

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SIXTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 87.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of an appropriation in aid of the
Forks and Shirley road.

Resolved, That the sum of five thousand dollars
2 be and is hereby appropriated out of any money
3 in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, and
4 expended under the direction of the county com-
5 missioners to aid in building a road from the
6 Forks on the Kennebec river to the town of
7 Shirley, Piscataquis county, as located by the
8 county commissioners of Somerset and Piscataquis
9 counties in the fall of eighteen hundred and eighty;
10 *provided,* that the citizens of the plantations
11 through which said road has been laid shall raise
12 and cause to be expended on said road, to the
13 satisfaction of the county commissioners of said
14 county, the sum of two thousand five hundred

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The distance from "The Forks" to Greenville, at the foot of Moosehead Lake, is about twenty-two miles. The distance to Shirley, where the proposed road intersects with the public road from Greenville to Bangor, is between sixteen and eighteen miles. The county commissioners of Somerset and Piscataquis counties, by joint action in November, 1880, located a county road from "The Forks" to Shirley, thus passing upon the question of public convenience and necessity of the road for the two counties. It passes through sections of three unincorporated townships before striking Shirley, and through lands generally well adapted to settling purposes. The opening of the said road would unquestionably be followed by settlements upon it, thus making it of general interest and importance to the State at large. The estimated expense of the road, by good judges, is five hundred dollars per mile. It is useless to expect its opening unless the state lends its aid. The connecting of two such important points as "The Forks" with Moosehead Lake cannot be over estimated, and when it can be done by so short a road and at so small expense, a broad public policy seems to demand it at the expense of the State. When the State shall once open the road, it will not again be called upon, as the keeping it in repair can be enforced upon the owners of the land through which it passes.

(2)

15 dollars (\$2,500) before any part of said appropria-
16 tion shall be paid. Said road when completed
17 shall be accepted by the land agent.

STATE OF MAINE.

In HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,)
February 9, 1883.)

Reported by Mr. HOLBROOK, from the Committee on State
Lands and State Roads, and ordered printed.

ORAMANDAL SMITH, *Clerk.*