

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Charles F. Rice

DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

THE LEGISLATURE,

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1840.

AUGUSTA:

WM. R. SMITH & CO., PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1840.

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE.

NO. 20.

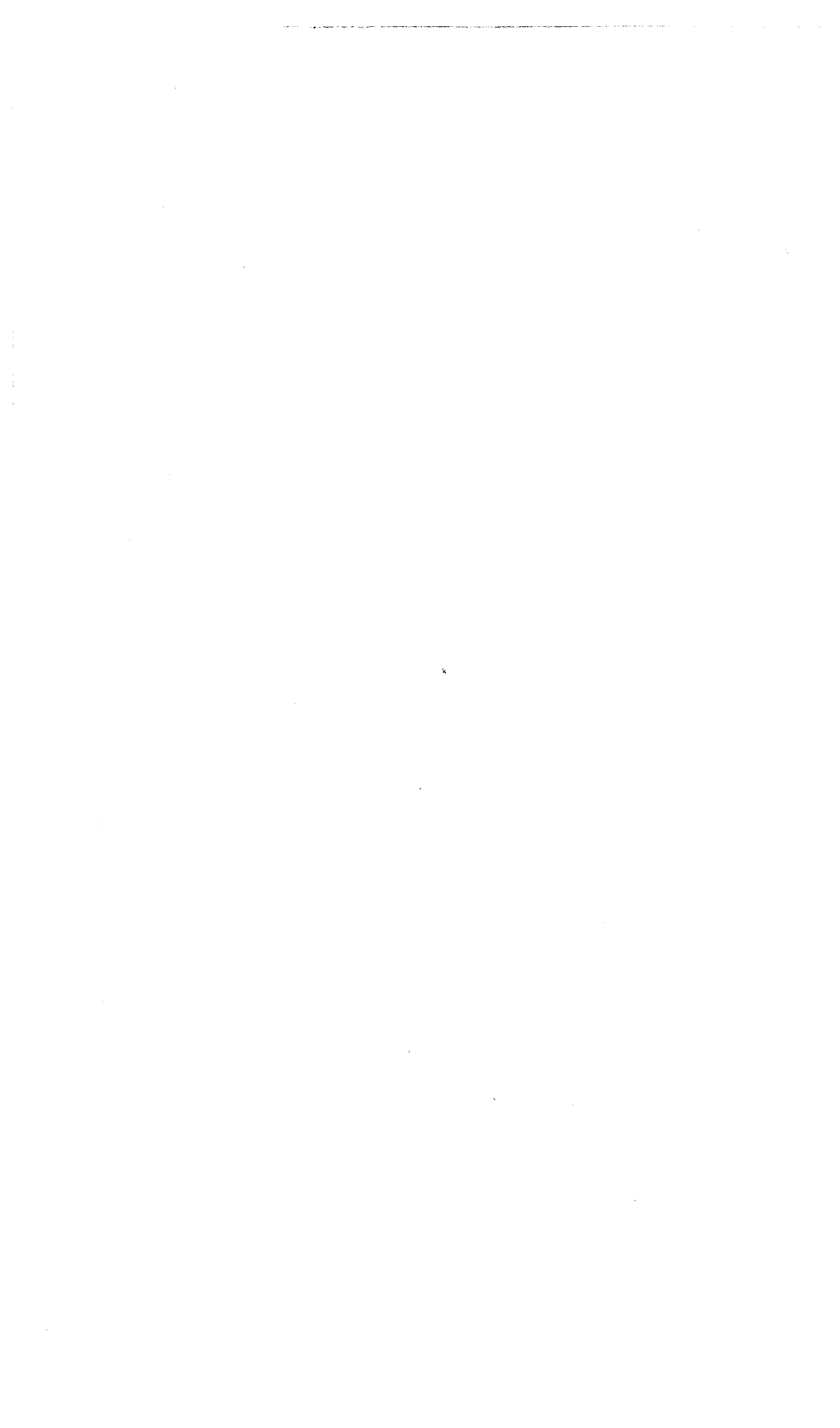
HOUSE.

A N A C T

RELATING TO THE

WILD LANDS IN MAINE.

[Wm. R. SMITH & Co.....Printers to the State.]



STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED
AND FORTY.

AN ACT to promote the sale and settlement of
Wild Lands in this State.

SECT. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and
2 House of Representatives in Legislature as-
3 sembled, That whenever any person shall here-
4 after purchase any wild lands in this State, for
5 the purpose of occupation and improvement, and
6 shall become an actual settler thereon, he and
7 his heirs shall hold one hundred acres of the
8 same with the buildings and improvements ex-
9 empt from attachment on mesne process and
10 execution for the period of ten years, provided,
11 that he or they shall so long continue in the
12 actual occupation and improvement of the same,
13 provided however, that this Act shall not extend
14 to exempt from attachment as aforesaid, prop-*

15 erty to an amount exceeding six hundred dollars ;
16 provided also, that when the land so purchased
17 as aforesaid, with the improvements shall exceed
18 the sum of six hundred dollars, the excess shall
19 not be protected by any of the provisions of this
20 Act.

SECT. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That
2 whenever any execution creditor, shall desire to
3 have his execution levied upon so much of the
4 real estate of his debtor as is made subject to
5 attachment by the aforesaid provisions of this
6 act; it shall be the duty of the appraisers, after
7 first taking the oath prescribed by law, to set off,
8 to said debtor, so much of the estate as may be
9 of the value of six hundred dollars, which estate
10 shall be so set off, as to include the buildings and
11 improvements, if the said debtor shall desire it;
12 and the residue thereof, if any, shall be subject
13 to be set off on execution in the same manner as
14 other unincumbered real estate of such debtor;
15 and in no otherwise shall said estate be subject
16 to attachment.

SECT. 3. *Be it further enacted,* That no
2 lands purchased as aforesaid, or the property of
3 the occupant as is herein provided, shall be

4 exempt from attachment, unless the purchaser
5 shall cause to be registered in the Registry of
6 Deeds for the county in which said lands are
7 situated, that he has purchased the same with
8 the intention of availing himself of the provis-
9 ions of this act previous to his going into posses-
10 sion of the same.

SECT. 4. *Be it further enacted,* That no
2 person who shall avail himself of the provisions
3 of this act shall have the right to plead the stat-
4 ute of limitation in bar of any suit which may
5 hereafter be pending in any of the courts of this
6 State, so long as he shall continue to enjoy the
7 provisions of this act, nor in any to be com-
8 menced within the period of one year after,
9 *Provided,* that nothing in this act shall go to
10 revive any demand where the statute might be
11 pleaded, before the declaration was made as
12 aforesaid.

SECT. 5. *Be it further enacted,* That no
2 conveyance of the lands aforesaid, shall be held
3 valid in law, if made any time during the period
4 of its exemption from attachment.

SECT. 6. *Be it further enacted,* That this
2 act shall take effect from and after its approval
3 by the Governor.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 24, 1840. }

This Bill, having had two several readings, was laid on the table, and 300 copies ordered to be printed for the use of the Legislature.

[Extract from the Journal.]

Attest: ELBRIDGE GERRY, *Clerk.*