

Officers, how
appointed.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That the officers of said Corporation or Society shall be appointed agreeably to the present constitution and rules of said Church; *Provided*, They contain nothing contrary to the constitution and laws of this Commonwealth; and that all leases that have been heretofore executed by the Rector, Warden and Vestry, in pursuance of the act to which this is in addition, and in conformity to the votes of the proprietors of the Church, shall be equally valid in law, as any leases that may be executed by the Rector, Wardens and Vestry, after the passing of this act and in conformity thereto; and also all deeds of pews that have been executed by the Rector and Wardens.

May issue war-
rant.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That Horatio Townsend, Esq. one of the proprietors of said Church, be, and is hereby authorised to issue his warrant, directed to some principal proprietor of said Church or member of said Society, requiring him to notify and warn the other members thereof, qualified to vote in manner as aforesaid, to meet at some suitable time and place within said town of Dedham, to choose such officers as they are authorised by their constitution to choose, and to do and transact all such other matters and things as may be necessary for the due organization and regulation of said Church and Society.

[Approved by the Governor, June 14, 1814.]

CHAP. LVI.

An Act to regulate the taking the Fish called Salmon, Shad, and Alewives, in the Sebasticook river, in the town of Clinton.

May take fish.

SEC. 1. **BE** *it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That from and after the passing of this act, it shall and may be lawful for the town of Clinton to take Salmon, Shad, and Alewives, within the limits of said town, in the Sebasticook river, from the northerly line of the town of Winslow, to the north-

erly line of land owned, occupied, and now in the possession of Abram Wallis, in said town of Clinton, on such days only, as are or may be allowed by law, for catching Fish within the county of Kennebec, and at such places within these limits, as a committee, who may be appointed by the town, as is hereafter provided, may direct.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That the inhabitants of the town of Clinton, at their meeting for the choice of Shall appoint committee. Town Officers, in the month of March, or April, annually, be, and hereby are authorised and empowered, to choose by ballot, three or five persons, being freeholders in said town, a committee to oversee the taking said Fish as aforesaid, which committee shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of their trust, and shall distribute the Fish taken by them, or under their direction, as equally as circumstances will admit, to such of the inhabitants of said town, or other persons, as may apply for the same; and for the Fish so supplied and delivered, the committee aforesaid shall demand and receive, of the person or persons applying therefor, payment, at such rate or rates, as the inhabitants of said town, at their annual meeting in March or April, may direct, excepting of such poor persons, as shall be named in a list to be annually made out by the Selectmen of the town, and who, in the opinion of said Selectmen, are unable to pay for the same; which list shall be given to the committee, and the person or persons borne on said lists, shall be supplied with such quantities of said Fish, (gratis,) as the committee shall think expedient; and the said committee shall have such allowance for their services, as the inhabitants of said town, in open town meeting, may determine; and shall annually, in the month of September, next after their appointment, exhibit to the Selectmen their accounts for settlement, and pay the balance, if any there is, into the town treasury, for the benefit of said town.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That the town, at the Shall appoint Treasurer. time, and in the manner aforesaid, shall choose one person, being a freeholder in said town, to be treasurer of said Fishery, who shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of his duty, and he may be supplied by the

Duty of Com-
mittee and
Treasurer.

town with suitable buildings and apparatus for saving and securing Fish, and with such quantities of salt, as the town shall, at their annual meeting, direct and order; and it shall be the duty of said treasurer, to receive into his possession all such Fish as may be taken and not disposed of, in eight hours from the time the same are taken from the water. And it shall be the duty of the said committee to deliver to said treasurer, at such place or places as he shall direct, all such Fish as shall not be by them sold as aforesaid. And it shall be the duty of said treasurer to save and cure said Fish which may come into his hands, in such way as he shall think most for the interest of said town, and sell and dispose of the same for the benefit of said town; and the said treasurer shall annually, on or before the first Monday of March, next after his appointment, exhibit to the Selectmen of said town, a full and fair statement of his proceedings in writing, with the amount of towns' property on hand, together with his claims for services and expenditures, and pay over to the treasurer of said town, the balance which may remain in his hands, for the benefit of said town.

Powers.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That the said committee are hereby empowered, if thereunto licensed by a vote of said town, to sell at public vendue, all, or any part of said Fishery, to the highest bidder, and by their memorandum in writing, to authorize any purchaser or purchasers, to take said Fish and dispose of the same, agreeably to the provisions of this act, or in such manner as the committee shall in their license authorize and direct.

Fine and for-
feiture.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That if any person or persons, other than the committee, or such person or persons, as shall be employed or authorized by them, shall take any of said Fish in said Sebesticook, within the aforesaid limits, at any time, or by any ways or means whatsoever, each person so offending, and the parent, guardian, master, or mistress of any minor who shall so offend, shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding twenty dollars, nor less than five dollars, for each offence; and all the Fish so unlawfully taken, shall likewise be forfeited; and it shall be lawful for the

committee, or any of them, or any person or persons employed by them to take Fish from said river, to seize all Fish so unlawfully taken, and dispose of the same for the benefit of said town.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That the committee chosen as aforesaid, or either of them, or any person or persons employed by them, shall have liberty and authority, for the purposes aforesaid, to go on the lands of any person or persons, through which the said Sebasticook passes, without being considered trespassers; and any person who shall molest or hinder said committee, or either of them, or any person or persons employed or authorized by them, in the execution of their duty, shall forfeit and pay for each offence, a sum not exceeding twenty dollars, nor less than ten dollars: *Provided* however, The said committee are authorized and required, to pay to any owner or proprietor, such compensation as the major part of said committee shall direct, as a compensation for any damages they may sustain by said committee, or persons employed by them to take said Fish on their lands or possessions.

SEC. 7. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the treasurer of said town, for the time being, and he is hereby authorized, upon the complaint of any of the committee aforesaid, to sue for any forfeitures incurred by the breach of any of the regulations provided in this act; and all sums and forfeitures incurred by the breaches of any of the provisions of this act, shall be for the benefit of said town, and all actions shall be prosecuted by an action on the case, in any court proper to try the same; and no person shall, by reason of his being one of said committee, or an inhabitant of said town, be disqualified from being a witness in any prosecution for a breach of this act.

[Approved by the Governor, June 14, 1814.]