

Bills Introduced by 19th Century African American Legislators
38th General Assembly, 1873

HB 329 – GA 38, 1873 (Keeble – Amends Nashville City Charter)

[*On cover*]

H B 329

Passed 1st Rg.

Referred to Committee on Corporations

Keeble

[*Text*]

An act to Amend the City Carters of The Cities of Nashville, Memphis and Knoxville.

Sec 1st Be it Further enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee that the word property Qualifications be Stricken out of Said City Charters of the cities of Nashville, Memphis and Knoxville which requires the Mayor, Aldermen and Councilmen to Make Oath that they are the owner of Five hundred Dollars worth of Real Estate before they can be Sworn into office—

Sec 2d Be it Further enacted that the officers of the Corporations of the Cities of Nashville, Memphis and Knoxville Shall be elected for Two years instead of One as heretofore.

Sec 3d Be it Further enacted that the following officers of the Corporations of Nashville, Memphis and Knoxville Shall be elected by the people for Two years. City Recorder, City Tax Collector, City Assessor, City Water Tax Collector, Superintendant [*sic*] Water Works, 1st & 2nd Engineers Water Works, Chief Fire Department, City Physicians, City Dispensary Physician, City Work house Keeper, Deputy Work house Keeper, City Treasurer, City Wharf Master, Sexton City Cemetery, Street Overseer and the Three Police Commissioners.

Sec 4th Be it Further enacted that this act Shall take effect from and after its passage.

[Note: A second bill with the number H.B. 329 was also introduced during the 38th General Assembly by John Overton, Jr., a Democrat representing Shelby County. This H.B. 329 was “To amend the Charter of the DeSoto Bank of Memphis” by extending the duration of the charter by fifty years.]

HB 506 – GA 38, 1873 (Keeble—Laborers and wages)

[*On cover*]

H B. 506
Passed Rdg
Mch 18

[*Text*]

An Act to protect laborers and to Secure their wages—

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee—

Sec. 1. That hereafter in all cases where any person or persons are hired or employed as common laborers on farms and plantations, ~~either~~ by the month or year and either upon the shares, or agreed and stipulated wages per month or year, should such person or persons be wrongfully and unjustly, and without valid and sufficient cause or provocation [*sic*] discharged or driven off from said farm by the person having hired or employed such laborer, then and in such case or event, the said laborer shall have a lien upon the entire crop grown on said farm for such length of time he was employed, to secure his wages under the contract—

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, that in order to carry out in good faith the provisions of the first section of this act, Said person or laborer shall have all the remedies both in law and equity, that is [*sic*] now given in cases of debt in other civil causes—

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That this Act take effect from and after its passage, wellfare [*sic*] of the State demanding it—

HB 507 – GA 38, 1873 (Keeble – Benefits Tenn. Manual Labor School)

[*On cover*]

H B 507

Passed 1st Rg Mch

Keeble

[*Text*]

An Act for the benefit of the [*sic*] Tennessee Manual Labor School—

Be it enacted by the Legislature General Assembly of the State of Tennessee –

That the sum of six hundred dollars, be and is hereby appropriated out of the State Treasury for the use and benefit of the Tennessee Manual Labor School, which amount shall be applied alone for paying the balance of the purchase money due upon the farm and lands purchased by Said Tennessee Manual Labor School, located in Rutherford County Tennessee.