



Acts and Laws

Passed by the Great and General Court or Assembly of his Majesty's Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay* in *New-England*: Begun and Held at *Boston* upon Wednesday the thirtieth Day of *May* 1750; and continued by Prorogations to Thursday the tenth of *January* following.

CHAP. X.

An Act for supplying the Treasury with *Twenty six Thousand seven Hundred mill'd* Dollars.

WHEREAS the Payment of the Publick Debts of this Govern-
ment requires a speedy and further Supply of the Treasury; and as
the Circumstances of the several Towns in the Province are so altered
since the last Valuation was taken, as that a just and equal Tax
can't be levied.

Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Lieutenant Governour, Council and
House of Representatives, That any Person or Persons may adven-
ture, advance and pay to the Managers or Directors herein after named,
three mill'd Dollars, and as many Times that Number of such Dollars
as they please; and that every Adventurer for every three such Dollars
so advanced shall have such Right and Interest in the Lottery hereby
established, as is hereafter provided.

And be it further enacted, That *Samuel Watts, Esq; Thomas Hutch-
inson, Esq; Joseph Richards, Esq; Mr. Harrison Gray, and Mr. James
Ruffel*, (or any three of them) shall be Managers or Directors for prepar-
ing and delivering out Tickets, and to oversee the drawing of Lots, and
to order, do and perform such other Matters and Things as are hereafter
in and by this Act directed and appointed by such Managers or Di-
rectors to be done and performed, and that such Managers and Direc-
tors shall meet together from Time to Time for the Execution of the

[P P P P]

Powers

Suppressing of Riots, &c.

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C H A P. XII.

An Act for preventing and suppressing of Riots, Routs, and unlawful Assemblies:

WHEREAS the Provision already made by Law has been found insufficient to prevent Routs, Riots, and tumultuous Assemblies, and the evil Consequences thereof: Preamble.

Wherefore,

Be it enacted by the Lieutenant Governour, Council and House of Representatives, That from and after the Publication of this Act, if any Persons to the Number of Twelve or more, being Armed with Clubs or other Weapons, or if any Number of Persons consisting of Fifty or upwards, whether armed or not, shall be unlawfully riotously or tumultuously assembled; any Justice of the Peace, Field-Officer or Captain of the Militia, Sheriff of the County or Under-Sheriff, or any Constable of the Town, shall among the Rioters, or as near to them as he can safely come, command Silence while Proclamation is making, and shall openly make Proclamation in these or the like Words,

Officers to make Proclamation when Persons are riotously assembled.

Our Sovereign Lord the KING, chargeeth and commandeth all Persons, being assembled, immediately to disperse themselves, and peaceably to depart to their Habitations, or to their lawful Business, upon the Pains contained in the Act of this Province made in the twenty-fourth Year of His Majesty King GEORGE the Second, for preventing and suppressing of Riots, Routs, and unlawful Assemblies.

Form of the Proclamation.

GOD save the KING.

And if such Persons so unlawfully assembled, shall after Proclamation made, not disperse themselves within one Hour, it shall be lawful for every such Officer or Officers, and for such other Persons as he or they shall command to be assisting, to seize such Persons, and carry them before a Justice of Peace: And if such Person shall be killed or hurt by Reason of their resisting the Persons so dispersing or seizing them, the said Officer or Officers and their Assistants shall be indemnified and held guiltless. And all Persons who for the Space of one Hour after Proclamation made as aforesaid, or to whom Proclamation ought to have been made, if the same had not been hindred, shall unlawfully, riotously, riotously and tumultuously continue together, or shall wilfully let or hinder any such Officer who shall be known, or shall openly declare himself to be such, from making the said Proclamation, shall forfeit all their Lands and Tenements, Goods and Chattles, to His Majesty (or such a Part thereof as shall be adjudged by the Justices before whom such Offence shall be tried) to be applied towards the Support of the Government of this Province, and shall be whipt thirty-nine Stripes on the naked Back at the publick Whipping-Post, and suffer one Year's Imprisonment, and once every three Months during said Imprisonment, receive the same Number of Stripes on the naked Back, at the publick Whipping-Post, as aforesaid. And if any such Person or Persons so riotously assembled, shall demolish or pull down, or begin to demolish or pull down any Dwelling-House or other House parcel thereof, any House built for publick Uses, any Barn, Mill, Malt-House, Store-House, Shop or Ship, he or they shall suffer the same Pains and Penalties, as are before provided in this Act.

Penalty for Disobedience.

And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be read at every General Sessions of the Peace, and at the anniversary Meeting of each Town, within this Province annually, and no Person shall be prosecuted for any Offence contrary to this Act, unless Prosecution be commenced within twelve Months after the Offence committed.

This Act to be read at the anniversary Meeting of the Towns & General Sessions of the Peace.

Provided

Judges im-
powred to a-
bate the Pu-
nishment of
Whipping, in
Cafe.

Continuance
of the Act.

Provided always, That where there shall appear any Circumstances to mitigate or alleviate any of the Offences against this Act in the Judgment of the Court before which such Offence shall be tried, it shall and may be lawful for the Judges of such Court to abate the whole of the Punishment of Whipping, or such Part thereof as they shall judge proper: Any Thing in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

This Act to continue and be in Force for the Space of three Years from the Publication thereof, and no longer.

C H A P. XIII.

An Act in Addition to an Act Intituled, An Act to prevent Damage being done on the Beach, Humocks and Meadows belonging to the Town of *Scituate*, lying between the Southerly End of the third Clift, so called, and the Mouth of the *North-River*.

Preamble.

WHEREAS in and by an Act made and passed in the twenty third Year of his present Majesty's Reign, Intituled; An Act to prevent Damage being done on the Beach, Humocks and Meadows belonging to the Town of *Scituate*, lying between the Southerly End of the third Clift, so called, and the Mouth of the *North River*; the Penalties for turning or driving Neat Cattle, Horse Kind, Sheep or Goats upon such Beach, Humocks or Sedge Ground, adjoining to said Beach to feed thereon, are to be recovered from him or them that shall so drive said Cattle, Horse Kind, Sheep or Goats, or from the Owner or Owners of them that shall so order them to be driven. And it is found by Experience, that Proof thereof can seldom be obtained, whereby the good End and Design of said Act in a great Measure is defeated:

Neat Cattle
and other
Creatures to
be impounded
if found feed-
ing on the
Meadows &c.

Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant Governour, Council and House of Representatives, That if any Neat Cattle, Horse Kind, Sheep or Goats, shall be found feeding on said Beach, Humocks, Meadows or Sedge-Ground, adjoining to said Beach, it shall and may be lawful for any Person to Impound the same, such Person to observe the Rules and Directions in the said Act prescribed in Case of Impounding; and the Owner or Owners of them, shall forfeit and pay to the Impounder, *One Shilling* a Head for all Neat Cattle and Horse Kind, and *two Pence* for every Sheep or Goat, and the said Penalties or Forfeitures shall be paid before the Creatures which shall or may be Impounded by Virtue of this Act be discharged or released by the Pound-keeper.

Rates to be
paid for such
impounded
Creatures.

Provided nevertheless, The Owner or Owners of the Creatures so Impounded, may (if they think fit) replevie such Creatures on Condition they give sufficient Bond with one or more Sureties to prosecute such Replevin to Effect, before some Justice of the Peace in the same County, within fifteen Days from the Date of such Replevin, and to pay all such Forfeitures and Costs as shall be awarded or adjudged against them.

CHAP.

Sperma Cæti Candles.

341.

C H A P. XIV.

An Act for granting unto *Benjamin Crabb*
the sole Priviledge of making Candles of
coarse Sperma Cæti Oyl.

WHEREAS Benjamin Crabb of Rehoboth, in the County of Bristol, Preamble.
has represented to this Court, that he, and no other Person in the Province, has the Art of Pressing, Fluxing and Cbrystalizing of Sperma Cæti and coarse Sperma Cæti Oyl, and of making Candles of the same so prepared, and has been at great Expence in providing himself with proper Implements therefor; and is willing, on due Encouragement, to undertake and carry on that Business here, and to teach and instruct five of the Inhabitants of this Province his Art aforesaid:

This Court being willing to encourage an Undertaking so likely to prove beneficial to the Province; Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Lieutenant Governour, Council and House of Representatives, That the said *Benjamin Crabb*, and his Heirs, shall and may have and enjoy the Sole Use, Exercise and Benefit of making Candles of coarse Sperma Cæti Oyl so prepared, until the thirty first Day of *May*, which shall be in the Year of our Lord One Thousand seven Hundred and sixty one; provided that he do forthwith engage in and carry on the Business aforesaid, within this Province, and shall, sometime before the thirty first Day of *May* One Thousand seven Hundred and fifty two, remove to some Place within seven Miles of the Town of *Boston*, and there set up Works suitable for carrying on the said Business, and shall then and there Manufacture all such Quantities of Oyl as can be procured fit for the Purpose; and shall likewise within five Years from the Publication of this Act, well and fully instruct five of the Inhabitants of this Province (two of whom shall be appointed by the General Court if they see Cause) in the Art aforesaid,

Benj. Crabb to have the sole Priviledge of making Candles of coarse Sperma Cæti Oyl.

Proviso.

And be it further enacted, That no Person or Persons, saving such only as shall have first obtained the Consent of said *Crabb* or his Heirs, signified under his or their Hand in Writing, shall sell within this Province, or export out of it, any Candles made of the Oyl prepared as aforesaid, during the Time the said *Crabb* and his Heirs are intitled to the Priviledge aforesaid, other than such as are made by the said *Crabb*, his Heirs or Assigns, on Pain of forfeiting *ten Pounds* for each Offence.

Penalty for others selling the said Candles without his Consent.

[The five foregoing Acts were Published, viz. the Lottery Act, Governour's Support, and that relating to Scituate Beach, Feb. 16. Act against Riots, &c. Feb. 14. Sperma Cæti Candles, Feb. 23. 1750.]



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