

mons all the male taxable inhabitants of said town, to be employed in clearing the streets, and other public ground thereof, as the said commissioners or overseer shall direct, and to make bridges and causeways in the said streets, where they may, by the said commissioners or overseer, be deemed necessary; and that the said taxable inhabitants shall be obliged to attend the summons of the said overseer, and to work on the said streets and ground, or to send a labouring person in their stead, on the penalty of five shillings current money for every such day's neglect or refusal, or in proportion for such time or part of the day they shall neglect or refuse to attend and work as aforesaid, and that the said taxables shall provide and bring necessary tools for the said work, also that a note or advertisement put up by the said overseer at the market-house of said town, and at the public warehouse, five days before the day appointed for the meeting of the said taxables, shall be deemed sufficient notice and summons to the inhabitants aforesaid.

C H A P.
XII.

III. AND, whereas many persons have built, and are now building, in said town, and clear no more ground than where their houses stand, whereby the rest of their lot becomes a thicket, unserviceable for pasturage, also inconvenient and unwholesome to all the inhabitants; BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, by the authority aforesaid, That all persons living or inhabiting on any lot in said town shall, within six months from and after the end of this present session of assembly, grub and clear the ground of the said lot, or such part thereof as they occupy, or to them belong, from all underwood, grubs and bushes, on the penalty of thirty shillings current money, to be forfeited and paid by the occupier of such house or lot, and in proportion to the owners or occupiers of half lots; and if the said occupier or inhabitant be a tenant, it shall be lawful for him to discount the charge thereof from the rent agreed to be paid for such house or lot, so as the same exceed not twenty shillings for one whole lot; and also, that any person hereafter building on any lot in said town so as to save the same, shall, within three months after the building thereon, grub and clear the said lot as aforesaid, on the penalty aforesaid, to be applied by the said commissioners in clearing the said lot, and the overplus, if any, in clearing the public squares of said town.

Inhabitants to
grub and clear
their lots, &c.

IV. AND, for the better preservation of the wood and timber standing or growing on the common, for a constant supply of firewood for the inhabitants, and the public uses of said town, BE IT ALSO ENACTED, That no person or persons shall presume to bark any tree or trees within the bounds of said common, nor to make or burn any coal or brick-kilns with the wood thereof, nor cut down or hale any trees or logs for the erecting or building of private houses, or such like, on the penalty of twenty shillings current money for each tree, so barked, or cut down as aforesaid; and the said commissioners are hereby empowered to inquire into such, or other waste made of the said wood and timber, and to make such rules and orders from time to time as may seem to them necessary to prevent the same.

Penalty for
barking trees,
&c.

V. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the commissioners aforesaid are hereby empowered to rent or lease a marsh lying on the east part of the common aforesaid, or any part thereof, for any term not exceeding twenty-one years, to such person or persons as will undertake to dyke, drain, and turn the same into good meadow, on such rents and conditions as shall be agreed on with the said commissioners, the lessee giving sufficient security for the due performance thereof; the rents or profits arising therefrom to be paid to the said commissioners, to be applied to the public use of said town.

Marsh may be
leased out.

This section was repealed by 1786, ch. 32, section 2.

VI. AND, whereas there is a public market-house erected in said town, where all sorts of provisions, for supply of the inhabitants and others, were heretofore usually bought and sold in great plenty on Wednesdays and Saturdays, the market-days appointed by this act, but which said market begins to be less useful, by forestallers and hawkers from house to house, to the great inconvenience and disappointment of the poorer sort of inhabitants, as well as the neighbourhood, who used to be supplied therefrom; BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED, That all sorts of flesh, and other provision usually brought to be sold for supply of the inhabitants and others aforesaid, shall be brought to, and sold at, the public market-place of said town, and that any person or persons forestalling, or buying on the road, any sort of provisions coming to the said market, within one mile of the same, shall forfeit and pay double the value of the said provisions so forestalled or bought as aforesaid; and that any person or persons hawking about any sort of provision from house to house on the said market-days, before eight o'clock of the said days, shall also forfeit double the value of the said provisions, on proof made thereof before any justice of the peace for said county; and that it shall be lawful for the said commissioners, and they are hereby empowered, to make such good rules and orders as may conduce to the due regulation of said market.

Provisions not
to be fore-
stalled, &c.

VII. AND