

reading of some portion of the Bible without written note or oral comment in the public schools ; but they shall require no scholar to read from any particular version, or to take any personal part in the reading whose parent or guardian shall inform the teacher in writing that he has conscientious scruples against it ; nor shall they ever direct any school books calculated to favor the tenets of any particular sect of Christians to be purchased or used in any of the public schools.

*Approved April 7, 1880.*

AN ACT IN RELATION TO INVESTMENTS WHICH MAY BE MADE BY SAVINGS BANKS AND INSTITUTIONS FOR SAVINGS.

*Chap. 177*

*Be it enacted, &c., as follows :*

SECTION 1. In addition to the investments authorized by section nine of chapter two hundred and three of the acts of the year eighteen hundred seventy-six, savings banks and institutions for savings may invest in the bonds or notes of any of the counties or towns of the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island and Connecticut, whose indebtedness does not exceed three per cent. of their valuation.

May invest in bonds or notes of any town or county of the New England States.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved April 7, 1880.*

AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER THREE HUNDRED AND FIVE OF THE ACTS OF THE YEAR EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-NINE, ESTABLISHING A DISTRICT POLICE FORCE.

*Chap. 178*

*Be it enacted, &c., as follows :*

SECTION 1. Chapter three hundred and five of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and seventy-nine is hereby amended by adding at the end of section twelve the following words, "and in any district where an officer of the district police is appointed to act as inspector of factories and public buildings, the governor may appoint an additional officer of said district police : *provided, however*, that the whole district police force shall not exceed sixteen men."

District police.

Inspector of factories and public buildings.

Proviso.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved April 7, 1880.*

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE AMHERST WATER COMPANY.

*Chap. 179*

*Be it enacted, &c., as follows :*

SECTION 1. W. S. Clark, D. W. Palmer, L. D. Hills, W. S. Tyler, P. E. Irish, H. F. Hills, S. C. Carter, E. F.

Corporators.

**Name and purpose.** Cook, J. H. Seelye and W. A. Dickinson, their associates and successors, are hereby made a corporation by the name of the Amherst Water Company, for the purpose of furnishing the inhabitants of Amherst with pure water for the extinguishment of fires, domestic and other purposes, with all the powers and privileges, and subject to all the duties, restrictions and liabilities set forth in all general laws which now are or hereafter may be in force applicable to such corporations.

**Powers and duties.** **SECTION 2.** Said corporation may take, hold and convey into and through the town of Amherst or any part thereof, the water of what is known as the Amethyst Brook, formerly Valley, situated in the town of Pelham; and may take and hold by purchase or otherwise any real estate necessary for the preservation and purity of the same, or for forming any dams or reservoirs, and for laying and maintaining aqueducts and pipes for distributing the waters so taken and held; and may lay its water pipes through any private lands, with the right to enter upon the same, and dig therein for the purpose of making all necessary repairs; and for the purposes aforesaid may carry its pipes under or over any water course, street, railroad, highway or other way, in such manner as not to obstruct the same; and may, under the direction of the board of selectmen, enter upon and dig up any road or other way for the purpose of laying or repairing its aqueducts, pipes or other works; and in general may do any other acts and things convenient or proper for carrying out the purposes of this act.

**May convey into the town of Amherst the water of Amethyst Brook of Pelham.** **SECTION 3.** Said corporation shall, within sixty days after the taking of any land under the provisions of this act, file in the registry of deeds of the county of Hampshire a description of any land so taken, sufficiently accurate for identification, and state the purposes for which it is so taken; and the title of land so taken shall vest in said corporation. Any person injured in any way by any acts of said corporation, and failing to agree with said corporation as to the amount of damages, may have the same assessed and determined in the manner provided when land is taken for highways; but no application shall be made to the county commissioners for the assessment of damages for the taking of water rights until the water is actually taken or diverted by said corporation, nor after three years from the time the water is actually so taken or diverted; and no suit for injury done under this act shall be brought after two years from the alleged date of the injury.

**May lay water pipes through private lands.**

**May dig up roads under direction of selectmen.**

**To file in registry of deeds a description of the land taken.**

SECTION 4. Said corporation may distribute the water through said Amherst, may establish and fix from time to time the rates for the use of said water and collect the same; and may make such contracts with the town of Amherst, or any fire district that may hereafter be established, or with individuals, to supply water for fire or for other purposes, as may be agreed upon by said town, or such fire district, or individuals and said corporation. It may also distribute water through that part of Pelham known as West Pelham, and shall have the same rights and powers in and for that locality that are granted it by the other sections of this act in and for the said town of Amherst.

May establish water rates and collect the same.

May distribute water through West Pelham.

SECTION 5. Said corporation for the purposes set forth in this act may hold real and personal property not exceeding twenty thousand dollars in value; and the whole capital stock shall not exceed seventy-five thousand dollars to be divided into shares of one hundred dollars each; and said corporation may at any time issue bonds to an amount equal to the capital stock actually paid in.

Real and personal property not to exceed \$20,000.

Capital stock and shares.

SECTION 6. If any person shall use any of said water taken under this act, without the consent of said corporation, or shall wantonly or maliciously divert the water or any part thereof so taken, or corrupt the same, or render it impure, or destroy or injure any dam, aqueduct, pipe, conduit, hydrant, machinery or other works or property held, owned or used by said corporation under the authority of and for the purposes of this act, he shall forfeit and pay to said corporation three times the amount assessed therefor, to be recovered in an action of tort; and on conviction of either of the wanton or malicious acts aforesaid may be punished by a fine not exceeding three hundred dollars or by imprisonment in jail not exceeding one year.

Penalty for diverting water or rendering it impure.

SECTION 7. The town of Amherst shall have the right at any time within three years after the charter hereby granted takes effect, to purchase the corporate property and all the rights and privileges of said company at the actual cost of the same, together with interest at a rate not exceeding seven per cent. per annum, said cost to include all actual loss or damage paid or suffered by said company for injury to person or property, deducting from said cost any and all dividends which may have been paid by said corporation, or at such a price as may be mutually agreed upon between said corporation and the town of Amherst; and the said corporation is authorized to make a sale of the same; and this authority to purchase said

Town of Amherst may purchase franchise and property.

Subject to a vote  
of the town.

franchise and property is granted on condition that the same is assented to by said town by a two-thirds vote of the voters present and voting thereon, at any annual meeting or at a legal meeting called for that purpose; and the question of such purchase shall not be presented to said town more than twice in any one year.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved April 7, 1880.*

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**Chap. 180** AN ACT RELATIVE TO PERSONS HOLDING OFFICE IN VIOLATION OF THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAW.

*Be it enacted, &c., as follows:*

Penalty for  
holding office in  
violation of the  
constitution  
and the law.

SECTION 1. Any person wilfully accepting or holding office in violation of article two of chapter six of the constitution, or accepting or wilfully holding any office in violation of section thirty-six of chapter fifteen of the General Statutes, shall forfeit and pay into the treasury of the Commonwealth any and all compensation received by him from any and all offices during the time in which he has held any office in violation of law; and upon failure or neglect to comply with the provisions of this act the attorney-general shall promptly take steps to recover the same in an action of law upon a written complaint within one year, from any citizen of the Commonwealth.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved April 7, 1880.*

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**Chap. 181** AN ACT TO AMEND AN "ACT RELATING TO THE INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS."

*Be it enacted, &c., as follows:*

Inspection of  
buildings.  
1877, 214, § 7.

Section seven of chapter two hundred and fourteen of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and seventy-seven is hereby amended by inserting the words "and mercantile," after the word "manufacturing," in the fourth line of said section.

*Approved April 9, 1880.*

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**Chap. 182** AN ACT IN ADDITION TO AN ACT MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EXPENSES AUTHORIZED THE PRESENT YEAR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

*Be it enacted, &c., as follows:*

Appropriations.

SECTION 1. The sums hereinafter mentioned are appropriated, to be paid out of the treasury of the Commonwealth, from the ordinary revenue, unless otherwise ordered, for the purposes specified in certain acts and resolves of the present year, and for other purposes, to wit:—