

SECT. 4. The fees of the measurer shall be prescribed Fees of measurer. by the mayor and aldermen or the selectmen of the several cities and towns in which they shall be appointed, and they shall be paid one-half by the seller and one-half by the purchaser.

SECT. 5. If any measurer appointed under this act shall use, or have in his possession with intent to use, for the purposes herein provided, any false weights, scales, balance, or other instrument for weighing, or shall collude with the purchaser or the seller with the intent to defraud the other party, or shall make and utter any false and fraudulent certificate under this act, he may be removed from his office by the mayor and aldermen or selectmen, and shall also, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, and by imprisonment not exceeding six months in the house of correction, according to the nature and aggravation of the offence. Penalty for using false weights, etc. or giving false certificates.

SECT. 6. This act shall take effect on the first day of June next; and all other acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed. *[Approved by the Governor, April 26, 1855.]* When to take effect.

An Act authorizing the sale of Real Estate held by Married Women who are Insane, in certain cases. *Chap. 233*

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. When any married woman, seized or possessed of any real estate, shall become insane, the husband of such married woman, or the selectmen of the town wherein she has her legal settlement, may petition the judge of probate within and for the county wherein she resides, setting forth the fact of her insanity and also the inability of her husband suitably to provide for her, and also that she holds the fee to certain real estate, (describing the same,) and praying that said real estate, or such parts thereof as said judge may think proper, may be sold and the proceeds thereof applied to pay the expenses of her maintenance during her insanity. Husband or selectmen may petition judge of probate, etc.

SECT. 2. Upon the presentation of a petition as provided in the preceding section, the judge of probate shall order the petitioner to give notice thereof to all persons interested, in such manner as he shall direct, that they may appear and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of said petitioner should not be granted; and if upon such a hearing it shall Notice of petition to be given.

appear to said judge that such married woman is insane, and that her husband is unable suitably to provide for her, and also that the fee to said real estate is held by her, the said judge may appoint some suitable person or persons and authorize him or them to sell said real estate, or such part thereof as he shall direct, and in the manner by him directed, and to apply the proceeds of said sale to the payment of such expenses as have already accrued, and such as may thereafter acerue in the proper support and maintenance of such married woman during her insanity.

Judge to appoint person to sell.

Person appointed to give bond.

SECT. 3. The person or persons thus appointed to sell the real estate of a married woman as is provided in the preceding section, shall, before proceeding to sell the same, give a bond, approved by the judge of probate, for the faithful performance of the trust reposed in him or them. They shall also render to said judge of probate, or his successor in said office, whenever required so to do, an account, under oath, of all money received for the real estate so sold, and also of all sums paid out by him or them for her support. And upon her recovery from her insanity, or upon her death, he or they shall render to said judge a final account, including all charges and expenses in the care and management of said funds; and such balance as shall be found, upon such settlement, in his or their hands, shall be paid over forthwith to such person or persons as said judge of probate shall direct.

To render account, etc.

SECT. 4. This act shall take effect from and after its passage. [*Approved by the Governor, April 26, 1855.*]

Chap. 234 An Act to incorporate the Northampton Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

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

Corporators.

Name.

Duration.

Powers, privileges, etc.

SECT. 1. G. D. Peck, H. H. Chilson, A. H. Bullen, Charles Smith, S. M. Smith, their associates and successors, are hereby made a corporation by the name of the Northampton Mutual Fire Insurance Company, to be established in the town of Northampton, for the term of twenty-eight years, for the purpose of insuring dwelling-houses and other buildings and personal property against loss or damage by fire; with all the powers and privileges, and subject to all the duties, liabilities and restrictions, set forth in the thirty-seventh and forty-fourth chapters of the Revised Statutes, and all other laws of this Commonwealth, made or to be made, relating to such corporations.