

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1839.

VOL. 2.

AUGUSTA:
SMITH & ROBINSON, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1839.

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE.

NO. 22.

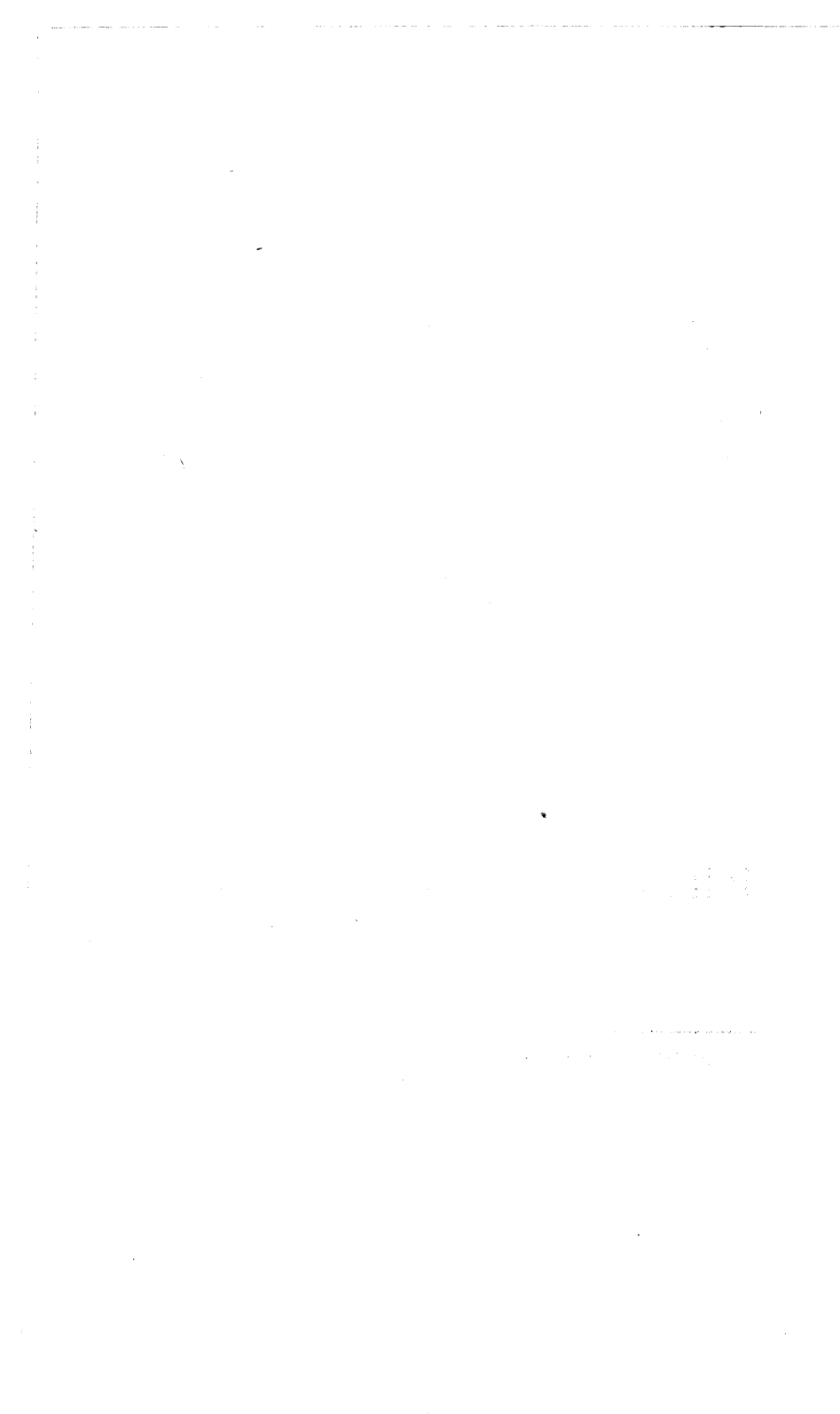
SENATE.

AN ACT

REGULATING

PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

[SMITH & ROBINSON,.....Printers to the State.]



STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT
HUNDRED AND THIRTY-NINE.

AN ACT further regulating Primary Schools.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and
2 House of Representatives in Legislature
3 assembled, That the Governor, with the advice
4 and consent of the Council, is hereby authorized
5 and empowered to appoint twelve persons, one
6 in each County, who, with the Governor ex
7 officio, shall constitute and be denominated a
8 Board of Directors of Education, and the
9 persons so appointed shall hold their offices for
10 the term of six years; Provided, the first two
11 persons named in said Board shall go out of
12 office at the end of one year, the next two at
13 the end of two years, and so of the remaining
14 number, two retiring each year, and in the
15 order in which they are named, till the whole*

16 Board shall be changed. And the Governor,
17 with advice of Council as aforesaid, shall fill all
18 vacancies in said Board, which may occur from
19 death, resignation or otherwise.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That the
2 Board shall prepare and lay before the Legisla-
3 ture, in printed form, on or before the second
4 Wednesday of January, annually, an Abstract
5 of the School Returns received by the State
6 Treasurer, together with such statistical infor-
7 mation and deductions as said Board may be
8 able to collect, touching the condition, stand-
9 ing, and the proficiency made in our Primary
10 Schools.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted,* That said
2 Board of Directors may appoint their own
3 Secretary, who shall receive a reasonable com-
4 pensation for his services, not exceeding ——
5 dollars per annum; and who shall, under the
6 direction of the Board, collect information of
7 the actual condition and efficiency of our primary
8 Schools, and other means of popular education.
9 And said Secretary shall diffuse, as widely as
10 possible throughout the State, to the superin-

11 tending School Committee of each city, town and
12 plantation, and others, information of the most
13 approved plans of constructing School houses ;
14 of the most successful and approved methods of
15 arranging the studies, and conducting the edu-
16 cation of the young; to the end, that all the
17 children and youth in this State who depend
18 upon common schools for instruction, may have
19 the very best education which such schools can
20 possibly be made to impart.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That, to
2 produce uniformity of education in all our
3 primary Schools, the Board of Directors,
4 through their Secretary or otherwise, shall from
5 time to time recommend to the Superintending
6 School Committees such school books to be
7 used in common Schools, as they may think
8 most conducive to advance the interest and
9 usefulness of such Schools. And said Board
10 shall make a detailed report to the Legislature
11 annually, of all its doings, with such observa-
12 tions as their experience and reflection may
13 suggest upon the condition and efficiency of our
14 system of popular education, and the most judi-

15 cious means of improving and extending the
16 same.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted,* That the
2 Governor, with the advice and consent of the
3 Council, is hereby authorized to draw his war-
4 rant on the Treasurer, from time to time, for
5 the salary of the Secretary of said Board of
6 Directors of Education.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, Feb. 11, 1839.

This bill was read once and laid upon the table, and
ORDERED, That 1000 copies of the same be printed
for the use of the Legislature.

WILLIAM TRAFTON, *Secretary.*