

# HOUSE . . . . No. 152.

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## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 15, 1878.

The Committee on Education, to whom was referred the petition of the Mayor of Boston for the passage of an Act incorporating the Trustees of the Public Library of said city, report the accompanying Bill.

For the Committee,

J. Q. A. BRACKETT.

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-eight.

### AN ACT

To incorporate the Trustees of the Public Library of  
the City of Boston.

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

1    SECT. 1. The trustees of the public library of  
2 the city of Boston for the time being are hereby  
3 made a corporation by the name of the Trustees of  
4 the Public Library of the City of Boston; and said  
5 trustees and their successors in office shall continue  
6 a body corporate for the purposes hereinafter set  
7 forth, with all the powers and privileges, and subject  
8 to all the duties, restrictions, and liabilities, set forth  
9 in the general laws relating to such corporations.

1    SECT. 2. Said corporation shall have authority  
2 to take and hold real and personal estate to an  
3 amount not exceeding one million dollars, which  
4 may be given, granted, bequeathed, or devised to it  
5 and accepted by the trustees for the benefit of the

6 public library of the city of Boston, or any branch  
7 library, or any purpose connected therewith. Money  
8 received by it shall be invested by the treasurer of  
9 the city of Boston, under the direction of the finance  
10 committee of said city; and all securities belonging  
11 to said corporation shall be placed in the custody of  
12 said treasurer: *provided always* that both the prin-  
13 cipal and income thereof shall be appropriated ac-  
14 cording to the terms of the donation, devise, or be-  
15 quest, under the direction of said corporation.

1     SECT. 3. The trustees of the public library shall  
2 be seven in number. The chairman of the board of  
3 aldermen and the president of the common council  
4 for the time being shall be *ex officio* members of the  
5 board of trustees; and, in the month of April of the  
6 year eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, the mayor  
7 shall appoint, subject to the confirmation of the city  
8 council, five citizens of Boston, not members of the  
9 city council, to be members of the board of trustees  
10 of the public library, one of whom shall hold office  
11 for five years, one for four years, one for three years,  
12 one for two years, and one for one year; and, upon  
13 such appointment and confirmation, the terms of  
14 office of the trustees of the public library then hold-  
15 ing office shall cease and determine. And annually  
16 thereafter, in the month of April in each year, the  
17 mayor shall appoint, subject to the confirmation of  
18 the city council, one citizen at large as a trustee of  
19 the public library, to serve for a term of five years  
20 from the first Monday in May in the year in which  
21 he shall be appointed. Said trustees shall at all

22 times be subject to removal from office for cause by  
23 a vote of two-thirds of each branch of the city  
24 council present and voting thereon. Whenever any  
25 vacancy shall occur in said board of trustees by  
26 death, resignation, or otherwise, said vacancy shall  
27 be filled by the appointment in the manner aforesaid  
28 of another trustee, who shall hold his office for the  
29 residue of the unexpired term. No member of said  
30 board of trustees shall receive any pecuniary com-  
31 pensation for his services.

1     SECT. 4. The members of said board shall meet  
2 for organization on the first Monday of each May,  
3 and choose one of their number as president. They  
4 shall have power to make such rules and regula-  
5 tions relating to said public library and its branches  
6 and its officers and servants, and to fix and enforce  
7 penalties for the violation of such rules and regula-  
8 tions, as they may deem expedient, provided that the  
9 same shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of  
10 this act, and shall be subject at all times to such  
11 limitations, restrictions, and amendments as the city  
12 council may direct.

1     SECT. 5. The said trustees shall have the general  
2 care and control of the central public library, now  
3 located in Boylston street, in said city, and of all  
4 branches thereof which have been or which may  
5 hereafter be established, together with the buildings  
6 and rooms containing the same, and the fixtures and  
7 furniture connected therewith, and also of the ex-  
8 penditures of the moneys appropriated therefor.

1   SECT. 6.   The said board of trustees may appoint  
2 a superintendent or librarian, with such assistants  
3 and subordinate officers as they may think necessary  
4 or expedient, and may remove the same, and fix  
5 their compensation; *provided* that the amount thus  
6 paid shall not exceed the sum appropriated by the  
7 city council for that item of expense, and the in-  
8 come of any moneys which may lawfully be appro-  
9 priated for the same purpose from funds or prop-  
10 erty held by said trustees under the provisions of  
11 this act.

1   SECT. 7.   The city council shall have power to  
2 pass such ordinances, not inconsistent herewith or  
3 repugnant to other laws of the Commonwealth, as to  
4 the duties and authority of said board, as they may  
5 from time to time deem expedient.

1   SECT. 8.   This act shall take effect upon its pas-  
2 sage.





