

the property of literary, benevolent, charitable and scientific institutions incorporated within this Commonwealth is now exempt by law ; but no lands so acquired and held and not opened to the public shall be so exempt from taxation for a longer period than two years. Said corporation shall never make any division or dividend of or from its property or income among its members. Proviso.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved May 21, 1891.*

AN ACT TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL TOWN-MEETING OF THE TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN. Chap.353

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows :*

The proceedings of the annual town-meeting of the town of Belchertown, held on the second day of March in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-one and by adjournment on the sixteenth day of the same month, shall not be invalid by reason of the failure of said town or any of its officers, or of any caucus held for the nomination of candidates to be voted for at either of said meetings or any of its officers, to comply with the provisions of chapter three hundred and eighty-six of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and ninety or any act in amendment thereof ; and the proceedings of each of said meetings, and the election of officers thereat, are hereby ratified, confirmed and made legal. Proceedings confirmed.

*Approved May 21, 1891.*

AN ACT RELATING TO THE CONVEYANCE OF REAL ESTATE IN CASES OF DISSEIZIN. Chap.354

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows :*

Notwithstanding disseizin or adverse possession, any conveyance of real estate otherwise valid shall be as effectual to transfer the title as if the owner of the title were actually seized and possessed of such real estate and shall vest in the grantee the rights of entry and of action for recovery of the estate incident to such title. Conveyance of real estate in cases of disseizin.

*Approved May 21, 1891.*

AN ACT TO RESTRICT THE HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS IN CITIES. Chap.355

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows :*

SECTION 1. No building more than one hundred and twenty-five feet in height, above the grade of the street, shall hereafter be erected in any city : *provided, however,* Height of buildings in cities limited.

that this restriction shall not apply to grain or coal elevators, or sugar refineries, nor to steeples, domes, towers or cupolas erected for strictly ornamental purposes, of fireproof material, on buildings of the above height or less.

Provisions may be enforced, etc.

SECTION 2. Any court having jurisdiction in equity shall also have such jurisdiction to enforce and to restrain the violation of the provisions of this act.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved May 21, 1891.*

*Chap. 356* AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF PROBATION OFFICERS.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

Probation officers to be appointed by justices of courts.

SECTION 1. The justice of each municipal, police or district court shall appoint one person to perform the duties of probation officer, as hereinafter named, under the jurisdiction of said court. The appointment of such officer for the municipal court of the city of Boston shall be made by the chief justice of said court, who may appoint as many assistants, not exceeding three, to said probation officer as are needed to carry out the purposes of this act. Each probation officer appointed as herein provided shall hold his office during the pleasure of the court making the appointment.

To hold office during the pleasure of the court.

Not to be active members of the regular police force, etc.

SECTION 2. Said probation officers shall not be active members of the regular police force, but shall in the execution of their official duties have all the powers of police officers. The records of any of said probation officers may at all times be inspected by the chief of police or city marshal of any city or town, or by the board of police of the city of Boston.

Inspection of records.

May recommend any convicted person to be placed on probation, etc.

SECTION 3. Each probation officer shall inquire into the nature of every criminal case brought before the court under whose jurisdiction he acts, and may recommend that any person convicted by said court be placed upon probation; the court may place the person so convicted in the care of said probation officer for such time and upon such conditions as may seem proper.

To furnish statement to person released.

SECTION 4. Each person released upon probation as aforesaid shall be furnished by the probation officer with a written statement of the terms and conditions of his release; each probation officer shall keep full records of all cases

Records.