

SENATE No. 146

To accompany the petition of Alfred Bunker relative to voting rights in the First Church in Roxbury. Mercantile Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixteen.

AN ACT

Relative to Voting Rights in the First Church in Roxbury.

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. Section four of chapter one hun-
2 dred and thirty-three of the acts of the year
3 eighteen hundred and twenty-five is hereby
4 amended by inserting after the word "taxed", in
5 the eleventh line, the words: — or who have paid
6 for seats in said meeting house for two consecutive
7 years next preceding any vote or election, — so as
8 to read as follows: — *Section 4. Be it further*
9 *enacted,* That said corporation may take, hold and
10 possess, by gift, devise, purchase, or otherwise,
11 real and personal estate, not exceeding forty

12 thousand dollars, exclusive of their meeting house
13 and its appurtenances, as a ministerial fund, the
14 interest only of which shall be expended annually,
15 in such manner as the deacons of the church in
16 said society and the standing committee for the
17 time being may deem fit, or the proprietors by
18 their vote direct, and those only whose pews are
19 taxed or who have paid for seats in said meeting
20 house for two consecutive years next preceding
21 any vote or election shall be deemed legal voters;
22 and the said corporation may make and establish
23 by-laws for the better ordering their affairs:
24 *Provided*, the same are not repugnant to the con-
25 stitution or laws of this commonwealth.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its
2 passage.

