

*Chap 137.* An Act extending the Jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace, in Suffolk County.

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

Justices of the peace in Chelsea and North Chelsea to have the same jurisdiction as justices in the Commonwealth generally.

SECT. 1. Justices of the peace in the county of Suffolk, except in the city of Boston, shall have the same jurisdiction in all civil actions, which justices of the peace have in other counties of this Commonwealth.

SECT. 2. This act shall take effect from and after its passage. [*Approved by the Governor, April 24, 1849.*]

*Chap 138.*

An Act concerning the Tax on Sales by Auction.

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

No tax on articles of the growth, &c., of the U. States, when sold at auction.

SECT. 1. No sales, by auction, of ships, vessels, utensils of husbandry, horses, neat cattle, swine, sheep, or of articles of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the United States, except distilled spirits, shall be hereafter subject to any tax to the Commonwealth.

The tax specified on articles of foreign growth, &c.

SECT. 2. The tax upon all sales, by auction, of any goods, wares, merchandise, and effects, imported from any place beyond the Cape of Good Hope, shall be one fourth of one per cent. on the amount thereof; and, of all other goods, wares, merchandise, and effects, which are the production of any foreign country, one half of one per cent. on the amount thereof, instead of the tax now by law provided.

SECT. 3. All acts and parts of acts, inconsistent with this act, are hereby repealed. [*Approved by the Governor, April 25, 1849.*]

*Chap 139.*

An Act to prevent the Explosion of Steam Boilers.

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

All steam engines to be provided with a safety plug.

SECT. 1. No person, or corporation, shall use, or cause to be used, any locomotive, or other steam engine, in this Commonwealth, unless the boiler of the same be provided with a fusible safety plug, to be made of lead, or some other equally fusible material, and to be of a diameter of not less than one half an inch, which plug shall be placed in the roof of the fire-box, when a fire-box is used, and, in all cases, shall be placed in a part of the boiler fully exposed to the action of the fire, and as near the top of the water line as any part of the fire surface of the boiler.