

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

Sixty - Third Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 18.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE for rebuilding bridge at Fort Kent, Aroostook County.

Resolved, That there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of one thousand dollars to be expended under the direction of the County Commissioners of Aroostook County in rebuilding the Upper Bridge across Fish River in the town of Fort Kent.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The population of Fort Kent is fifteen hundred ; territory, two townships of broken and mountainous surface with large mileage of roads, and new and expensive roads to build and a yearly tax of nineteen hundred dollars, besides new bridges to build across small streams. Valuation of the town seventy-two thousand dollars, with two large bridges of three hundred feet long and many smaller ones from two hundred feet to one hundred ; that our town is very largely in debt and more than two-thirds of our population live as squatters on proprietors' lands ; and as the commissioners state, both large bridges must be built and maintained. And the county commissioners further state :

To the Hon. Legislature :

We, the County Commissioners of Aroostook, would affirm what we said January 10, 1885, to wit :

HOULTON, January 10, 1885.

To the Hon. Legislature of Maine :

We, the County Commissioners of Aroostook, would say that we are well acquainted with the town of Fort Kent and its large and broken territory and great mileage of roads ; that nearly all its inhabitants are poor ; that they have many miles of new roads to make ; that on the St. John River road they have many new bridges to make and keep in repair ; that they have two large bridges to build on Fish River, and neither can be dispensed with, and that both must be immediately rebuilt. We know of no town with so small a valuation with so great an outlay for roads and bridges, and we hope the Legislature will grant assistance.

JOHN BURNHAM,
M. V. HALL,
JOSEPH D. EMERY.

And would further say that the town built a good and substantial bridge over the Fish River near its junction with the St. John, at a cost of three thousand dollars. One thousand was granted by the State, five hundred was assessed and collected, and fifteen hundred was hired, payable five hundred each year for three years, with interest at 6 per cent. We would further say that the town has paid damages to the the sheriff of the county to his team by breaking down of the Perley Brook Bridge the past year, of one hundred and sixteen dollars ; that their debts have largely increased, and their county tax for more than two years has not been paid, and their pauper bills are large ; that the upper bridge called the Mill Bridge across Fish River is a large one of nearly three hundred feet and cannot be dispensed with, but must be built the coming summer. We therefore most earnestly recommend an appropriation of one thousand dollars for the same.

MARTIN V. HALL,
 ALBERT A. BURLEIGH, } *County*
 JOSEPH D. EMERY, } *Commissioners.*

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January 20, 1887. }

Reported from Committee on State Lands and State Roads by Mr.
CLARK of Caribou; ordered printed under joint rule.

NICHOLAS FESSENDEN, Clerk.