

*Chap. 60.* An Act to extend the Charter of the Merchants' Insurance Company, in Boston.

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

Charter extended      The Merchants' Insurance Company, in Boston, is hereby  
Duration.              continued a corporation for the term of twenty years from  
                                 and after the fifth day of December, one thousand eight  
Powers, privi-        hundred and fifty-six, with all the powers and privileges,  
leges, &c.              and subject to all the duties, restrictions and liabilities, set  
                                 forth in the thirty-seventh and forty-fourth chapters of the  
                                 Revised Statutes, and in all subsequent general laws of this  
                                 Commonwealth, that have been or may be passed in rela-  
                                 tion to similar corporations. [*Approved by the Governor,*  
                                 *March 16, 1855.*]

*Chap. 61.* An Act in addition to an Act to authorize the Town of Plymouth to procure a supply of Water.

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

May purchase or      SECT. 1. The town of Plymouth, in the county of Ply-  
take land, water,      mouth, is hereby authorized, through the agency of such  
water-power, etc.,      officers or water commissioners as have been or may here-  
as may be neces-      after be elected by the legal voters of said town, to pur-  
sary.                      chase or otherwise take any land, water, water-power or  
                                 materials necessary for the purposes of constructing an  
                                 aqueduct in said town, as provided by an act of the legis-  
                                 lature, passed April twenty-second, in the year one thou-  
                                 sand eight hundred and fifty-four; and if the price to be  
                                 paid by said town for such land, water, water-power, or  
                                 materials, cannot be fixed by agreement with the owner or  
                                 owners thereof, the same shall be estimated by the county  
                                 commissioners, in the manner provided in the twenty-fourth  
                                 and thirty-ninth chapters of the Revised Statutes: *provided*,  
                                 that the right of either party to a jury shall be forever  
                                 barred, unless the petition for the same shall be filed within  
                                 six months from the time when such land, water, water-  
                                 power or materials shall have been taken.

Price to be fixed  
by county com-  
missioners, in  
case, etc.

Proviso.

Town may pre-  
scribe use, etc.,  
and establish  
water-rents.

Proviso.

SECT. 2. Said town shall have authority, through the agency of the officers aforesaid, to prescribe all the purposes for which water may be used, and establish the prices or water rents to be paid for the use of the same: *provided*, that the average price to be paid for each family using said water shall not be less than five dollars per annum.

SECT. 3. Said town of Plymouth is hereby authorized, in addition to the sum of thirty thousand dollars named in said act passed in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, to which this act is in addition, to issue such an amount of Plymouth water scrip, as provided in the aforesaid act, as shall be necessary, in the opinion of the legal voters of said town, to complete said aqueduct; and the same shall be issued and sold in the manner prescribed in the act aforesaid, unless otherwise provided by a vote of said town: *provided*, that no scrip shall be issued payable at a period of more than thirty years from the date of the issue of said scrip.

May issue additional water-scrip as may be necessary.

Proviso.

SECT. 4. All parts of the act of eighteen hundred and fifty-four, to which this is in addition, inconsistent with the foregoing provisions, are hereby repealed.

Parts of act inconsistent, etc., repealed.

SECT. 5. This act shall take effect from and after its passage. [*Approved by the Governor, March 16, 1855.*]

An Act to authorize the Newburyport Railroad Company to construct a Branch Railroad. *Chap. 62.*

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

SECT. 1. The Newburyport Railroad Company is hereby authorized to construct a railroad, commencing at some convenient point on the Newburyport Railroad, in Bradford, thence running northerly across the Merrimack River, to some convenient place in Haverhill, near the terminus of the Haverhill Bridge, the bridge across the Merrimack River to be so constructed (with a suitable draw) as to give a space of at least thirty-six inches clear, upon each side of every passenger or freight car while passing over said bridge: *provided*, that the construction of said road shall not be commenced until two hundred and fifty shares of the capital stock of the said company, in addition to those already taken, shall have been subscribed by responsible parties, and twenty per cent. of each and every share paid into the treasury of the said company: and *provided, further*, that the location of said road be filed within one year, and said road be constructed within two years, from the passage of this act.

May construct a branch railroad.

Proviso.

Provided, further

SECT. 2. The Newburyport Railroad Company is authorized to contract with the Haverhill Bridge Company for the purchase of their bridge, or for such rights and privileges therein as shall be agreed upon by the parties:

May contract for purchase of bridge, etc.