

SENATE No. 189.

[House No. 363, as amended.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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

AN ACT

To regulate Special Contracts for Labor.

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. No contract to forfeit the whole or a
2 part of wages to be earned by any employé in any
3 manufacturing establishment, by reason of leaving
4 the employ of any person or corporation carrying
5 on the same, without notice, shall be effectual to
6 prevent any such employé from recovering any
7 sum due from such person or corporation for
8 wages, unless such contract is in writing, signed
9 by the employé and such person or corporation,
10 and made upon the condition (which condition

11 shall be expressed in the contract), that in case the
12 employé shall be discharged, unless for miscon-
13 duct or incapacity on the part of such employé,
14 without two weeks' notice, such person or corpo-
15 ration shall forfeit to such employé an amount
16 equal to the wages which such employé would
17 have earned if he had worked for two weeks un-
18 der the contract existing at the time of his dis-
19 charge.

1 SECT. 2. Whoever shall by intimidation or
2 force prevent or seek to prevent any other person
3 or persons from entering or continuing in the em-
4 ployment of any corporation, company or indi-
5 vidual, shall be punished therefor by a fine not
6 exceeding one hundred dollars.

1 SECT. 3. This act shall take effect on its
2 passage.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, May 5, 1875.

Passed to be engrossed.

Sent up for concurrence.

GEO. A. MARDEN, *Clerk.*

IN SENATE, May 10, 1874.

Passed to be engrossed in concurrence, with the following amendment :

Strike out section one, and insert—

1 SECT. 1. Any manufacturing establishment
2 which shall require from an employé a notice of
3 intention to leave the employment of such estab-
4 lishment, under penalty of forfeiture of any part of
5 wages earned, shall be liable to the payment of a
6 like forfeiture if they shall discharge an employé
7 without notice, except for incapacity or miscon-
8 duct ; *provided, however,* that this act shall not
9 apply in case of a general suspension of labor in
10 said establishments.

