Principal office, where located.

Proviso. Branch offices.

Sec. 5. That the principal office of this corporation shall be at Monroe, N. C., and the business of the company confined to the mutual insurance of residents of North Carolina, through branches thereof in the different counties of the State: Provided, any branch may not be composed of more than two counties: Provided, that no local or subdivision shall run with less than three hundred members.

Liability of members.

Sec. 6. That the private property of the members of this corporation shall be exempt from the corporate debts of the association or the members thereof, and each member of the association shall be liable for only his or her pro rata share of any assessment on a loss caused by the death of a member, except as may be provided in the by-laws of the association for the payment of the dues and assessments.

Pro rata of assessment.

Three years nonuser.

Sec. 7. That this association shall begin business within three years from the ratification of this act.

Sec. 8. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this 20th day of February, A. D. 1903.

## Chapter 112.

## AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE ELIZABETH CITY FIRE COMPANY, NUMBER ONE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Incorporators.

SECTION 1. That Ashley C. Stokes, Charles Reid, Louis L. Williams, James Richardson, T. Archie Commander, Allen K. Kramer, and those who may be associated with them at this time or may Limited number of, hereafter be associated with them, not to exceed fifty persons, be and they are hereby incorporated under the name of the Elizabeth City Fire Company, Number One, and by that name may be sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, contract and be contracted with, and have and exercise such powers as are usually enjoyed by corporations of like character not contrary to the laws of this State.

Powers and privileges.

Name.

Sec. 2. That the members of said corporation shall be exempt from jury and street duty and also from militia duty, except in time of insurrection or of invasion by the public enemy during the continuance of their membership therein.

Members exempt from jury, street and militia duty.

By-laws.

Sec. 3. That the said corporation shall have power to adopt such by-laws as it may consider necessary and expedient, not contrary to the laws of this State, and in accordance with such by-laws to elect officers and to impose such reasonable fines and penalties upon its members as are not contrary to the laws of this State.

Officers, fines and penalties.

SEC. 4. That the said corporation shall be exempt from the pay- Exempt from ment of tax required by sections ninety-six and ninety-seven of taxation. chapter two of the Public Laws enacted by the General Assembly at the session of nineteen hundred and one.

SEC. 5. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this 20th day of February, A. D. 1903.

## Chapter 113.

## AN ACT TO AMEND AND CONSOLIDATE THE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF BREVARD.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

SECTION 1. That the inhabitants of the town of Brevard shall Corporate existbe and continue as they have heretofore been a body politic and cor- ence continued. porate, and in the name of the Board of Aldermen of Brevard shall have a right to contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, to purchase and to hold and convey real or personal property.

SEC. 2. That the corporate limits of said town shall extend half Corporate limits. a mile in every direction from the court-house.

SEC. 3. There shall be a Mayor and five (5) Aldermen elected Officers, elecfor the government of the said town of Brevard under the same rules and regulations as are prescribed by the general law of the State providing for the elections in cities and towns.

SEC. 4. The Board of Aldermen shall have power to fill any Board of aldermen, vacancy in the board that may occur during their term of office, power to fill vacancies. and also to appoint all officers which they may deem necessary for the efficient administration of the regulations, ordinances and bylaws of the town, and shall prescribe their duties and terms of office. The Board of Aldermen shall be further authorized to appoint one of their members a Mayor pro tempore to act as Mayor Mayor pro tem. in case of absence of the Mayor or his inability to perform his duties of the office, and the person so appointed shall possess all the powers and rights of the Mayor during his absence or inability to attend to his duties.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the Mayor to communicate quar- Mayor to submit terly in writing to the Board of Aldermen (or oftener if he shall quarterly report deem it expedient): First, a general statement of the situation and What to contain. condition of the town in relation to its government and improvement; second, to recommend for the adoption of the Board of Alder-