

DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1850.

Augusta: WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1350.

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE.

No. 27.]

[SENATE.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to incorporate the city of Calais.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

SECTION 1. The inhabitants of the town of Calais, 2 in the county of Washington, shall continue to be a 3 body politic and corporate by the name of the city of 4 Calais; and as such shall have, exercise, and enjoy 5 all the rights, immunities, powers, privileges and fran-6 chises, and be subject to all the duties and obligations 7 now appertaining to or incumbent upon said town as 8 a municipal corporation or appertaining to or incum-

Wm. T. Johnson, Printer to the State.

9 bent upon the inhabitants or selectmen thereof; and 10 may ordain and publish such acts, laws and regula-11 tions, not inconsistent with the constitution and laws 12 of this state, as shall be needful to the good order of 13 said body politic; and impose fines and penalties for 14 the breach thereof, not exceeding twenty dollars for 15 any one offense, which may be recovered to the use of 16 said city, by action of debt, or on complaint before 17 the police court of said city.

SECT. 2. The administration of all the fiscal, pru-2 dential and municipal affairs, of said city, with the 3 government thereof, shall be vested in one principal 4 magistrate, to be styled the mayor; and one council 5 of five, to be denominated the board of aldermen; 6 and one council of ten, to be denominated the com-7 mon council, all of whom shall be inhabitants of said 8 city; which boards shall constitute and be called the 9 city council; all of whom shall be sworn to the faith-10 ful performance of the duties of their respective 11 offices: *provided*, the city council shall not vote, assess 12 or appropriate any money for any object or purpose 13 for which the town of Calais is not authorized to 14 vote, assess or appropriate money, except for such

15 purposes as are authorized by this act. And *provided*, 16 *further*, that neither the city council, nor any agent or 17 officer of the city, shall borrow or hire any money for 18 or on account of the city or inhabitants thereof, 19 except for the purposes for which the town of Calais 20 is now by law authorized to raise money; and all 21 notes, bonds, obligations, scrip or orders given by the 22 city council or any officer or agent thereof, for money 23 or property obtained for any other purposes shall be 24 void.

SECT. 3. The mayor of said city shall be chief exec-2 utive magistrate thereof. It shall be his duty to be 3 vigilant and active in causing the laws and regula-4 tions of the city to be executed and enforced, to 5 exercise a general supervision over the conduct of all 6 subordinate officers, and to cause their violations or 7 neglect of duty to be punished. He may call special 8 meetings of the board of aldermen and common 9 council, or either of them, when in his opinion the 10 interests of the city require it, by a notice in one or 11 more of the papers printed in the city, or by causing 12 a summons or notification to be given in hand or left 13 at the usual dwelling place of each member of the

14 board or boards to be convened. He shall from time 15 to time communicate to both of them such informa-16 tion, and recommend such measures as the business 17 and interests of the city may in his opinion require. 18 He shall preside in the board of aldermen and in the 19 joint meetings of the two boards, but shall have only 20 a casting vote. The salary and compensation of the 21 mayor shall be one hundred and fifty dollars per year, 22 which shall not be increased or diminished during his 23 continuance in office, unless by the vote of the qual-24 ified electors in ward meetings called for the 25 purpose. Nor shall he receive from the city any 26 other compensation for any services by him rendered 27 in any other capacity or agency; provided, however, 28 the city council may elect the mayor to any city 29 office, and allow him a reasonable compensation for 30 such services; but the aldermen and common coun-31 cilmen shall receive no compensation for their servi-32 ces as such.

SECT. 4. The executive powers of said city gener-2 ally, and the administration of police, with all the 3 powers of the selectmen of the town of Calais, shall 4 be vested in the mayor and aldermen as fully as if the

5

5 same had been herein particularly enumerated; all 6 other powers now vested in the inhabitants of said 7 town, and all powers granted by this act, shall be 8 vested in the mayor and aldermen and common 9 council of said city, to be exercised by concurrent 10 vote, each board to have a negative upon the other; 11 but all other elections of officers by the city council, 12 shall be by joint ballot of the two boards in conven-13 tion. The city council shall, annually, on the second 14 Monday of April, or as soon thereafter as conven-15 iently may be, elect and appoint all the subordinate 16 officers and agents for the city, for the ensuing year, 17 including a chief engineer and other engineers of the 18 fire department, (which chief engineer, or in his 19 absence, any two other engineers, shall have all the 20 power and authority that fire wards now have;) shall 21 define their duties and fix their compensation, in cases 22 where such duties and compensation shall not be 23 defined and fixed by the laws of this state; and may 24 by concurrent vote remove officers, when in their 25 opinion sufficient cause for removal exists. All offi-26 cers shall be chosen and vacancies supplied for the 27 current year, except as hereinafter otherwise directed.

28 All the said subordinate officers and agents shall hold 29 their offices during the ensuing year and until others 30 shall be elected and qualified in their stead, unless 31 sooner removed by the city council. All moneys 32 received and collected for and on account of the city, 33 by any officer or agent thereof, shall forthwith be 34 paid into the city treasury. The city council shall 35 take care that moneys shall not be paid from the 36 treasury unless granted or appropriated; shall secure 37 a prompt and just accountability by requiring bonds 38 with sufficient penalty and sureties from all persons 39 trusted with the receipt, custody or disbursement of 40 money; shall have the care and superintendence of 41 city buildings and the custody and management of all 42 city property, with power to let or sell what may be 43 legally let or sold; and to purchase and take in 44 the name of the city, such real or personal property, 45 not exceeding the sum of ten thousand dollars, 46 including the property now owned by the town, as 47 they may think useful to the public interest. And 48 the city council shall, as often as once a year, cause 49 to be published for the information of the inhabitants, 50 a particular account of receipts and expenditures and

51 a schedule of the city property; and no money shall
52 be paid from the treasury unless the same be appro53 priated by the city council, and upon a warrant signed
54 by the mayor, which warrant shall state the appropri55 ations under which the same is drawn.

SECT. 5. Every law, act, ordinance or bill appro-2 priating money having passed both branches of the city 3 council, shall be presented to the mayor of the city; 4 and if he approve the same he shall sign it; if not, 5 he shall return it, in seven days, with his objections, 6 to that branch of the city council, in which it shall 7 have originated, which branch shall enter the objec-8 tions at large on its journals and proceed to reconsider 9 said law, act, ordinance or bill. If upon such recon-10 sideration a majority of the whole number of that 11 branch shall agree to pass it, it shall be sent, together 12 with the objections, to the other branch by which it 13 shall be reconsidered, and if approved by a majority 14 of the whole number of that branch, it shall have the 15 same effect as if signed by the mayor.

SECT. 6. The city assessors, who shall be annually 2 appointed by the city council, shall execute and be 3 subject to the same powers, duties and liabilities that

4 the assessors in the several towns in this state may 5 exercise and be subject to, under existing laws; pro-6 vided, however, that the city council may appoint one 7 person in each ward, whose duty it shall be to furnish 8 the assessors with all necessary information relative 9 to persons and property taxable in his ward, and who 10 shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his duty. 11 All taxes shall be assessed, apportioned and collected 12 in the manner prescribed by the laws of this state 13 relative to town taxes : provided, however, that it shall 14 and may be lawful for the city council to establish 15 further and additional provisions for the collection 16 thereof.

SECT. 7. The city council shall have exclusive au-2 thority and power to lay out any new street or public 3 way, or widen or otherwise alter or discontinue any 4 street or public way in said city, and to estimate the 5 damages any person may sustain thereby, and shall 6 in all other respects be governed by and subject to the 7 same rules and restrictions as are by law provided in 8 this state, for regulating the laying out of public high-9 ways and repairing streets. And any person aggriev-10 ed by the decision or judgment of said city council,

11 may as far as relates to damages, have them assessed 12 by a committee or jury as now by law provided; and 13 the county commissioners for Washington county shall 14 have power to lay out within said city, any part of any 15 new county road, that shall by them be laid out in any 16 adjoining town or towns, and shall pass thence into or 17 through said city, according to the provisions of law; 18 and any highway or town way, or bridge, which has 19 been or may hereafter be located within said town or 20 city, between high and low water mark, shall never-21 theless, be deemed to be legally located and established.

SECT. 8. It shall be lawful for the city council, by a 2 committee by them appointed or by instructions to the 3 commissioner of street, to appropriate, set off and re-4 serve as side walks, such part or portions of the sev-5 eral streets in said city, now or hereafter to be estab-6 lished, as to said council may appear necessary for 7 the safety, convenience and accommodation of foot 8 passengers. It shall be lawful for the city council to 9 permit or direct posts of wood or stone, or trees to 10 be placed along the edge of said side walk next to 11 the traveled part of the street, in such number and 12 manner as they may deem necessary to protect said

13 side walks, and the persons traveling thereon from 14 damage or inconvenience from teams or carriages. 15 So much of the several streets in said city as shall be 16 appropriated and reserved as side walks, agreeable to 17 the provisions of this act, shall be taken and deemed 18 to be reserved exclusively for the accommodation, 19 convenience and use of persons traveling on foot; 20 and said city shall not be liable for damages for any 21 injury done or occasioned in consequence of any cart, 22 carriage, wagon, truck or other vehicle or any team 23 or animal striking against any of said side walks, or 24 the posts or trees set or placed to defend the same. 25 The several side walks on the streets in said city as 26 at present established and used shall be taken and 27 deemed to be the proper and lawful reservation for 28 that purpose, until altered or otherwise established by 29 the proper authority.

SECT. 9. The city council shall have power on such 2 terms and conditions as they may think proper, to au-3 thorize and empower any person or corporation to 4 place in any street, for such time as may be necessary, 5 any materials for making or repairing any street, side 6 walk, cross walk, bridge, water course or drain, or for

7 erecting, repairing or finishing any building or fences; 8 provided, that not more than one third of the width 9 of the street shall be so occupied; and such materials 10 so placed by virtue of any license obtained as afore-11 said, shall not be considered an incumbrance or nui-12 sance in such street, and the city or person or corpor-13 ation so placing the same, shall not be liable for any 14 damages occasioned by such materials.

SECT. 10. All the laws and regulations now in force 2 in said town of Calais, shall, notwithstanding this act, 3 be and remain in force until they expire by their own 4 limitations or be revised or repealed by the city coun-5 cil; and prosecutions and suits may be commenced 6 and proceeded thereon in the name of the city, by offi-7 cers or other persons thereby empowered or directed to 8 prosecute and sue; and the fines and penalties shall 9 go to the uses in such laws or regulations named 10 according to law.

SECT. 11. A police court shall be and hereby is 2 established, in and for the city, to be denominated the 3 municipal court of the city of Calais, to consist of 4 one judge, who shall be appointed and commissioned 5 in the manner provided by the constitution, who shall 6 have concurrent jurisdiction with justices of the

7 peace, in all matters, civil and criminal, under twenty 8 dollars, within the county of Washington, and original 9 and exclusive jurisdiction in all civil actions in which 10 both parties interested, or in which the party, plaintiff, 11 and the person or persons summoned as trustees shall 12 be inhabitants of or residents of said city of Calais, 13 excepting all actions in which said judge may be 14 interested; and said court shall also have concurrent 15 jurisdiction with justices of the peace and quorum in 16 all cases of forcible entry and detainer, arising in said 17 county, and original and exclusive jurisdiction in all 18 such cases arising in the city, and shall also have 19 original and exclusive jurisdiction of all violations of 20 the by-laws of said city. And any person aggrieved 21 by any judgment awarded by said court may appeal 22 therefrom to the district court for said county, in like 23 manner as if the same had been awarded by any 24 justice of the peace, or justices of the peace and 25 quorum.

SECT. 12. It shall be the duty of said court to make 2 and keep its own records, which records shall be such 3 as would be legal records in a court of a justice of 4 the peace. And copies of the records of said court, 5 duly certified, shall be evidence in the other courts of

6 this state. Said court shall be holden on the first and 7 third Monday of each month, at nine of the clock in 8 the forenoon, at such place as the city shall provide 9 for the purpose, for the transaction of civil business; 10 and all civil process shall be made returnable accord-11 ingly. And the fees in all cases, civil and criminal, 12 shall be the same as are now taxable by justices of 13 the peace: provided, that the price of blank writs, 14 signed by said judge, shall be one cent and no more. 15 And all fines, penalties and costs, which may be 16 awarded by said court, in the administration of its 17 criminal jurisdiction, shall be accounted for and paid 18 over by said judge, in the same manner as if the same 19 had been awarded by the sentence of a justice of the 20 peace.

SECT. 13. In case of death, or sickness or other dis-2 ability of the said judge, to attend at the time and 3 place as provided in the preceding section for the 4 transaction of civil business, the said court shall stand 5 adjourned until the next term of said court, and so 6 from term to term, without costs to either party, until 7 the judge is able to attend. And in case of disability 8 as aforesaid, to perform the other duties of his office,

9 the criminal jurisdiction of said court shall devolve
10 upon the justices of the peace for the county of
11 Washington, during the continuance of said disability,
12 and until such proceedings as are instituted during the
13 continuance of said disability shall have received the
14 final adjudication of said justices.

SECT. 14. The city of Calais shall have the power, 2 and it shall be its duty to raise money to provide a 3 suitable room in which to hold said court, and to fur-4 nish the same in an appropriate manner. The judge 5 of the said municipal court shall have for his compen-6 sation all the court fees arising in any matter in any 7 way connected with his office ; said fees to be such 8 as are by law taxed and received by justices of the 9 peace for all similar services. And the said judge 10 shall not act as counsel or attorney, in any case within 11 the jurisdiction of said court, nor in any suit, matter 12 or thing which may depend on, or have relation to 13 any case, matter or thing depending or cognizable in 14 said court.

SECT. 15. All actions, suits, matters and things 2 which may be pending before justices of the peace in 3 the town of Calais, and all writs, executions, war-

4 rants, recognizances and processes, returnable to said 5 justices when this act takes effect, shall be returnable 6 to them in like manner as if it had not taken effect; 7 and said justices shall have full power and authority 8 to grant execution and to carry into effect any judg-9 ment rendered by them, and to complete all processes 10 commenced by or before them in the same manner 11 as they might have done, had not this act been 12 passed.

For the purpose of holding elections, said Sect. 16. 2 city shall be divided into five wards, to contain as near 3 as conveniently may be, an equal number of legal 4 voters; and it shall be the duty of the city council 5 once in ten years, and not oftener than five years, to 6 review, and if it be needful, to alter said wards, in 7 such manner as to preserve as nearly as may be an 8 equal number of legal voters in each. In each of 9 said wards, there shall annually, on the first Monday 10 of April, be chosen by ballot, a warden and clerk 11 who shall hold their offices for one year and until 12 others shall have been chosen and qualified in their Said warden and clerk shall be sworn to the 13 places. 14 faithful performance of their respective duties, by any

15 justice of the peace of said city, or by the person 16 presiding in said ward meeting, or by the clerk of said 17 ward, and a certificate of such oaths having been ad-18 ministered, shall be entered by the clerk on the rec-19 ords of the ward. The wardens shall preside at all 20 ward meetings, with the power of moderators at town 21 meetings; and if at any meeting the warden should 22 not be present, the clerk of such ward shall call the 23 meeting to order and preside until a warden pro tem. If neither of them should be pres-24 shall be chosen. 25 ent any legal voter in the ward may preside until a 26 clerk pro tem. shall be chosen and qualified. The 27 clerk shall record all the proceedings and certify the 28 votes given, and deliver over to his successor in office 29 all such records and journals, together with all other 30 documents and papers held by him in said capacity. 31 The inhabitants of each ward may choose two per-32 sons to assist the warden in receiving, sorting and 33 counting the votes. The list of the names of the 34 legal voters in each ward shall be prepared by the 35 assessors and board of aldermen assisted by the ward-36 ens, in the same manner and under the same restric-37 tions as are imposed by the laws of this state on the

17

38 assessors and selectmen of towns; and all regular 39 ward meetings shall be notified and called by the may-40 or and aldermen in the manner prescribed by the laws 41 of this state for notifying and calling town meetings 42 by the selectmen of the several towns, excepting that 43 ward meetings for the election of mayor after the 44 second trial, may be called within the time provided 45 in such cases in this act.

SECT. 17. The mayor shall be elected from the cit-2 zens at large, by the inhabitants of the city, voting in 3 their respective wards; one alderman and two com-4 mon councilmen shall be elected by each ward, being 5 residents in the wards where elected; all said officers 6 shall be elected by ballot, by a majority of the votes 7 given, and shall hold their offices one year from the 8 second Monday in April, and until others shall be 9 elected in their places.

SECT. 18. At the annual election holden for the 2 choice of mayor and aldermen, the qualified electors 3 in each ward shall by ballot elect a constable, who 4 shall be denominated city constable, with all the pow-5 ers, duties and liabilities appertaining to the office of 6 constable.

2*

On the first Monday of April, annually, Sect. 19. 2 immediately after a warden and clerk shall have been 3 elected and sworn, the qualified electors of each 4 ward shall ballot for a mayor, one alderman and two 5 common councilmen; all the votes given for the said 6 several officers respectively, shall be sorted, counted, 7 declared and registered in open ward meeting, by caus-8 ing the names of the persons voted for, and the number 9 of votes given to each to be written on the ward rec-10 ord at length. The ward clerk, within twenty-four 11 hours after such election, shall deliver to the persons 12 elected aldermen and common councilmen, certifi-13 cates of their election and shall forthwith deliver to 14 the city clerk, a certified copy of the record of such 15 election; provided, however, that if the choice of 16 aldermen and common councilmen cannot conven-17 iently be effected on that day, the meeting may be 18 adjourned from day to day to complete such election. 19 If on the second balloting for any aldermen, common 20 councilmen, constable, warden or clerk, a choice 21 shall not be effected by a majority vote, then the per-22 sons receiving the highest number of votes for any of 23 those offices at the subsequent trial, shall be declared

24 elected; if no one shall then have such highest num-25 ber, the balloting shall be continued from day to day 26 until a choice is thus effected. The board of alder-27 men shall as soon as conveniently may be, examine 28 the copies of the records of the several wards certified 29 as aforesaid, and shall cause the person who shall 30 have been elected mayor, by a majority of votes 31 given in all the wards, to be notified in writing of his 32 election; but if it shall appear that no person shall 33 have been elected, or if the person elected shall refuse 34 to accept the office, the said board shall issue their 35 warrants for one other election; and in case the citi-36 zens should fail on a second ballot to elect a mayor, 37 the said board shall again issue their warrants for a 38 third election to be held not less than three nor more 39 than four days thereafter; at which election the can-40 didate having the greatest number of votes shall be 41 declared elected and notified as aforesaid; if no one 42 shall then have such number, further elections shall in 43 the same manner be ordered, till a choice shall be 44 made, by some one having the highest number of 45 votes; and in case of a vacancy in the office of 46 mayor by death, resignation or otherwise, it shall be

47 filled for the remainder of the term by a new election, 48 in the manner hereinbefore provided for the choice 49 of said officer; and in the mean time the president 50 pro tempore of the board of aldermen shall perform 51 the duties of mayor. The oath prescribed by this act 52 shall be administered to the mayor by the city clerk, 53 or any justice of the peace in said city. The alder-54 men and common councilmen, elect, shall on the sec-55 ond Monday of April, at ten of the clock in the fore-56 noon, meet in convention, when the oath required by 57 the second section of this act, shall be administered to 58 the members of the two boards present, by the mayor 59 or any justice of the peace, and thereupon the two 60 boards shall separate, and the board of common 61 council shall be organized by the election of a presi-62 dent and clerk.

SECT. 20. The city clerk shall be the clerk of the 2 board of aldermen; he shall perform such duties as 3 shall be prescribed by the board of aldermen or com-4 mon council; and shall perform all duties, and exer-5 cise all the powers by law incumbent upon, or vested 6 in the town clerk of the town of Calais; he shall 7 give notice in one or two of the papers printed in

8 said city of the time and place of regular ward meet-9 ings; but the place of regular ward meetings, and 10 also the day and hour, when not fixed by law, shall 11 be determined by the board of aldermen. The board 12 of aldermen may, in the absence of the mayor, choose 13 a president pro tempore, who shall preside at joint 14 meetings of the two boards. Each board shall keep 15 a record of its proceedings, and judge of the election 16 of its own members; and in case of failure of election 17 or vacancy by death, resignation or otherwise, may 18 order new elections. A quorum for the transaction 19 of business, shall in each board, consist of a majority 20 of the members thereof; all meetings of the aldermen 21 and common council, and all meetings of the two 22 boards in convention, shall be open and public, and 23 the presiding officer of each of them, shall have the 24 power of moderators of town meetings. At either of 25 said meetings, when any two members shall request 26 it, the vote shall be taken by yeas and nays, which 27 shall be recorded by the clerk.

SECT. 21. General meetings of the citizens, qualified 2 to vote in city affairs, may, from time to time, be held 3 to consult upon the public good : to instruct their

4 representatives, and to take all lawful measures to 5 obtain redress of any grievances according to the 6 right secured to the people by the constitution of this 7 state, and such meetings may, and shall be duly 8 warned by the mayor and aldermen, upon the requi-9 sition of thirty qualified voters of said city.

SECT. 22. It shall be the duty of the selectmen of 2 the town of Calais, as soon as may be, after this act 3 shall have been accepted, as hereinafter provided, to 4 cause a division of said town to be made into five 6 wards, in such manner as to include, as nearly as con-7 veniently may be, consistently with well defined limits 8 to each ward, an equal number of voters in each ward.

SECT. 23. For the purpose of organizing the system 2 of government hereby established, and putting the 3 same in operation in the first instance, the selectmen 4 of the town for the time being, shall seasonably, 5 before the first Monday of April, next after the ac-6 ceptance of this charter, issue their warrants for 7 calling meetings of the said citizens, at such place 8 and hour upon said day as they shall think expedient, 9 for the purpose of choosing a warden and clerk for 10 each ward, and also to give their votes for a mayor

11 to be taken from the city at large, and one alderman 12 and two common councilmen, and one constable, for 13 each ward; the transcript of the records of each 14 ward, specifying the votes given for mayor, one alder-15 man and two common councilmen, and one consta-16 ble, certified by the warden and clerk of said ward, 17 shall at said first election be returned to the said 12 selectmen of the said town of Calais, whose duty it 19 shall be to examine and compare the same; and in 20 case such elections shall not be completed at the first 21 election, then to issue a new warrant until such elec-22 tions shall be completed according to the provisions 23 of this act; and to give notice thereof in the man-24 ner hereinbefore directed, to the several persons And at said first meeting, any inhabitant 25 elected. 26 of said ward, being a legal voter, may call the citi-27 zens to order and preside until a warden shall have 28 been chosen; and at said first meeting, a list of voters 29 in each ward, prepared and corrected by the select-30 men of the town of Calais, for the time being, shall be 31 delivered to the clerk of each ward when elected, to 32 be used as provided by the law in town meetings; and

33 it shall be the duty of the city council in convention,
34 immediately after their first organization, to elect by
35 ballot, a city clerk, and all other necessary city offi36 cers, who shall hold their offices respectively until
37 others are chosen and qualified in their places.

This act shall take effect and be in full Sect. 24. 2 force when the same shall have been accepted by the 3 inhabitants of said town qualified to vote in town af-4 fairs, at a legal town meeting called for that purpose; 5 provided, it shall be accepted within five years from the 6 passage of this act, but not more than one meeting, 7 for that purpose, shall be called in the same year. And at such meeting the inhabitants of said town shall 8 9 vote by a written ballot, those in favor of accepting 10 this act having on the ballot the word "yes," and those 11 opposed having on the ballot the word "no"; and if a 12 majority of all the ballots received, are in favor of ac-13 cepting the same, it shall then become a law and take 14 effect. And it shall be the duty of the clerk of said 15 town to file a copy of the record of the vote of said 16 town accepting the same, with the clerk of the city 17 of Calais, when elected, who shall transcribe such

18 copy into the records of the city, and such record19 shall be conclusive evidence that this act has been20 accepted.

SECT. 25. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent 2 with the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed 3 from and after the time when this act shall have been 4 accepted as aforesaid, and the new system of gov-5 ernment organized, as herein provided.

.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, Aug. 6, 1850.

ORDERED, That 350 copies of the foregoing bill, (reported by the committee on judiciary,) be printed for the use of the Legislature.

A. H. SMALL, Secretary.