

## CHAPTER 4.

## FIRING PRAIRIES.

AN ACT to prevent the firing of prairies.

*Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Iowa.*

SECTION 1. If any person sets fire to woods and prairies to the injury of others, shall be fined not exceeding fifty dollars, and liable for injury sustained. That if any person or persons shall set on fire, or cause to be set on fire, any woods, prairies, or other grounds whatever, in this territory, other than his own, or shall permit the fire set out by him, to pass from his own prairie or woods, to the injury of any person or persons, every person so offending shall, on conviction thereof, for every such offense be fined in any sum not exceeding fifty dollars, and shall be liable to an action, to the party injured for all damages, which he, she, or they, may have sustained in consequence of such fire.

SEC. 2. Duty of judges to give this act in charge to grand jury. It shall be the duty of the judge to give this act in charge to the grand jury.

SEC. 3. Act to take effect from its passage. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved, January 2d, 1846.

## CHAPTER 5.

## MARRIED WOMEN.

AN ACT concerning the rights of married women.

*Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Iowa.*

SECTION 1. Married women may be seized of real estate That any married woman may become seized or possessed of any real estate by descent, bequest, demise, gift, purchase or distribution, in her own name and as of her own property: provided, the same does not come from her husband, nor is, nor has been purchased with the funds or property of the husband during coverture.

SEC. 2. Not liable for husband's debts. That hereafter when any married woman shall become possessed of any real estate as aforesaid, or shall have possessed any real estate before coverture, she shall possess the same in her own right, and the same shall in no case be liable to the debts of her husband.

SEC. 3. Rents and profits belong to husband. The control and management of such real estate, and the annual productions and rents and profits of the same, shall remain to the husband agreeably to the laws heretofore in force. All suits to recover the property or possession of such real estate, shall be prosecuted or defended, as the case may be, in the joint names of the husband and wife.

**SEC. 4. Husband to join in conveyance.** The real estate owned by a *feme covert* under the provisions of this act, may be sold by the joint deed of the husband and wife, executed, proved and recorded, agreeably to the laws now in force in regard to the conveyance of real estate.

Approved, January 2d, 1846.

[5] CHAPTER 6.

COUNTY TREASURER.

AN ACT to amend "An Act for assessing Territorial tax and for other purposes," approved, 15th February, 1844.

*Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Iowa.*

**SECTION 1. Treasurer to settle with auditor.** That the 5th section of said act be so amended that the county treasurers shall be required to settle with the auditor and treasurer of the territory within sixty days after the 1st Monday of March in each year, instead of within thirty days as is required by said 5th section of said act.

**SEC. 2. Territorial warrants received for taxes.** That the treasurer of the territory shall receive from the treasurers of the respective counties, territorial warrants in payment of territorial taxes and that the seventh section of the act hereby amended, be and the same is hereby repealed.

**SEC. 3. Act in force from passage.** This act to take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved January 2d, 1846.

CHAPTER 7.

PUBLIC REVENUE.

AN ACT to amend an act, entitled "An act to amend an act to provide for assessing and collecting public revenue," approved, 28th May, 1845.

*Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Iowa.*

**SECTION 1. Assessment of taxes 1st March.** That the county assessor in each county in this territory, shall on the first day of March, or within fifteen days thereafter, in each year, proceed to assess all the real and personal property within his county subject to taxation; which assessment shall be made at the cash value thereof at the time of assessment, taking into consideration the fertility and quality of the soil, the vicinity to roads, towns, villages, and navigable waters, water privileges on the same, and all other local advantages.

**SEC. 2. County clerk to furnish assessment rolls.** It shall be the duty of the clerk of the board of county commissioners in each county, to deliver the blank assessment roll, to the county assessor on or before the first day of March in each year.