

182) Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred & eleven. An act to cede to the United States the jurisdiction of the tracts of land which shall be required for the light house authorized by Congress to be erected at the entrance of the Harbour of Falmouth. —

Sect. 1<sup>st</sup> Be it Enacted by the Senate & House of Representatives in General Court assembled, by the authority of the same, that the United States may purchase or take as hereafter is provided any tract or tracts not exceeding six acres, which shall be found necessary for the light house authorized by Congress to be erected at the entrance of the Harbour of Falmouth within this Commonwealth. It may hold the same during the continuance of the sum appropriated aforesaid, reserving to this Commonwealth exclusive jurisdiction over the land aforesaid except so far as may be necessary to enable the United States to carry into effect the object aforesaid.

Sect. 2 Be it further enacted that if the agent or person employed for the United States & the owner or owners of any tract or tracts of land which shall be found necessary for the said light house cannot agree in a sale & purchase thereof, return being accepted by the court, & description of the lands aforesaid entered in the Registry of Deeds in the county wherein the lands lie. & the amount of such appraisement being paid to the owner or owners of the land appraised & set off by such committee, if the owner or owners shall not appear or shall refuse to receive the same, to such person or corporation, for the use of the owner or owners as the same court shall order, the tract or tracts of land so appraised & set off shall be vested in the United States, & may be taken & appropriated for the purposes aforesaid. Provided all charges of such application & appraisement shall be paid by the United States; And provided also, that if the person or persons whose land shall be taken for the purposes aforesaid, shall find himself aggrieved by the doing of said committee in estimating the value of said lands he may apply to the Court of Common Pleas to be held within & for the county of Plymouth at the term when the return of said Committee shall be made or at the term next after the acceptance of the return of said Committee & the said court is hereby empowered to hear & finally determine the same by a jury under oath to be summoned by the Sheriff or his Deputy for that purpose if the person complaining desire the same. In the House of Representatives Feb 20<sup>th</sup> 1811. This bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

Joseph Story Speaker.

In Senate Feb 9<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 1811.

This bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

H. G. Otis President.

Council

183) Council Chamber 21<sup>st</sup> February 1811.

Approved E. Gerry.

Secretary's Office March 9<sup>th</sup> 1811. A true copy attest

Benjamin Womans Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Received December 1<sup>st</sup> 1811 according to P. W. Foster Cotton Major.