

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSIONS

A. D. 1842.

AUGUSTA:

SMITH & Co., PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1842.

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE.

(EXTRA SESSION.)

NO. 5.]

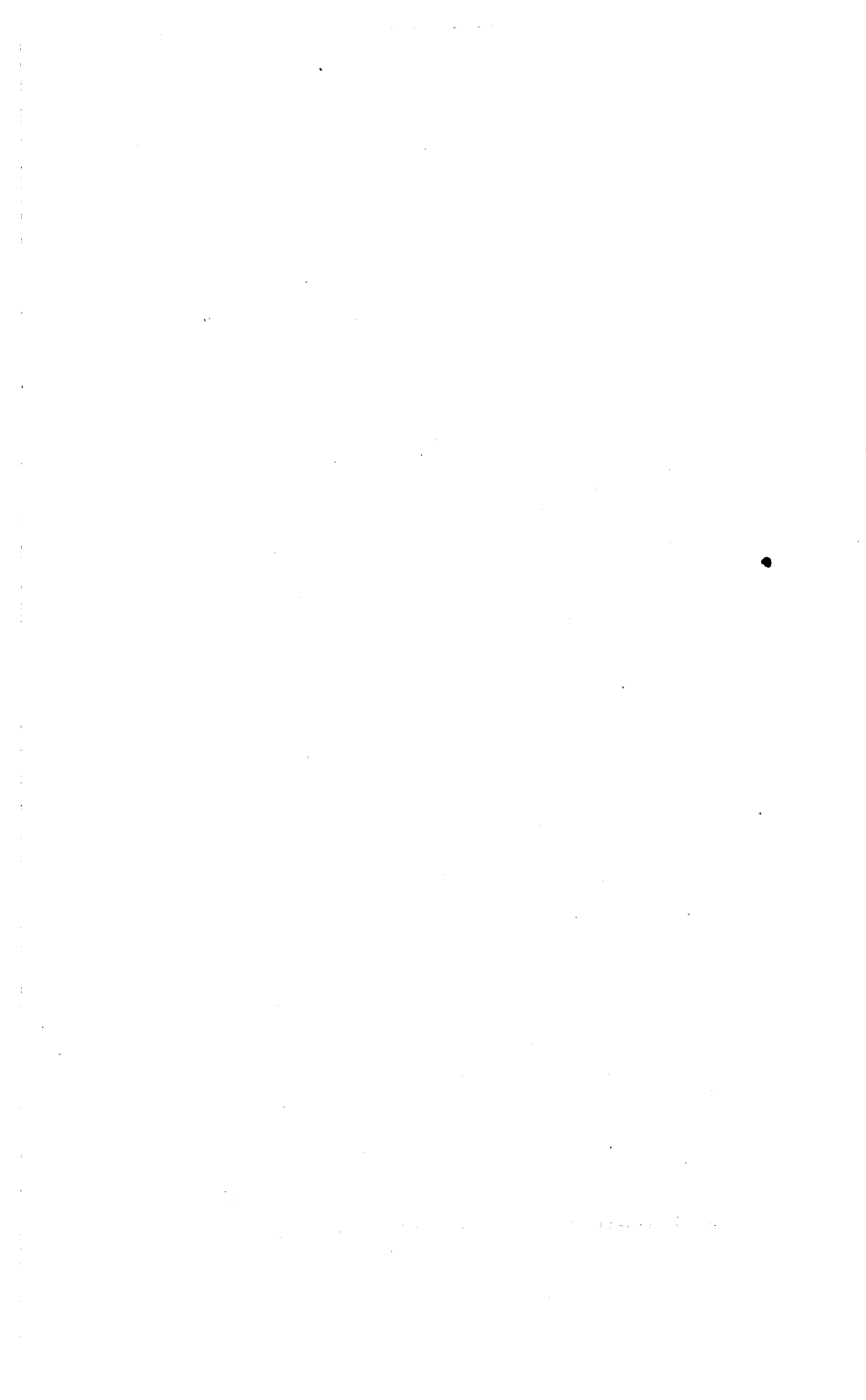
[SENATE.

MINORITY REPORT

IN RELATION TO APPORTIONING

REPRESENTATIVES TO CONGRESS.

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



STATE OF MAINE.

The minority of the Joint Select Committee appointed to apportion the State for the choice of Representatives to Congress, having been unable to agree with the majority in apportioning the State for the choice of ten Representatives, ask leave to

R E P O R T

the following apportionment as a substitute for that agreed to by the majority. In apportioning the State, we believe it the duty of the Legislature to observe two principles, namely, to form districts as compact and convenient as practicable, and not to violate county lines unnecessarily. Both of these principles we believe to be departed from by the committee, in a manner altogether uncalled for. The lines of more than half of the counties in the State are violated by the majority report. The counties of Kennebec, Somerset and Penobscot, in particular, are cut up, as we believe, without the slightest pretence of necessity. The northern part of the county of Somerset is classed with the county of Aroostook, with which the people of Somerset

have perhaps less intercourse than with any other part of the State. Nor does the majority succeed, by this process of dissecting the bodies of counties, in securing equality of numbers in the several Districts. It will be found that this principle has been no more regarded than the two principles above mentioned.

The plan of apportionment proposed by the minority preserves entire the lines of no less than *nine* counties out of the thirteen. It breaks over county lines only in the case of Cumberland, which has a surplus of over 18,000, Lincoln which has a surplus exceeding 13,000, Oxford which with Franklin has a surplus of about 8,000, and Hancock, which seems to be so situated as necessarily to be divided, as other counties have been in times past. The counties of Kennebec and Somerset were cut up by the apportionment of 1833, and also by that made last winter. It would appear to be no more than fair that some other county should take its turn on the present occasion, especially as by so doing the lines of a larger number of counties may be preserved entire. It is believed that the classification which we propose is convenient in every instance to the inhabitants classed together, and it will be found on examination to be at least as nearly equal in point of numbers as that proposed by the majority of the committee.

The apportionment for nine Representatives made

by the majority of the Committee, we have not had an opportunity fully to examine, and therefore express no opinion with regard to it.

MERRILL CLOUGH,
H. K. BAKER,
OLIVER DOW,
T. B. SPAULDING,
ASA B. BATES.

Amend by striking out the apportionment for ten Representatives in the bill reported by the majority, and insert as follows :

The county of York shall form the first District, 2 and shall choose one Representative.

The city of Portland, and the towns of Scarborough, Cape Elizabeth, Gorham, Standish, 3 Baldwin, Sebago, Bridgton, Naples, Raymond, 4 Harrison, Otisfield, Westbrook, Falmouth, and 5 Windham, in the county of Cumberland; and 6 the towns of Porter, Hiram, Brownfield, Denmark, Fryeburg, Sweden, Lovell and Stow, shall 8 form the second District, and shall choose one 9 Representative.

The county of Oxford, excepting the towns of 2 Porter, Hiram, Brownfield, Denmark, Fryeburg, Sweden, Lovell and Stow, and the county 4 of Franklin, shall form the third District, and 5 shall choose one Representative.

All the towns in the county of Cumberland not 2 included in the second District, and all the towns 3 in the county of Lincoln west of Kennebec River, shall form the fourth District, and shall choose 5 one Representative.

All that part of the county of Lincoln which
2 lies east of Kennebec River, shall form the fifth
3 District, and shall choose one Representative.

The county of Kennebec shall form the sixth
2 District, and shall choose one Representative.

The counties of Somerset and Piscataquis shall
2 form the seventh District, and shall choose one
3 Representative.

The county of Penobscot, and the towns of
2 Bucksport, Dedham, Otis and Mariaville, in the
3 county of Hancock, shall form the eighth Dis-
4 trict, and shall choose one Representative.

The county of Waldo, and the towns of Brooks-
2 ville, Sedgwick, Castine, Deer Isle, Penobscot
3 and Orland, and the island of Matinicus and the
4 adjacent islands, in the county of Hancock, shall
5 form the ninth District, and shall choose one
6 Representative.

The remaining towns, plantations and islands
2 in the county of Hancock, and the counties of
3 Washington and Aroostook, shall form the tenth
4 District, and shall choose one Representative.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, May 25, 1842.

ORDERED, That 300 copies of the foregoing Report, be printed for the use of the Senate.

[Extract from the Journal.]

JERE HASKELL, Secretary.