

HOUSE.....No. 50.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-Six.

AN ACT

Establishing a Fire Department in the towns of Weymouth and Braintree.

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

1 SECTION 1. The inhabitants of the following de-
2 scribed territory, being partly in the town of Wey-
3 mouth and partly in the town of Braintree, in the
4 county of Norfolk, bounded easterly by a fire dis-
5 trict established in the town of Weymouth, com-
6 mencing at the westerly end of a wharf belonging to

7 Nancy White, and running in a straight line to the
8 town pound in said Weymouth ; thence in a straight
9 line, to a point six rods south of the house belong-
10 ing to the heirs of Cotton Tufts, deceased, now oc-
11 cupied by Addison Cheesman ; thence in a straight
12 line, across Weymouth town line, to a stone post
13 dividing two school districts, in said Braintree, near
14 the house of Elijah Penniman ; thence in a straight
15 line to a guide post, at the easterly end of Adams
16 Street ; thence in a straight line to a point on the
17 Braintree and Weymouth turnpike, ten rods north of
18 the house of Calvin Crane and Francis Crane ;
19 thence crossing said turnpike and running easterly,
20 parallel with Col. Minot Thayer's farm, and includ-
21 ing the same, to Weymouth Fore River ; thence,
22 southeasterly, by said river, which is the dividing
23 line between the towns of Weymouth and Braintree,
24 until it comes to a point opposite the westerly end
25 of Nancy White's wharf ; thence to the westerly
26 end thereof, the bound first mentioned, shall consti-
27 tute a fire district ; and all said inhabitants, resident
28 therein, qualified to vote in town affairs, at a meet-
29 ing thereof held for that purpose, called and notified
30 as hereinafter provided, may establish a fire depart-
31 ment for said district, the officers of which shall
32 have charge and be responsible for all the engines
33 and apparatus for the extinguishment of fires within
34 said district, in the same manner as the firewards
35 and enginemen of towns now are.

1 SECT. 2. The inhabitants of said district, quali-
2 fied, as aforesaid, at their first meeting, called and
3 notified as hereinafter provided, shall choose a clerk,

4 prudential committee, assessors, treasurer, collector,
5 a chief engineer, and assistant engineers, all of whom
6 shall be sworn, in due form of law, to the faithful
7 discharge of the duties of their respective offices,
8 and the said assessors shall take the oath required
9 to be taken by assessors of towns, which oaths shall
10 be administered to them by the moderator, at the
11 meeting of said district, or by a justice of the peace,
12 and the same duly recorded; all the officers above
13 named shall hold their respective offices for one year,
14 and until others are chosen and qualified in their
15 stead.

1 SECT. 3. Annual meetings of said district shall
2 be held, for the election of officers, in the months of
3 March or April in each year, which shall be called
4 by the prudential committee; and all other meet-
5 ings of said district shall be called by said commit-
6 tee, upon the application of the chief engineer, two
7 assistant engineers, or seven of the qualified voters
8 of said district, by a warrant under their hands, ex-
9 pressing the time, place and purposes of said meet-
10 ing, directed to the collector of said district, requir-
11 ing him to warn and notify the inhabitants thereof,
12 in such manner as shall be prescribed at the first
13 meeting.

1 SECT. 4. The first meeting of said district shall
2 be called by Col. Minot Thayer or John W. Loud,
3 by publishing a notice thereof in the Quincy Patriot,
4 printed at Quincy, in said county, and posting up
5 two notifications thereof, in two public places in said
6 district, seven days at least before the day appointed

7 for said meeting, expressing the time, place, and
8 purposes thereof.

1 SECT. 5. The assessors, chosen as aforesaid,
2 shall assess and apportion all, and singular, such
3 sum, and sums, of money, voted to be raised by said
4 district for the maintenance of said fire department,
5 upon all the polls and estates within the limits of
6 said district, each his just share and proportion
7 thereof; and, in making the said assessment, shall
8 observe and conform to all the requisitions of the
9 law obligatory upon assessors of towns, and they
10 shall have all the power and authority conferred
11 upon them by law. Said list of assessment shall be
12 committed to the collector of said district, with a
13 warrant of distress, in due form of law, for collecting
14 the same, and said collector shall observe all the
15 rules and directions, and have all the authority con-
16 ferred upon collectors of taxes of towns, by law.
17 And said collector shall pay over said moneys, so
18 collected, to the treasurer, who shall hold the same,
19 subject to the order of the prudential committee.

1 SECT. 6. All the provisions of law, establishing
2 fire districts and fire departments therein, in towns,
3 passed in the year one thousand eight hundred and
4 forty-four, chapter one hundred and fifty-two, not
5 inconsistent with the foregoing provisions, shall be
6 obligatory and binding upon the inhabitants of said
7 district, and the chief engineer and assistant engi-
8 neers, shall possess the same power and authority
9 therein delegated, and they, together with all the
10 other members of said fire department, shall be en-
11 titled to the same immunities and privileges.

1 SECT. 7. The inhabitants of said district, so long
2 as they shall maintain a sufficient fire department
3 therein, for the reasonable protection of the inhabi-
4 tants and property, within said limits, from fire, shall
5 be exempt from taxation, in the respective towns to
6 which they belong, for the maintenance and support
7 of other fire departments in said towns.

