. MURRAY CRANE.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Jan. 31, 1901.

To the Governor of Massachusetts, Boston, Mass.

SIR:—The present military reservation on Peddock's Island, Boston Harbor, Massachusetts, has been found too small to afford suitable sites for the necessary buildings for garrison for the armament at that post.

It is the intention of the Department to increase the size of the present reservation on said island by the acquisition of from 50 to 80 acres more of land—the exact amount not having been definitely determined. I have, therefore, the honor to inclose herewith a draft of an act giving the consent of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the acquisition by the United States of 80 acres of land, or so much thereof as may be found necessary, adjoining the present military res-

ervation on Peddock's Island; and to request your good offices in securing the passage of the same at the present session of the General Court of that State.

The draft has been prepared in accordance with the form of the act approved June 8, 1898. (Chap. 512, Acts and Resolves of Mass., 1898.)

Very respectfully,

ELIHU ROOT,

Secretary of War.

AN ACT GIVING CONSENT TO THE ACQUISITION BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OF EIGHTY ACRES OF LAND OR SO MUCH THEREOF AS THE SECRETARY OF WAR OF THE UNITED STATES MAY DEEM NECESSARY, ON PEDDOCK'S ISLAND, BOSTON HARBOR, MASSACHUSETTS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The consent of the Commonwealth of
2 Massachusetts is hereby granted to the United States of
3 America to acquire by purchase or condemnation for
4 the purpose of national defence eighty acres of land, or
5 so much thereof as the Secretary of War of said United
6 States may deem necessary, on Peddock's Island, Boston
7 Harbor, adjoining the present United States military
8 reservation on said island.

1 SECTION 2. Jurisdiction over the area so acquired is
2 hereby granted and ceded to the United States: *provided*
3 (and the cession and consent aforesaid are granted upon
4 the express condition), that the Commonwealth shall re-
5 tain a concurrent jurisdiction with the United States in
6 and over the land so acquired, so far as that all civil
7 processes and such criminal processes as may issue under
8 the authority of the Commonwealth against any person
9 or persons charged with crimes committed without the
10 area so acquired may be executed therein in the same
11 manner as though this cession had not been granted.

1 SECTION 3. The United States government is hereby
2 authorized, upon such terms and conditions as shall be
3 prescribed by the harbor and land commissioners, to
4 occupy and fill such flats belonging to the Common-
5 wealth, and to place such structures in or over the tide
6 water adjacent to the area herein authorized to be acquired
7 as may be necessary for the purposes for which said area
8 is to be used.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall be void unless a suitable
2 plan or plans of the premises acquired by the United
3 States under the provisions of this act shall be deposited
4 in the office of the secretary of the Commonwealth within
5 six months from the date of such acquisition.

1 SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon its pas-
2 sage.

