

CHAPTER CLXIV.

An Act to incorporate the Neuse River Company, in the town of Newbern.

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That Alonzo T. Jenkins, John Charlotte, Alexander Blount and other free white male citizens of the town of Newbern, are hereby authorized to form and enrol themselves into a Fire Engine Company, to be styled "the Neuse Fire Company;" and by that name may sue and be sued, may plead and be impleaded, and exercise other powers incident to corporate bodies: *Provided*, the number of members shall at no time exceed forty.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That the members of said fire company, while they continue to act as firemen in such company, shall be exempt from the performance of militia duty, except in case of insurrection or invasion, and from serving on juries in the county and superior courts.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of said fire company to turn out and exercise their engine, at least four times per year, unless prevented by unavoidable circumstances, under a penalty of twenty dollars, to be recovered against said fire company, by any person who may sue for the same, before any tribunal having jurisdiction of such suits.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That a majority of the members of said fire company shall have power and authority to adopt such constitution and pass such by-laws, rules and regulations, for their government, as to them may seem best, not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the United States and of this State; and that all fines and penalties which may be collected by said company, for any infringement of its laws, shall enure to the use of said company.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That all laws and clauses of laws which may come within the meaning and purview of this act, be, and the same are hereby repealed; and this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

[Ratified 18th of January, 1847.]