

An Act defining the Liability of Innkeepers for Losses of their Guests. *Chap. 405*

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. Innkeepers shall not be liable for losses sustained by their guests, except of wearing apparel or personal baggage, and money necessary for travelling expenses and personal use, unless upon delivery by such guests of their money, jewelry, or other property to the innkeeper, his agents or servants for safe custody: or upon notice to him, his agents, or servants, of their possession of such money, jewelry or property, and an offer to deliver the same for such safe custody.

Liability of innkeepers for losses sustained by guests.

SECT. 2. In case of loss by fire or any overwhelming force, innkeepers shall only be answerable to their guests for ordinary and reasonable care in the custody of their baggage or other property.

In case of fire, etc.

SECT. 3. In all cases it shall be competent for an innkeeper against whom a claim is made for loss sustained by a guest, to show that such loss is attributable to the negligence of the guest himself, or to his non-compliance with the regulations of the inn: *provided*, such regulations are reasonable and proper, and are shown to have been duly brought to the notice of the guest by the innkeeper. [*Approved by the Governor, May 25, 1853.*]

Liability in case of non-compliance, etc., on part of guests.

An Act in Addition to an Act to increase the Capital Stock of the Lynn Mechanics' Bank. *Chap. 406*

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

The president, directors, and company of the Lynn Mechanics' Bank in Lynn are hereby authorized to divide the sum of fifty thousand dollars, additional capital stock granted by the act passed April twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and fifty-three, to increase the capital stock of said bank into sums of twenty dollars each, which sums shall be added to the several existing shares of said bank, any thing in the act to which this is in addition to the contrary notwithstanding. [*Approved by the Governor, May 25, 1853.*]

Bank may divide \$50,000 additional capital in sums of \$20 each, to be added to existing shares.

An Act concerning Probate Courts in the County of Essex. *Chap. 407*

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. The acts establishing probate courts at Salem, in

Probate courts established in Essex.

the county of Essex, on the third Tuesdays in February, May, August, and November, and at Ipswich, in said county, on the first Tuesdays in February, March, May, June, August, September, November and December, are hereby repealed.

SECT. 2. There shall be a probate court held at Salem, in the county of Essex, on the first Tuesdays of each and every month in each year.

SECT. 3. A probate court shall be holden in Ipswich in said county, on the third Tuesdays of the months of February, May, August, and November of each year.

SECT. 4. A probate court shall be holden at Lawrence, in said county, on the second Tuesdays of the months of March and September, in addition to the courts now there established.

SECT. 5. This act shall take effect on the first day of September next. [*Approved by the Governor, May 25, 1853.*]

When to take effect.

Chap. 408 An Act to increase the Capital Stock of the Merchants' Bank, in Boston.
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

Additional capital.
\$2,000,000.

Provided.

Provided also.

The president, directors, and company of the Merchants Bank in Boston, are hereby authorized to increase their capital stock, by an addition thereto not exceeding two millions of dollars: *provided*, that such increase shall be subject to the provisions, duties, restrictions, liabilities and privileges, set forth in the act passed May twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and fifty-one, entitled "An Act to authorize the Business of Banking;" and also of the act passed May eighteenth, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, entitled "An Act in addition to An Act entitled An Act to authorize the Business of Banking;" and *provided also*, that no part of the additional capital aforesaid shall be exempted from taxation, until the whole circulation of said bank shall exceed the amount already allowed by law. [*Approved by the Governor, May 25, 1853.*]

Chap. 409

An Act for the Sale of the Public Lands in Maine.

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

Land agent and commissioners authorized to sell lands.

SECT. 1. The land agent of this commonwealth, with the concurrence of the commissioners appointed by the act of eighteen hundred and fifty, chapter 307, and the acts of eighteen hundred and fifty-one, chapter 190, is hereby authorized to sell, for such price and on such terms as they may deem for the interest of the commonwealth, all the timber and lands