

**R E A S O N.**  
Reason, but of Heaven's blushing,  
Given only to mankind;  
Life would be worth preferring,  
Did not reason tell the mind.

When we see enterprises pursue,  
Serving all the wish to please,  
Reason tells us many not them,  
Studies are not happiness.

When in height of beauty blooming,  
Clara exercises power,  
Reason whispers in her ear,  
"Beauty is a fading flower."

When in pomp and pow' granding,  
Emperors and kings we see;  
Reason tells us they are fading,  
They must die as well as we.

When fall Poverty invades us,  
And our lot is slaves to be;  
Reason tells us bear with patience;  
Time will come we shall be free.

When our passions doze as bounding,  
Through life, a shadow, a'ye, where  
In search of happiness and pleasure,  
Reason tells us, "not there."

Let poor and Patriot stand at us,  
All our life in trouble spent;  
Reason has a balm to lead us,  
And that balm is call'd Content.

When we're on our death bed lying,  
Full of anguish and of pain;  
Reason tells us of content,  
You shall surely live again.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the year of our LORD, one Thousand se-  
venty and Ninety.

An Act to repeal all the existing Excise  
Acts, and to provide for the expences  
of Justice in the several Counties.

WHEREAS several acts heretofore  
made shall require the following ex-  
ecutive duties to be collected and paid into  
the Treasury of the Commonwealth, or to  
the Secretary thereof, to wit.—For every  
licence granted to an Innholder, four  
dollars; for every deed recorded, one shill-  
ling; for the commission of a Sheriff,  
forty dollars in certain cities, and twenty  
dollars in others; on the appointment of  
a Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court,  
forty dollars; on the appointment of a  
Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas,  
forty dollars in certain Counties, and  
twenty dollars in others; on the appoint-  
ment of every Register of deeds twenty  
shillings; on the commission of each  
Judge of the Court of Common Pleas,  
Judge and Register of Probate, twenty  
shillings each; and of a Justice of the  
Peace, nine shillings; and for the admis-  
sion of every Attorney to practice in the  
Court of Common Pleas, twenty dollars,  
and in the Supreme Judicial Court, thirty  
dollars; and for the admission of every  
person to the degree of Barrister of law,  
forty dollars; and it being no longer ne-  
cessary to continue the same for the pur-  
poses aforesaid:

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and  
House of Representatives in General Court con-  
vened, and by the authority of the same,

That the said several acts be, and the  
same, so far as they respect the aforesaid  
duties, are hereby repealed, except how-  
ever, that the same shall remain in force,  
so far as shall be necessary, to enforce and  
complete the collection of all the said du-  
ties which have already become due and  
payable by virtue of the said acts.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That  
every person who shall hereafter be licensed  
to be an Innholder, that on such li-  
cense being granted, pay to the Clerk of  
the Court of General Sessions of the Peace,  
the sum of four dollars, and each Clerk  
aforesaid shall, before the first day of May  
next give bond with sufficient securities in  
the penal sum of one thousand dollars to  
the Treasurer of the County, and his suc-  
cessor in that office, to account for one  
outh, and pay to him from time to time  
the sum of four dollars for each Innholder  
in the County who shall be licensed,  
within one month after he, the said Clerk  
shall receive the same; and if any Clerk  
shall neglect to give such bond he shall  
forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding five  
hundred dollars, to be recovered by the  
County Treasurer, to the use of the County,  
in an action of debt, in any Court proper to try the same. And such Clerk  
shall be allowed for so receiving and pay-  
ing over to the County Treasurer,  
commission of one per cent, interest.  
And all such licences shall be granted on  
condition that the Innholder to pay said

four dollars before, he or she shall recog-  
nize as by law required.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That  
from and after the passing of this act, ev-  
ery Register of deeds in this Common-  
wealth, for each deed or instrument made  
for the conveyance of land or any title  
therein brought to his office to be recorded,  
shall before he record the same de-  
mand and receive of the person bringing  
the same, seventeen cents; and on or be-  
fore the first day of April annually, shall  
account for and pay to the Treasurer of  
the same County, all the dues that shall  
be so received. And each Register of  
deeds shall on or before the first day of  
June next give bond with sufficient securi-  
ties to the Treasurer of the County in the  
penal sum of five hundred dollars to ac-  
count on oath for the monies or dues  
he shall receive, and to pay the same as  
aforesaid; and each Register of Deed,  
shall be allowed for so receiving and pay-  
ing over the said monies or dues at the  
rate of two per cent, thereon. Provide  
however, where the said Register of any  
County shall also be Treasurer thereof, to-  
gether with the time of such Birth or  
Death, and the names of his or her par-  
ents, if known, to the fees allowed by  
law, to be paid by his Town or District.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of every Town Clerk and District Clerk, within this Commonwealth,  
to record all Births and Deaths  
which shall happen within his Town or  
District and come to his knowledge, to-  
gether with the time of such Birth or  
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Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Clerk of the Town or District, to record all Births and Deaths  
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Sec. 6. Be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of Parcels to give notice to the Clerk of the Town or District, in which they dwell, of all the Births and Death of their Children; and it shall be the duty of every Householder, to give notice of every Birth and Death which may happen in his house; and of the children  
next of kin to give such notice of the  
Death of his kindred; and it shall be the  
duty of the Master or keeper of any  
Almshouse, Work-House or Prison, and  
of the Master or Commander of any  
ship or vessel, to give notice of every  
Birth and Death, which may happen in  
the house or vessel under his care or  
charge, to the Clerk of the Town or  
District in which such event shall happen:  
And in case any person, whose duty it  
shall be, by virtue of this Act, to give  
notice as aforesaid, shall neglect to per-  
form the same, for the space of six  
months after the Birth or Death shall  
happen, the person so neglecting shall  
pay a fine of five dollars, to be recovered  
with costs of suit, on complaint before any  
Judge of the Peace for the same County,  
to the use of any Inhabitant of the  
same town, who shall prosecute for the  
same, from which judgment, there shall  
be a appeal.

Sec. 7. Be it further enacted, That this act shall be the duty of the Clerk of the Town or District, to give notice to the Clerk of the Town or District, in which they dwell, of all the Births and Deaths  
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