

HOUSE....No. 108.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 21, 1854.

The Joint Special Committee, to whom was referred the Petition of William Dunbar and others, praying for the enactment of a Ten Hour Law, have considered the same, and Report the accompanying Bill.

For the Committee,

H. W. BENCHLEY, *Chairman.*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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

AN ACT

Concerning the Employment of Persons by Manufacturing Corporations.

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. From and after the first day of October,
2 in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-
3 four, no person shall be employed in laboring by or
4 for any company incorporated by or under the laws of
5 this Commonwealth, more than ten hours in any one
6 day, except in the cases provided for in the second
7 section of this act.

1 SECT. 2. There shall be excepted from the forego-
2 ing provision of this act, the following cases, viz. :

3 the employment of persons in the running of railroad
4 trains, the employment of persons in making repairs
5 necessary to prevent the stoppage or interruption of
6 the ordinary running of engines, mills, machinery, or
7 railroad trains, and the employment of persons in do-
8 ing labor of necessity or charity.

1 SECT. 3. Any company incorporated by the laws
2 of this Commonwealth, which shall employ any person,
3 or have in its employment any person, contrary to the
4 provisions of this act, and also any agent, superin-
5 tendent, overseer, or other employee of any corpora-
6 tion who shall employ any person in laboring for any
7 such corporation, contrary to the provisions of this
8 act, shall, for each offence, forfeit to the use of the
9 person prosecuting, the sum of fifty dollars, to be re-
10 covered in any court competent to try the same.

