

town, to choose all such officers as towns, by law, are required to choose in the month of March, annually, and to transact all other matters and things necessary to be done in said town. [*Passed April 10, 1780.*]

CHAPTER 35.

AN ACT FOR INCORPORATING THE EASTERLY PRECINCT IN THE TOWN OF MENDON, IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER, INTO A SEP[E][A]-RATE TOWN BY THE NAME OF MILFORD.

Preamble.
4 Mass., 390.

WHEREAS it appears that the inhabitants of the easterly precinct in the town of Mendon, in the county of Worcester, labour under many difficulties in their present situation, for remedying of which they earnestly request they may be incorporated into a sep[e][a]rate town, —

Be it therefore enacted by the Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,

Boundary line.

[SECT. 1.] That the easterly part of the town of Mendon, in the county of Worcester, bounded as follows; viz^{ly}, begin[n]ing at a heap of stones on Bellingham line, on the north side of the country road; then, run[n]ing west, and bounded south on said road, until it comes to a road called the Eight-rod Road, now reduced to a four-rod road; then, north, and bounded westerly on said road, as it is now stated by the town of Mendon, until it comes to Upton line; thence, on Upton line, to Hopkinton line; thence, on Hopkinton line, to Holliston line; thence, on Holliston line, to Bellingham line; thence, on Bellingham line, to the bounds first mentioned, — be and hereby is incorporated into a town by the name of Milford; and that the inhabitants thereof be, and they are hereby, invested with all the powers, privil[i][e]ges and immunities which the inhabitants of the towns in this state do or may by law enjoy.

And provided, nevertheless, —

And be it further enacted,

Inhabitants of Milford to pay a proportionable part of the poor of Mendon.

[SECT. 2.] That the inhabitants of the said town of Milford shall be held to take and maintain their proportionable part of the poor of said town of Mendon that are now maintained as such, or that shall be hereafter returned from any other town as belonging to said Mendon before the said town of Milford was incorporated.

And be it further enacted,

The town of Milford to pay their proportionable part of taxes.

[SECT. 3.] That the inhabitants of said town of Milford shall be held to pay their proportionable part of all town, county, and state, taxes that are already raised or granted to be assessed on the inhabitants of said town of Mendon, or that shall be granted to be assessed on said town of Mendon, during the present sitting of the great and general court, and be held to repair and build one-half of the bridges, and mend and repair one-half the roads on which they are bounded, lying in the said town of Mendon, forever.

And be it further enacted,

Proprietors to hold their common rights.

[SECT. 4.] That all the proprietors belonging to the propriety of the town of Mendon, that shall be incorporated into the town of Milford, shall hold all their common rights, in the common and undivided lands in the propriety of the former township of said Mendon, as

though they had not been set off into a sep[er]ate town, and their proportionable part of the ministry-, and school-money belonging to said town of Mendon, that have accrued to them by the sale of the school-, and ministry-lands.

And be it further enacted,

[SECT. 5.] That Joseph Dorr, Esq^[r], be, and he is hereby, directed and [i]mpowered to issue his warrant, directed to some principal inhabitant of said town of Milford, requiring him to warn the inhabitants of said town of Milford, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble and meet at some suitable time, and place in said town, to choose all such officers as towns, by law, are required and [i]mpowered to choose in the month of March, annually, and to transact all other matters and business necessary to be done in said town. [Passed April 11, 1780.]

First meeting,
how to be
notified.

CHAPTER 36.

AN ACT MORE EFFECTUALLY PROVIDING FOR THE SECURITY, SUPPORT AND EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS OF WAR BROUGHT INTO THIS STATE; AND FOR REPEALING AN ACT INTITLED "AN ACT FOR SECURING AND MAKING PROVISION FOR THE SUPPORT OF PRISONERS WHO MAY BE TAKEN BY ANY AMERICAN ARMED VESSEL, AND BROUGHT INTO ANY PORT IN THIS STATE."

WHEREAS many inconveniences attend the present mode of securing, supporting and exchanging prisoners of war, being conducted by various directions and divers commissaries, independent of each other, —

Preamble.
1776-77, chap. 35.

Be it therefore enacted by the Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,

[SECT. 1.] That all prisoners of war, whether captured by the army or navy of the United States, or armed ships or vessels of any of the United States, or by the subjects, troops, ships, or vessels of war, of this state, and brought into the same, or cast on shore by shipwreck on the coast thereof, shall be delivered into the care and custody of the commissary-general of prisoners of the United States, his deputy or assistant, or to the goaler of the county goal in which such prisoners may be landed or cast on shore (and said goaler is hereby required to receive and deliver, by order of authority, such prisoners, without fee or reward from the persons receiving or delivering, charges for support excepted; which charges are to be paid as is hereinafter expressed); and that all such prisoners, so brought in or cast on shore, including Indians, negroes and m[u]lt[at]ioes, be treated, in all respects, as prisoners of war to the United States; any law or resolve of this court to the contrary notwithstanding: *provided, nevertheless,* that when any prisoners brought into this state shall be found to have taken passage on board such vessels as may be captured or cast on shore as aforesaid, for the end of transacting private business, a list of the names of such passengers shall be returned by the masters or claimers of such captured or stranded vessel, to the council of this state, who are hereby authorized and [i]mpowered to admit them to their parole, or otherwise order as they shall judge proper, consistent with the public safety.

All prisoners of war captured and brought into this state to be delivered to the commissary-general of prisoners of the United States, his deputy, etc.

Proviso.