

section the following words: — Said commissioners may also reimburse the city of Newburyport in the manner and to the extent provided in this section for the amount already expended and which may be expended by said city for the maintenance of and repairs upon the Essex Merrimac bridge between Newburyport and Deer island in Amesbury, — so as to read as follows: — *Section 3.* Said commissioners may reimburse the city of Newburyport and the town of Salisbury from the treasury of the county of Essex for not exceeding sixty per cent. of the amount already expended, or which may be expended by said city and town in making repairs on said bridge, for which in the judgment of said commissioners said city and town ought to be reimbursed. Said commissioners may also reimburse the city of Newburyport in the manner and to the extent provided in this section for the amount already expended and which may be expended by said city for the maintenance of and repairs upon the Essex Merrimac bridge between Newburyport and Deer island in Amesbury.

Newburyport and Salisbury may be reimbursed certain amounts.

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

*Approved April 21, 1898.*

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX TO PROVIDE SUITABLE BUILDINGS OR ROOMS FOR THE USE OF THE FIRST DISTRICT COURT OF EASTERN MIDDLESEX.

*Chap. 350*

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. The county commissioners of the county of Middlesex are hereby authorized to lease for a term of years, not exceeding ten, upon such terms and conditions as they shall deem reasonable and proper, such buildings or rooms as may be necessary for the convenient and suitable accommodation of the first district court of eastern Middlesex.

Suitable accommodation to be provided for first district court of eastern Middlesex.

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

*Approved April 21, 1898.*

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE CITIES AND TOWNS TO CONSTRUCT BICYCLE PATHS.

*Chap. 351*

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. Cities and towns may lay out, construct and maintain paths for bicycles, and may appropriate money to meet the expense of such laying out, construction and maintenance. The general provisions of law

Cities and towns may construct bicycle paths, etc.

relative to the laying out, construction and maintenance of highways shall, so far as applicable, apply to such bicycle paths.

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

*Approved April 21, 1898.*

*Chap. 352* AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE FITCHBURG AND ASHBY STREET RAILWAY COMPANY.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

Fitchburg and Ashby Street Railway Company incorporated.

SECTION 1. Francis W. Wright, Charles O. Green, Edwin A. Hubbard, Alonzo A. Carr, Albert Wilder, William O. Loveland and Harry F. Bingham, their associates and successors, are hereby made a corporation under the name of the Fitchburg and Ashby Street Railway Company, with all the powers and privileges and subject to all the duties, conditions and restrictions set forth in all general laws which now are or hereafter may be in force relating to street railway companies.

May construct, etc., its railway in Fitchburg and Ashby.

SECTION 2. Said company may locate, construct, maintain and operate its railway, with single or double tracks, in such manner as may be necessary and convenient, in part upon private lands acquired by purchase or lease, and upon streets, highways or state roads in the city of Fitchburg and the town of Ashby, subject to the approval and under the control of the mayor and board of aldermen of said city, and of the selectmen of said town, as provided by general law, and subject also to the approval and consent of the Massachusetts highway commission as to any part of said railway located upon a state highway. The location of said railway outside the public streets and highways shall not exceed fifty feet in width, with convenient turn-outs and switches.

Location.

Motive power, etc.

SECTION 3. Said company may maintain and operate its railway by any approved power other than steam, and may erect and maintain poles and wires on private lands acquired by purchase or lease, and, with the consent of the mayor and board of aldermen of the city of Fitchburg and of the selectmen of the town of Ashby, may erect such poles and wires in the streets and highways as may be necessary to establish and maintain such motive power. It may acquire by purchase or lease all necessary real estate and water power for its power stations and other uses incidental to the proper maintenance of its railway.

May acquire necessary real estate, etc.