

**Acts of the North Carolina General Assembly, 1766**  
**North Carolina. General Assembly**  
**November 03, 1766 - December 02, 1766**  
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CHAPTER XXII.

An act to amend an act intitled "An act for establishing the titles of the freeholders in Edenton, for laying a tax for finishing the church begun in the said town, and for further improvements, and for better regulation thereof.

I. Whereas, since the passing of the above mentioned act some of the commissioners hereby appointed and nominated have moved themselves and others are dead, by which means it becomes necessary that others should be appointed in order that a succession of them may be continued; to answer the purposes of the above mentioned act,

II. Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, Council and Assembly, and by the authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this act Joseph Blount, William Lowther, Samuel Johnston, Joseph Hewes and George Blair, gentlemen, and every of them, be and are hereby constituted and appointed commissioners for the town of Edenton aforesaid, who shall have, exercise and enjoy the same powers, rights and privileges as the commissioners by the before recited act did or might have exercised and enjoyed; and that in case of the death or removal of the treasurer or any of the commissioners out of the county of Chowan, the eldest commissioner shall succeed to the office of treasurer and other commissioner or commissioners shall be chosen in manner as by the said act is directed.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every grantee of a lot or lots heretofore granted, shall, within four months after the passing of this act, clear and grub up such lot or lots, under the penalty of ten shillings for each and every lot, which by that time shall not be cleared or grubbed up, and that the grantee of every lot hereafter to be granted shall also, within four months from the date of his deed, also clear and grub up his lot or lots, under the penalties aforesaid, to be recovered and applied in such manner as penalties by the aforementioned act are recoverable and applied.

IV. And whereas, the suffering of hogs and geese to run at large in the said town is found to be injurious to the properties of the inhabitants thereof, be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That none of the inhabitants of the said town shall, within two months after the passing of this act, suffer any of their hogs and geese to run at large within the bounds of the said town, and any hog or hogs, goose or geese running at large shall be forfeited to the commissioners, and the same, by an order from one of

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them under his hand directed to the constable, be by him sold to the highest bidder for the benefit of the said town.

V. And for the prevention of fire in the said town, be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every housekeeper shall sweep or cause to be swept, the chimneys of his dwelling house, store and kitchen at least once in every month, between the months of October and April, under the penalty of twenty shillings for every chimney so unswept within the time aforesaid, to be recovered by warrant from under the hand of any one of the commissioners and applied for the benefit of the said town; and in case the chimney of any dwelling house, store or kitchen shall catch on fire through neglect in manner before directed, in the said town, the possessor of such house, store or kitchen shall pay to the commissioners of the said town the sum of five pounds, to be recovered and applied in manner as before directed.

VI. And whereas, it frequently happens that masters of vessels, not belonging to the province, bring their vessels to the public wharfs already erected in the said town, and there vend and retail their cargoes, and have the benefit of the said wharfs; be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every master of a vessel not belonging to the province, or directly from Great Britain, shall, for each and every day he shall lie with his said vessel at any one of the said wharfs, pay to the commissioners of the said town the sum of two shillings per day; and in failure of payment thereof the same shall and may be levied upon the body or goods and chattels of the delinquent by a warrant under the hand of any one commissioner, directed to a constable, and the money be applied as before directed.

VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That within two months after the passing of this act any occupier of any lot or lots whereon now is or shall be built any habitable house shall have a ladder of a proportionable length to the height of his house, which said ladder shall be constantly kept up against his house, that in case of fire relief may be immediately afforded, under the penalty of twenty shillings, to be recovered and applied as aforesaid.