

## HOUSE.....No. 256.

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### Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, May 26, 1857.

The Committee on Public Charitable Institutions, in the discharge of the duties confided to them, have been led to the conclusion that the success of the pauper policy of the State does not longer require the employment of special agents to "visit all the Almshouses or places in the Commonwealth, where State Paupers are supported," as provided in section second of the Act of May 24, 1851. In accordance with the Act of June 6, 1856, one of the Alien Commissioners now devotes his entire time to the service of the Board, and he can fully and efficiently discharge all the necessary duties for which such agents are now employed. The expense of these agents in 1851, was \$1,070.53; in 1855, \$1,668.57; in 1856 increased to \$3,180.69; to which latter sum may properly be added the increased pay to one of the commissioners, at least \$1,500 more. The Committee therefore unanimously recommend the repeal of the law authorizing the employment of agents to visit all the almshouses in the Commonwealth.

Section third of the Act of May 24, 1851, provides for the employment of agents at such railroad stations as might be deemed proper, "whose duty it shall be to ascertain the names

of all foreigners who are landed at any city or town within this State." In 1851 there was paid to such agents \$2,670.16, since which time there has been a gradual increase in the annual expenditure for this purpose, amounting last year to \$4,927, precisely fifty cents less than was paid the preceding year. In their last Report the Alien Commissioners state that most of those agents are of "no use or benefit;" further, saying that the results of another year may warrant them in urging the unconditional repeal of the Act authorizing their appointment. It is the unanimous opinion of the Committee that the interests of the State will not suffer should that Act be repealed the present year.

Believing that the changes herein suggested may be made without in the slightest degree impeding or weakening the proper and efficient administration of the pauper system of the State, and thereby effect an annual saving of several thousand dollars to the treasury of the Commonwealth, the Committee respectfully submit the accompanying Bill.

For the Committee,

JOHN MORISSEY.

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-  
Seven.

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### AN ACT

To amend an Act appointing a Board of Commissioners  
in relation to Alien Passengers and State Paupers.

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

1    SECT. 1. Section second of chapter three hundred  
2 and forty-two, of the acts of the year eighteen hun-  
3 dred and fifty-one, “ Authorizing the Alien Commis-  
4 sioners to appoint Agents to visit all State Alms-  
5 houses,” is hereby repealed.

1    SECT. 2. So much of section third, of chapter three  
2 hundred and forty-two of the acts of eighteen hun-  
3 dred and fifty-one, authorizing the alien commissioners

4 to appoint one or more persons to ascertain the names  
5 of all foreigners, who are landed in any city or town  
6 within this Commonwealth, otherwise than by water,"  
7 is hereby repealed.

1     SECT. 3. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent  
2 with the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed.

1     SECT. 4. This act shall take effect from and after  
2 its passage.