

ACTS

PASSED AT THE SESSION BEGUN AND HELD AT BOSTON,
ON THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF OCTOBER, A.D. 1713.

CHAPTER 6.

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT SHOOTING OR FIRING OFF GUNS NEAR THE ROAD
OR HIGHWAY ON BOSTON NECK.

WHEREAS the limbs and lives of several persons have been greatly endangered, in riding over Boston Neck, by their horses throwing of them, being affrighted, and starting at the firing of guns by gunners that frequent there after game; for preventing whereof for the future,—

Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governour, Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,

Penalty.

[SECT. 1.] That no person or persons, from and after the publication of this act, may presume to discharge or fire off any gun upon Boston Neck, within ten rods of the road or highway leading over the same, on pain of forfeiting and paying the sum of twenty shillings for each gun so fired or discharged, one moiety thereof to be to and for the use of the poor in the said town of Boston, and the other moiety to him or them that shall inform, complain and sue for the same; to be recovered before the court of general sessions of the peace within the county, or before any one or more of her majesty's justices of the peace out of court.

Guns to be seized.

[SECT. 2.] And, for the better conviction of persons offending against this act, it shall be lawful, to and for any freeholder, to arrest and take into custody any gun so fired off, and render the same to one of the next justices in Boston, in order to its being produced at the time of tryal. [*Passed October 23; published November 2.*]

CHAPTER 7.

AN ACT AGAINST HAWKERS, PEDLARS, AND PETTY CHAPMEN.

WHEREAS complaint is made of great hurt to and the decay of trade, occasioned by hawkers, pedlars and petty chapmen passing to and fro through the country to vend goods, wares and merchandizes, much of which was probably obtained by robbery and stealing in the time of the late great desolation by fire in the town of Boston (to the grievous loss and oppression of her majesty's good subjects, sufferers in the said calamity), and by frequent robberies and thefts since committed; so that divers men of trades, handycraft men and others, none of the best fame, having left off the exercise of their trades and business, turn hawkers, pedlars and petty chapmen; for remedy of which mischief,—