

## HOUSE....No. 130.

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### Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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IN SENATE, April 9, 1853.

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was committed the order of April 5th, directing an inquiry into the expediency of amending the fifteenth chapter of the Revised Statutes, report the accompanying bill.

For the Committee,

A. A. ABBOTT.

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-  
Three.

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### AN ACT

Relating to Town Officers.

*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. All persons elected or appointed to any  
2 town office in which an oath of office is not required,  
3 shall be summoned in the manner provided in the  
4 thirty-ninth section of the fifteenth chapter of the  
5 Revised Statutes, in the case of officers who are  
6 required to take an oath, and shall be required to  
7 appear before the town clerk and declare their accept-  
8 ance or refusal of such office, or to file a declaration  
9 in writing thereof with the town clerk, within seven  
10 days after such notice ; and the town clerk shall make  
11 a record of such acceptances and refusals ; and any

12 person so elected or appointed and summoned, and  
13 not exempted by law from holding the office to which  
14 he is elected, who shall neglect to declare his accept-  
15 ance as aforesaid, shall forfeit the sum of five dollars  
16 to the use of the town.

1     SECT. 2. Whenever any person elected or appoint-  
2 ed to any town office, and duly summoned, shall, in  
3 case an oath of office is required, neglect to take such  
4 oath before the town clerk, and to file with the town  
5 clerk a certificate of his having taken such oath be-  
6 fore a justice of the peace within seven days after no-  
7 tice as aforesaid, or, in case such oath is not required,  
8 to declare his acceptance as aforesaid within seven  
9 days after such notice, or shall within seven days  
10 after such notice declare his refusal of such office,  
11 such office shall be deemed thereby to be vacated, and  
12 the town may fill such vacancy by a new choice at  
13 any other legal meeting.

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SENATE, April 13, 1853.

Passed to be engrossed.

Sent down for concurrence.

CHAS. CALHOUN, *Clerk.*

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 15, 1853.

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred a "Bill relating to Town Officers," have considered the same, and report that the same ought to pass.

For the Committee,

S. F. PLIMPTON.