

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty - Third Legislature.

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HOUSE.

No. 96.

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STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE in favor of the Town of Pembroke.

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*Resolved,* That the schedule of taxable polls and  
2 estates, as established in the State valuation, by  
3 the resolve approved March ninth, eighteen hun-  
4 dred and eighty-one, is hereby amended by so  
5 changing the valuation of taxable estates in the  
6 town of Pembroke that the same shall be estab-  
7 lished and fixed at the sum of three hundred and  
8 nine thousand, four hundred and forty-three dol-  
9 lars, until the further order of the Legislature.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The town of Pembroke has, since 1850, had a large manufacturing establishment known as the Pembroke Iron Works, upon which the people were entirely dependent for employment aside from farming.

Several years since, these works suspended operations and last October the entire property, costing about \$250,000, was sold for less than \$15,000. The machinery has been removed and the enterprise finally abandoned.

The consequence has been a decrease from 537 polls in 1880 to 391, April 1st, 1886; indicating a loss of over 700 population, with a further large reduction since April last. The number of school children has fallen from 1091 to 750. The town valuation fell from \$439,056 in 1880 to \$362,436 in 1886, and the latter sum was further reduced by the County Commissioners, who judged that the iron works were over-valued. During many years the Iron Company has paid about 25 per cent of all taxes.

With the machinery and business removed, and the water power subject to pay \$100 annually for flowage to the owners of land in Charlotte, the present valuation of the Pembroke Iron Company property must be reduced to a very low sum. This, with the consequent reduction in value of the other property in town, even retaining its present high rating, will reduce the total valuation of the town for 1887 to or below \$300,000, and the town will be fortunate if it can then number 350 polls.

STATE OF MAINE.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }  
February 10, 1887. }

Reported from Committee on Financial Affairs by Mr. MANLEY of  
Augusta; ordered printed under joint rule.

NICHOLAS FESSENDEN, *Clerk.*