

District, requiring him or them to warn the Inhabitants to attend the Meeting at the Time and Place assigned, which Warrant shall be seasonably returned by said Constable or Constables, and the Representative may be chosen indifferently from said Town or District; the Pay or Allowance to be borne by the Town and District, in Proportion as they shall from Time to Time pay to the State Tax.

And be it further enacted, That John Flagg, Esquire, John Flagg, Esq; empowered to call a Meeting of the Inhabitants. be and he is hereby empowered to issue his Warrant directed to some principal Inhabitant within said District, requiring him to warn the Inhabitants of said District qualified to vote in Town Affairs, to assemble at some suitable Time and Place in said District, to choose such Officers as Towns and Districts by Law are required to choose in the Month of *March* annually.

Provided nevertheless, The Inhabitants of said District Proviso. shall pay their proportionable Part of all such Town, County and State Taxes as are already assessed by said Town, and their proportionable Part of all public Debts and Charges due from said Town, and towards the Support of the Poor of said Town, till the close of the War, and at the close of the present War contribute towards the Support of the Poor of said Town and District, according to an Agreement made between said Town and District in that Behalf on the Nineteenth Day of *June*, Anno Domini one Thousand seven Hundred and Eighty-two.

Provided likewise, That said District give up all their Proviso. Right in any of the Town's Privileges lying and being in the other Part of the Town, except that of joining with them in the Choice of a Representative as aforesaid.

July 3, 1782.

1782. — Chapter 8.

[May Session, ch. 9.]

AN ACT AGAINST BLASPHEMY.

Chap. 8

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That if any Person shall wilfully blaspheme the Holy Name of GOD, by denying, cursing, or contumeliously reproaching GOD, his Creation, Government, or final Judging of the World, or by cursing, or reproaching Persons convicted of Blasphemy.

JESUS CHRIST, or the HOLY GHOST, or by cursing or contumeliously reproaching the Holy Word of GOD, that is, the Canonical Scriptures contained in the Books of the Old and New Testaments, or by exposing them, or any Part of them, to contempt and ridicule; which Books are as follows, *Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, Samuel, Samuel, Kings, Kings, Chronicles, Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, the Song of Solomon, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zachariah, Malachai, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, Corinthians, Corinthians, Galations, Ephesians, Philipians, Colossions, Thessalonians, Thessalonians, Timothy, Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, Peter, Peter, John, John, John, Jude, Revelations*, every Person so offending, shall be punished by Imprisonment not exceeding Twelve Months, by sitting in the Pillory, by Whipping, or by sitting on the Gallows, with a Rope about the Neck, or binding to the good Behaviour, at the Discretion of the Supreme Judicial Court before whom the Conviction may be, according to the Aggravation of the Offence.

July 3, 1782.

How punished.

1782. — Chapter 9.

[May Session, ch. 10.]

Chap. 9 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That there shall be a Supreme Judicial Court within this Commonwealth, to be held and kept at the several Times and Places by Law appointed, by one Chief Justice and four other Justices, each of whom shall be an Inhabitant of this Commonwealth, of Sobriety of Manners and learned in the Law, to be appointed and commissioned as is by the Constitution provided; and they, or any three of them, shall be a Court and have Cognizance of Pleas real, personal and mixed; and of all civil Actions between Party and Party, and between the Commonwealth and any of the Subjects thereof, whether

Supreme
Judicial Court,
&c. their
Constitution
and Power.