

SENATE . . . . No. 221.

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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SENATE, April 19, 1889.

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the Order relative to the revision and amendment or the repeal of the provisions of chapter 216 of the Public Statutes and Acts in amendment thereof, relating to the empanelling of a jury and the taking a view of the premises destroyed by fire, report the accompanying Bill.

For the Committee,

HENRY L. PARKER.

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-nine.

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### AN ACT

In relation to Fire Inquests.

*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 one of chapter one hun-  
2 dred and ninety-nine of the acts of the year  
3 eighteen hundred eighty-eight, is hereby amended  
4 by striking out in the thirty-second line the  
5 words "jury of" and inserting therein the  
6 word "an" in place thereof, and by striking out  
7 in the thirty-third, thirty-fourth, thirty-fifth,  
8 thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh lines thereof, the  
9 words "issue a warrant to a constable of such  
10 city or town requiring him forthwith to summon  
11 six good and lawful men of the county to appear  
12 before the court or justice at a time and place  
13 expressed in the warrant," and inserting in place  
14 thereof the words "hold an inquest in the manner

15 required in, and subject to the provisions of  
16 chapter twenty-six of the Public Statutes," so  
17 that the clause of said section as amended shall  
18 read as follows: Whenever from the investiga-  
19 tion aforesaid there appear reasonable grounds  
20 for believing the fire was caused by design, the  
21 chief of the board of fire engineers of the city,  
22 or of the town having such board of fire engi-  
23 neers, or the chairman of the board of selectmen  
24 of the town having no such board of fire engi-  
25 neers, shall apply to a police, district or municipal  
26 court, or trial justice for an inquest, and such  
27 court or justice shall forthwith hold an inquest in  
28 the manner required in and subject to the pro-  
29 visions of chapter twenty-six of the Public  
30 Statutes, to inquire when and by what means the  
31 fire originated.

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

