

# HOUSE No. 27.

Reported by a Special Joint Committee—viz. Messrs. Lincoln, Jr. Merrill, of the Senate; Messrs. Kendall of Boston, Faris, Newburyport, Tillinghast, Wrentham, of the House.

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty one.

### RESOLVE

*On the Petition of Seward Porter.*

*Resolved,* That the Commonwealth of Massachusetts grant, and it does hereby grant, to Seward Porter, his heirs and assigns, owners of the steam-boat line hereinafter mentioned, for the purpose of constructing a break-water, wharf and basin or dock for the accommodation and safety of steam-boats, and for no other purpose, a portion of the flats in Boston Harbour, on the southeast side of the channel, leading along the said Harbour near to the wharves at the southeasterly part of the city of Boston, to the South Boston Free Bridge, between the junction of said channel, with the channel leading to

Charles River Bridge, on the one side, and a point in said flats, opposite to Liverpool Wharf, so called, on the other side, as the city council, of the city of Boston, shall assign and designate, to the extent, and of the dimensions following, to wit: measuring five hundred feet on the southeasterly side of said channel, leading to South Boston Free Bridge, and five hundred feet in breadth, southeasterly to a southeasterly boundary, parallel to, and of a corresponding length with, the boundary line, which is next towards said channel. *Provided*, that the city of Boston shall be put to no expense for such location of said flats so granted. *Provided also*, and this grant is made upon condition, that a steam-boat line, consisting of one or more boats, of not less than two hundred tons burthen, shall be hereafter maintained at suitable seasons of the year, to run between Boston and Portland, making at least two passages a week, excepting during temporary and occasional interruptions by casualties and extraordinary accidents. And in case such line of steam-boats shall cease at any time hereafter, for and during the term of twelve months, to be maintained for the regular conveyance and transportation of passengers and goods from Boston to Portland, in manner as above provided, then this grant shall be void, and the granted premises, with the Breakwater wharf, and other improvements, shall revert to the Commonwealth, and in case of said granted flats reverting to the Commonwealth, the said Porter, his heirs or assigns, are to receive such compensation for such improvements, as may be made on said granted premises, as shall be determined by commissioners to be appointed by the Governor for that purpose.

*Provided also*, that any works to be erected on said

granted premises, shall be erected in such manner as may be directed by the city council, and to their satisfaction. *Provided also*, that no steam-boat shall be so moored, in any dock or basin constructed on said premises, as to project out into the said channel leading to South Boston Free Bridge. *Provided also*, and this grant is made upon the condition, that the same shall be void, unless such breakwater, wharf, and basin or dock, or pier, shall within two years be erected on said flats.

*Provided, also*, and this grant is made upon the further condition, that from and after the construction of such pier, wharf, basin or dock on such portion of flats hereby granted, one steam-boat at least shall be moored during the winter season of every year, at such breakwater, wharf, basin, dock or pier, and kept in readiness at a reasonable charge to tow vessels into and out of Boston Harbour, and also for a reasonable compensation to put to sea for the relief of vessels wrecked on the coast.

*Provided also*, that the Commonwealth reserves to itself the right to make any other grants in the harbour of Boston for the encouragement of steam-boat, or other navigation in such manner, as the Legislature may deem expedient from time to time.

