

attest any records remaining unfinished, and act as clerk of the courts in the said county, until a new clerk be appointed and qualified.

may complete any records unfinished, &c.

SECT. 3. The clerk of the courts for the said county, out of any balance of fees in his hands on the first day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, payable by law to the county treasurer, may pay to any person who, since the first day of June last, may have officiated as assistant clerk or as clerk *pro tempore* in any of the judicial courts in the said county, such sum, not exceeding five hundred dollars, as the said justices may direct, to be retained and applied for that purpose.

Clerk of the courts may pay over moneys to assistant.

Not exceeding \$500.

SECT. 4. This act shall take effect from and after its passage. [*Approved by the Governor, April 5, 1851.*]

When to take effect.

An Act concerning the Hancock Free Bridge Corporation.

Chap. 39.

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

Notwithstanding the assignment and transfer heretofore made, or that shall hereafter be made, by any stockholder of the Hancock Free Bridge Corporation, of his shares therein, to the said corporation, he shall still continue to be a member thereof until the objects of the same shall be accomplished ; and the said corporation shall not, by reason of such assignments and transfers, be released from its obligation to the Commonwealth to carry out its objects, as provided in its act of incorporation. [*Approved by the Governor, April 5, 1851.*]

Stockholders shall continue to be members until, &c.

Corporation shall not be released.

An Act concerning the election of Representatives in Congress, and Electors of President and Vice President of the United States.

Chap. 40.

*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. Whenever, after the passage of this act, there shall be a failure to elect a representative in Congress, in any district, at the first meeting which shall be held therefor, agreeably to the provisions of the sixth chapter of the Revised Statutes, the same proceedings shall be had for subsequent further meetings as are required by the said sixth chapter ; and the person receiving the highest number of votes at any such subsequent meeting, shall be declared elected, and shall receive a certificate of his election in the manner provided in the said chapter.

In case of failure to elect at first meeting, proceedings shall be had for subsequent meetings.

The person who receives the highest number of votes at subsequent meeting, shall be declared elected, and shall receive certificate.

SECT. 2. Whenever, hereafter, elections shall be holden in this Commonwealth for the choice of electors of presi-

The electors of president and vice president, who shall receive the highest number of votes, shall be deemed elected. Gov. shall transmit certificate, &c.

If two or more persons receive an equal number of votes, the governor shall call the General Court together, and it shall elect, by joint ballot, to fill the vacancies.

All acts inconsistent, repealed.

When to take effect.

dent and vice president of the United States, the several persons who shall receive the highest number of votes at such election, to the number required to be chosen, shall be deemed to be elected, and the governor shall transmit to each person, so chosen, a certificate of his election.

SECT. 3. If, upon examination of the votes given at such election, agreeably to the provisions of the sixth chapter of the Revised Statutes, it shall appear that two or more persons have received an equal number of votes, by reason whereof a majority of the electors shall not be chosen, the governor shall, by proclamation, call the General Court together forthwith, and the General Court shall, by joint ballot of the senators and representatives, assembled in one room, choose as many electors as shall be necessary to complete the number to which this Commonwealth may be entitled.

SECT. 4. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed.

SECT. 5. This act shall take effect from and after its passage. [*Approved by the Governor, April 5, 1851.*]

Chap. 41. An Act to incorporate the Hampden 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.

Purpose.

Duties, &c.  
R. S. ch. 37 and 44, and other laws.

Whenever \$100,000 subscribed, may also insure, &c.

Semi-annual dividend.

SECT. 1. William B. Calhoun, Henry Sizer, Chester W. Chapin, their associates and successors, are hereby made a corporation, by the name of the Hampden Mutual Fire Insurance Company, to be established in Springfield, for the term of twenty-eight years, for the purpose of insuring buildings, stock in trade, and all other kinds of personal property, on the mutual principle, with all the powers and privileges, and subject to all the duties, restrictions and liabilities, set forth in the thirty-seventh and forty-fourth chapters of the Revised Statutes, and in all other general laws of this Commonwealth, which are now in force or which may hereafter be enacted relating to such corporations.

SECT. 2. After the organization of the said corporation, books may be opened for the subscription of a guarantee capital of one hundred thousand dollars; and whenever that amount shall be subscribed and paid in, the said corporation may also insure and issue policies otherwise than on the mutual principle. Said guarantee capital shall be divided into shares by the said corporation, and shall be entitled to receive a semi-annual dividend, such as may be determined by the directors, not to exceed four per cent.; and