

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty - Second Legislature.

SENATE.

No. 80.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of schools in Bowerbank, an unincorporated place in the County of Piscataquis.

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars 2 is hereby appropriated out of any funds not other- 3 wise appropriated, to be paid by the treasurer of 4 the State to the trustees of the Bowerbank school 5 fund, a corporation established by act approved 6 February twenty-second, in the year eighteen hun- 7 dred and seventy-six, entitled "An act to make 8 available the school fund of the inhabitants of 9 Bowerbank, an unincorporated place in the county 10 of Piscataquis," said one hundred dollars to be 11 applied by said trustees for the benefit of schools 12 in said Bowerbank, twenty-five dollars thereof 13 with accruing interest thereon to be used annually 14 for the support of said schools for the four years

15 next ensuing from and after March ten, in the year
16 eighteen hundred and eighty-five, in the payment
17 of teachers of said schools in the same manner as
18 provided in said act in relation to the interest on
19 said school fund; and said trustees are hereby
20 authorized to loan said one hundred dollars and any
21 unexpended balance thereof in same manner as by
22 said act they may loan said Bowerbank school
23 fund.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Accompanying Resolve in Favor of Schools in Bowerbank.

The charter of the town of Bowerbank was repealed by legislative act approved February 15, 1869. The town had a school fund of \$300, or less. There are two school houses. By act of Legislature approved February 22, 1869, the Selectmen of Sebec, and their successors, were made a corporation for the sole purpose of acting as trustees of this little fund, the interest on which only could be used for aid to private schools in Bowerbank. The school houses, which are alternately used, have been repaired by subscription, and the interest on this small sum has helped to obtain the services of teachers for short terms, whose wages were small. There are 68 inhabitants, 16 of whom are scholars between the ages of 4 and 19 years. Bowerbank is a remote place north of Sebec Lake, and is the extreme limit of settlements. Its scholars have no chance for schooling except these little private schools. The parents, for the most part, are poor and unable to contribute for any purpose. Still, the population is increasing, and the township may, in time, become a plantation. The sum asked for here is \$25 a year for four years, which is just one-fourth of the annual State tax on the township, which is \$100 a year; the same, if granted, would amount to the abatement of one-fourth of the State tax on the township, and this abatement to go for schools. The township helps to pay the State tax, including the school mill tax, but gets nothing back for schools. Twenty-five dollars a year amounts to just the school mill tax paid by Bowerbank. The township pays a county tax, and, also, on December 31st, 1884, was assessed \$416.76 by the County Commissioners for repair of roads.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE CHAMBER, }
February 18, 1885. }

Reported by Mr. LEBROKE, from Committee on Judiciary, and laid
on table to be printed under joint rule, with statement of facts.

C. W. TILDEN, *Secretary.*