

# L A W S

OF THE

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI,

PASSED AT A CALLED SESSION,

OF THE

LEGISLATURE,

HELD IN THE

CITY OF JACKSON, IN APRIL AND MAY, 1837.

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JACKSON:  
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1837.

AN ACT to incorporate the town of Sharon, in the county of Madison, and for other purposes.

§ 1. *Be it enacted by the legislature of the state of Mississippi,* That the town of Sharon, in the county of Madison be, and the same is hereby incorporated, and that the corporate limits of said town shall be to the four cardinal points, and form one mile and a half square, to be laid off in such manner, so that the centre of the town of Sharon, as at present laid off and surveyed, shall be the centre of the said corporate limits.

§ 2. *Be it further enacted,* That every free white male person having attained the age of twenty-one years, and shall have resided within the corporate limits of said town, four months, and twelve months within this state next preceding an election, for town officers, shall be a qualified elector and eligible to any town office.

§ 3. *Be it further enacted,* That the qualified electors of said town, are hereby authorized to hold an election in the town of Sharon, on the first Wednesday in July next, between the hours of ten o'clock, A. M., and four o'clock P. M., for the purpose of electing five persons, as counsellors, a justice, treasurer, recorder, and constable, who shall serve until the first regular annual election, or until their successor shall be elected, and that the annual election shall be held in said town, in some suitable house on or near the public square, on the first Wednesday in January, in each and every year, between the hours of ten o'clock in the morning, and four o'clock in the evening, and that the justice of the peace elected in pursuance of this act, after being commissioned by the governor, shall by virtue of his

office, be president of the council, and be entitled to all the emoluments and immunities of other magistrates of said county, and in case of his absence any member of the council may be called to the chair and execute the duties of the president *pro tempore*.

General  
powers.

§ 4. *Be it further enacted*, That the president and counsellors shall be a body corporate and politic of the town of Sharon, by the name and style of the president and council of the town of Sharon, and as such they and their successors in office shall be capable of suing and being sued, of pleading and being impleaded, of defending and being defended, in all manner of suits and actions either in law or equity, and also receive donations, give, grant, sell, convey and contract, and do any and all other such acts which are incident to bodies corporate and politic.

By-laws.

§ 5. *Be it further enacted*, That the president and council shall have power to pass all necessary by-laws for the good order and government of said town, not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of this state, or the United States, whereby education and morality may be promoted, and the retailing and vending of ardent spirits, gambling and every species of vice and immorality may be suppressed, together with the total inhibition of the odious and savage practice of wearing dirks, bowie knives, or pistols, and in their corporate capacity they may inflict a penalty on any person for a violation of any such by-laws, not exceeding fifty dollars for any offence, recoverable with cost before any justice of the peace for said county, in the name of the president and council, for the use and benefit of said town.

Officers.

§ 6. *Be it further enacted*, That the cor-

porate limits of the town of Sharon are hereby declared to be a district entitled to a justice of the peace, and one constable, and that he, the said justice of the peace, shall be commissioned by the governor in the same manner, clothed with the same authority and jurisdiction, liable to the same duties, and entitled to the same fees as other justices of the peace in this state, and shall *ex-officio* be president of the council, and the said constable shall be qualified in the same manner, liable to the performance of the same duties, and shall have the same authority and fees as constables of this state.

§ 7. *Be it further enacted*, That the duties, responsibilities, and compensation of the treasurer and recorder, shall be prescribed by the president and council.

Duty and compensation of treasurer and recorder.

§ 8. *Be it further enacted*, That the president and council may raise a revenue for town purposes, by taxing such property as is liable to taxation under the existing laws of this state: *Provided*, such tax shall not exceed fifty cents on each white poll, and fifty cents on each slave, and twelve and a half cents on every hundred dollars worth of other personal estate, and real estate, within the limits of said town, in any one year, and the money so received shall be appropriated exclusively to the use of said town, under the directions and control of the president and council.

Tax.

§ 9. *Be it further enacted*, That the president and council may exempt the inhabitants of said town, or such of them as they may deem proper from personal labor on the streets and highways, on the payment of any equivalent, the sums not to exceed six dollars per annum on every male person above the age of fifteen years.

Commutation.

Road tax. § 10. *Be it further enacted*, That the citizens of said town subject to road duties shall be exempt from such duties beyond its corporate limits.

Vacancies § 11. *Be it further enacted*, That all vacancies occurring between the annual elections, by a removal out of the corporation, by death, resignation or otherwise, shall be filled by appointment by the president with the advice and consent of the council, also appoint their regular meeting.

Quorum. § 12. *Be it further enacted*, That a majority of the members of the council, with the president, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and in case of a tie among them, the president shall give the casting vote.

To take effect. § 13. *Be it further enacted*, That this act shall be in full force from and after its passage.

Approved, May 13, 1837.

AN ACT to incorporate the Big Black bridge company.

Corporation created. § 1. *Be it enacted by the legislature of the state of Mississippi*, That for the purpose of constructing a bridge across Big Black river, at or near Hall's ferry, there shall be established in the town of Warrington, in Warren county, a company with a capital stock of thirty thousand dollars, to be subscribed or paid for in the manner following, that is to say, the said sum of thirty thousand dollars shall be divided into three hundred shares of one hundred dollars each, one-fifth of each share to be paid at the time of subscribing; one-fifth in six months thereafter, and in such instalments as the direc-