

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FOURTH REVISION.

THE  
REVISED STATUTES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

PASSED AUGUST 29, 1883, AND TAKING EFFECT JANUARY 1, 1884.

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BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE LEGISLATURE.



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CHAP. 20.

CHAPTER 20.

FERRIES.

- SEC. 1. County commissioners may license ferries, establish tolls, take bonds.
- 2. May establish them, to be supported by towns; penalty for neglect.
- 3. Penalty for neglect to keep safe boat, and to give prompt attendance.
- 4. Person injured by neglect or default of ferryman, may sue his bond.
- 5. No ferry to be established within a mile of a steam or horse ferry.
- 6. Penalty for keeping a ferry, or transporting, contrary to law.
- 7. Ice to be levelled and way kept in repair in winter.
- 8. Penalty for neglect of it, and liability for injuries.
- 9. Licensed ferrymen not to use steam or horse boats.
- 10. At steam and horse ferries, other boats may be used in times of danger.
- 11. Obstructions of ferry ways prohibited. Penalty.
- 12. Piers may be sunk at ferries to guide boats.
- 13. Jurisdiction of Somerset county commissioners.

County commissioners may license ferries, establish tolls, take bond. R. S., c. 20, § 1. 8 Me., 368. 42 Me., 20.

—property to be appraised on removal of ferryman.

They may establish ferries to be supported by towns; penalty for neglect. R. S., c. 20, § 2.

Penalty for neglect to keep safe boat, and for neglect of attendance. R. S., c. 20, § 3.

Who may sue ferryman's bond. R. S., c. 20, § 4. See c. 80, § 14.

Steam or horse ferry. R. S., c. 20, § 5.

Penalty for keeping a ferry, or convey-

SEC. 1. County commissioners may license persons to keep ferries at such places and for such times as are necessary, except where they are otherwise legally established; may establish tolls for the passage of persons and property; revoke such licenses at pleasure; and shall take from the person licensed, a bond to the treasurer of state, with sureties, for the faithful performance of his duties. Whenever said commissioners remove a ferryman, they shall appraise the boat and other personal property used in running the ferry, at its fair value, and the person appointed shall purchase the same at said appraisal, if the person removed assents thereto.

SEC. 2. They may establish ferries at such times and places as are necessary, and fix their tolls. When no person is found to keep them therefor, the towns in which they are established shall provide a person to be licensed to keep them, and shall pay the expenses, beyond the amount of tolls received, for maintaining them. When established between towns, they shall be maintained by them in such proportions as the commissioners order. For each month's neglect to maintain such ferry or its proportion thereof, a town forfeits forty dollars.

SEC. 3. Every keeper of a ferry shall keep a suitable and safe boat, or boats, for use on the waters to be passed, and give prompt attendance for passage, according to the regulations established for the ferry. For neglecting to keep such boat, he forfeits twenty dollars, and for neglect of attendance, one dollar, to the prosecutor in an action of debt; and is liable in an action on the case to the party injured for his damages.

SEC. 4. Any one injured in person or property by the negligence or default of a ferryman may commence a suit on his bond, in which the proceedings shall be similar to those in actions on the bonds of sheriffs.

SEC. 5. When a ferry is established by the legislature to be passed by a steam or horse boat, no other ferry shall be established on the same river within one mile above or below it.

SEC. 6. A person, who keeps a ferry contrary to the provisions of sections one and two, or without authority transports passengers or prop-

erty across any licensed or established ferry for hire, or furnishes for hire, a boat or other craft for such purpose, forfeits four dollars for each day such ferry is kept, or for each time of transportation, and is also liable to the party injured and keeping the ferry at or near the place, for damages sustained by him, in an action on the case.

SEC. 7. When tidal waters, over which ferries are established, become so frozen that travellers may pass on the ice, the keepers of them shall level the ice, and clear and repair the passage way from day to day, so that the same may at all times be safe and convenient for travellers with teams, sleds, and sleighs. Such way for passage may be made from a public landing sufficiently near to be connected with the opposite ferry landing. The commissioners shall fix a reasonable compensation therefor, to be paid from the county treasury. Or they may contract with another person to perform such duties, and give notice thereof to the keeper of the ferry before the river is closed; and during the continuance of such contract the liabilities of the keeper are transferred to the person contracting.

SEC. 8. The ferryman, or person so contracting, forfeits ten dollars for each day's neglect to perform such duty, and is liable, in an action on the case, for damages to any person injured thereby.

SEC. 9. A licensed ferryman, who uses at his ferry a boat propelled by steam or horse power, forfeits his license, and is liable to any person or corporation for damages occasioned thereby.

SEC. 10. Persons required to use, at a ferry, steam or horse boats, may, when the passage by them is dangerous, use other safe boats.

SEC. 11. Whoever places a weir or other obstacle, or without necessity, anchors or places a raft, vessel, or water craft, so as to obstruct the ordinary passage way of any boat at a ferry licensed or established, forfeits twenty dollars to the proprietor of the ferry, to be recovered in an action on the case; unless such obstruction was inadvertently made, and removed within thirty minutes, if practicable, after notice given of its improper position, or unless it was occasioned by hauling into a wharf, pier, landing, or dock, without unreasonable delay or wilful misconduct.

SEC. 12. The proprietors of a ferry, to guide their boats, may sink piers near their ferry ways, above, and below the same, on each side of the river, not more than twelve feet in length or breadth, and not so sunk as to injure any wharf or landing where vessels had previously taken or discharged freights.

SEC. 13. The commissioners of the county of Somerset have exclusive jurisdiction in all matters relating to ferries between the counties of Somerset and Kennebec.

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ing passengers or property, contrary to law.  
R.S., c. 20, § 6.

Ice to be levelled and way kept in repair in winter.  
R.S., c. 20, § 7.

Penalty for neglect and liability.  
R.S., c. 20, § 8.

Licensed ferrymen not to use horse or steam boats.  
R.S., c. 20, § 9.  
Horse and steam ferries, when other boats used.  
R.S., c. 20, § 10.

Obstructions to ferries, prohibited; penalty.  
R.S., c. 20, § 11.

Piers sunk to guide boats at ferries.  
R.S., c. 20, § 12.  
42 Me., 19.

Somerset commissioners, jurisdiction of.  
R.S., c. 20, § 13