

*Chap. 266* AN ACT RELATING TO FIRE ESCAPES, AND TO THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND TENEMENT AND LODGING HOUSES.

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

Fire escapes to be provided for factories, etc.

SECTION 1. Section fifteen of chapter one hundred and four of the Public Statutes is amended so as to read as follows: "All factories and manufacturing establishments, three or more stories in height, in which forty or more persons are employed, unless supplied with a sufficient number of tower stairways, shall be provided with sufficient fire escapes properly constructed upon the outside thereof, and connected with the interior by doors or windows, with suitable landings at every story above the first, including the attic, if the same is occupied for workrooms. Such fire escapes shall be kept in good repair, and free from obstruction. Fire escapes existing on the first day of July in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, need not be changed in consequence of the provisions of this section, unless such change is necessary for the protection of life. Cities may by ordinance provide that the provisions of this section relating to fire escapes shall apply to all buildings three or more stories in height within their limits."

Tenements and lodging houses.

SECTION 2. Section twenty of said chapter is amended by adding at the end thereof the following words: "Every building three or more stories in height, in whole or in part used, occupied, leased or rented, or designed to be used, occupied, leased or rented for a tenement to be occupied by more than four families, or a lodging house, shall be provided with a sufficient means of escape in case of fire, to be approved by the inspector of factories and public buildings."

Penalties.

SECTION 3. Section twenty-two of said chapter is amended so as to read as follows: "Any person or corporation being the owner, lessee or occupant of a manufacturing establishment, factory or workshop, or owning or controlling the use of any building or room mentioned in section twenty, shall, for the violation of any provision of sections thirteen to twenty-one inclusive, be punished by a fine of not less than fifty nor more than five hundred dollars, and shall also be liable for all damages suffered by any employé by reason of such violation; but no criminal prosecution shall be made for such violation until four weeks after notice in writing by an inspector of factories and public buildings of any changes necessary to be made

Prosecution not to be made until four weeks after notice of changes to be made.

to comply with the provisions of said sections has been sent by mail or delivered to such person or corporation, nor then, if in the mean time such changes have been made in accordance with such notification. Notice to one member of a firm, or to the clerk or treasurer of a corporation owning, leasing, occupying or controlling, as aforesaid, shall be deemed a sufficient notice under this section to all the members of such firm or to such corporation. Nothing in this section shall be so construed as to prohibit a person injured from bringing an action to recover damages for his injuries."

Action for damages not prohibited.

SECTION 4. Section twenty-three of said chapter is amended so as to read as follows: "The authority of said inspectors to enforce the provisions of sections thirteen to twenty-two inclusive shall not extend to the city of Boston, or to any other city which, under its charter or any other special statute, has officers specially appointed for the enforcement of the same or similar provisions."

Not to extend to cities where officers are specially appointed for enforcement, etc.

SECTION 5. Section twenty-four of said chapter is amended so as to read as follows: "A district police officer detailed to perform the duties required by sections thirteen to twenty-one inclusive who fails to perform such duties faithfully shall be immediately discharged from his office."

District police officer, failing to perform duties, to be discharged.

SECTION 6. Section ten of chapter one hundred and three of the Public Statutes is hereby amended by striking out of the second line the words "thirteen to fifteen inclusive, and nineteen to twenty-two inclusive," and inserting therefor the words "thirteen to twenty-two inclusive."

To enforce provisions of P. S. 104, §§ 13-22.

*Approved May 26, 1882.*

AN ACT IN RELATION TO THE ATTENDANCE OF WITNESSES BEFORE A BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS.

*Chap. 267*

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

SECTION 1. Section seven of chapter one hundred and sixty-nine of the Public Statutes is amended by inserting in the fourth line after the word "selectmen," the words "or a board of police commissioners;" and by inserting in the tenth line of said section after the word "selectmen," the words "or board of police commissioners."

Witnesses may be summoned before police commissioners.

SECTION 2. Section eight of said chapter one hundred and sixty-nine is also amended by inserting after the word "selectmen," at the end of the third line the words "or chairman of the board of police commissioners."

Failing to attend, warrant may be issued.

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

*Approved May 26, 1882.*