

other building for the purposes of the county of Suffolk, or city of Boston, shall be made by the mayor and aldermen of the said city, except as herein provided, to wit: whenever the mayor and aldermen shall, by vote, declare that such erection, alteration or repair is necessary or expedient, they shall make and record an estimate of the expense thereof, and if such estimate shall exceed the sum of five thousand dollars, a copy of the said vote and estimate shall be sent to the common council for their concurrence, rejection or amendment.

county buildings, an estimate of expenditure shall be recorded, and if over \$5,000, be concurred in by common council.

SECT. 3. The board of aldermen of the city of Boston shall, commencing with the ensuing municipal year, consist of twelve persons, one alderman and two assistant assessors from and in each ward, to be chosen severally in and by the legal voters of the said ward, in the same form and manner, and at the same time, as now provided by law for the election of members of the common council, and all acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith are repealed.

Board of aldermen shall consist of one alderman and two assistant assessors from each ward, chosen by legal voters thereof.

SECT. 4. This act shall not go into effect unless it be approved by a majority of the legal voters of the city of Boston, voting thereon by yeas and nays, in their respective wards, at the annual election of state officers in November next; and the mayor and aldermen of the said city shall insert in the warrant, for the aforesaid election, an article submitting the aforesaid question to the decision of the said legal voters of the city of Boston. [*Approved by the Governor, May 24, 1851.*]

This act must first be approved by majority of voters;

an article therefor to be inserted in warrant.

An Act concerning the Wier Bridge in Taunton.

Chap 338.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECT. 1. Within three months after the passage of this act, the town of Taunton shall be and is hereby required to alter, enlarge and reconstruct the bridge over Taunton River, at the Wier Village in said Taunton, in such manner as shall afford not less than twenty-five feet space between the piers by the eastern channel, and not less than the same space by the middle channel, and which shall give not less than two and a half feet additional space between the bridge and water over the eastern channel, and not less than two feet additional space over the middle channel, more than is provided by the present bridge for the passage of vessels and merchandise; and all damage occasioned by such alteration, enlargement or reconstruction, shall be paid and allowed by the order of the county com-

Town of Taunton required to enlarge the Wier bridge.

To what size, &c.

Expenses to be allowed by county commissioners, and paid by their direction.

When to take effect.

misioners of the county of Bristol, out of the county treasury, in the manner provided by law in case of the alteration or discontinuance of highways; and the expenses of said alteration, enlargement and reconstruction shall be paid by the said town of Taunton, or from the county treasury, in whole or in part, as the county commissioners, exercising their discretion pursuant to the provisions of the forty-sixth section of the twenty-fourth chapter of the Revised Statutes, shall direct.

SECT. 2. This act shall take effect from and after its passage. [*Approved by the Governor, May 24, 1851.*]

Chap 339.

An Act in addition to "An Act concerning Banks and Banking."

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

Forfeiture, \$500 for neglect.

SECT. 1. Any bank neglecting to comply with the provisions of an act concerning banks and banking, passed on the twenty-fifth day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, shall forfeit to the use of the Commonwealth, for each and every offence, a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars.

Tenth section of former act repealed.

SECT. 2. The tenth section of the act above named, to which this act is in addition, is hereby repealed.

When to take effect.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect on and after the first day of October next. [*Approved by the Governor, May 24, 1851.*]

Chap 340.

An Act to exempt from Levy on Execution the Homestead of a Householder having a Family.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

Homestead, to the value of \$500, reserved to the debtor having a family —exempted from attachment.

SECT. 1. In addition to the property now exempted by law from sale or levy on execution, there shall be exempted the lot and buildings thereon, occupied as a residence and owned by the debtor, or any such buildings owned by the debtor on land not his own, but of which he shall be in the rightful possession, by lease or otherwise, he being a householder, and having a family, to the value of five hundred dollars. And no release or waiver of such exemption shall be valid in law, unless by deed for good consideration, acknowledged and recorded as in the case of conveyances of real estate.

Such exemption to be continued after death of the householder, to his widow and family, until

SECT. 2. Such exemption shall continue after the death of such householder, for the benefit of the widow and family of the deceased party, some one of them continuing