MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1853.

Augusta:

WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1853.

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.] [No. 16.

COMMUNICATION OF THE LAND AGENT.

Land Office, Augusta, Feb. 21, 1853.

Hon. John C. Talbot, Speaker of the House of Representatives:

SIR:—In obedience to an order of the House of Representatives of the 14th instant, I have the honor to transmit a list of the lands which have been sold under the resolves of 1852, which is hereunto annexed.

This State still owns in common with Massachusetts about thirty-six townships, and she owns also in severalty lands equal to twenty-two townships. Of these tracts I contracted to sell, last September, township No. 1, range 8, west of Bingham's Kennebec Purchase, for the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, but the party agreeing to pay that price has not fully complied with the terms of sale, and the conveyance has not been made. A few other smaller tracts are similarly situated.

Soon after the passage of the resolves above referred to, authorizing the sale of the undivided lands "under the direction of the governor and council," I applied to that branch of the government for instructions relative to making sales under said resolves. It was believed to be for the interest of the State to sell any of those lands for which fair prices could be had, and I was instructed accordingly. Of this intention to sell, information was given to the

numerous applicants at this office, and very many explorations were made with the expectation of buying, during the summer and autumn of the past year.

In order to give parties time to explore the tracts they had applied for, and to cause explorations to be made for the information of this office, and for the further reason, that the demand for lands was improving, I delayed making prices and closing sales until late in the season. I had, however, before the close of the year, agreed to sell, and had fixed prices on most of the tracts which have since been closed, and which would have appeared in my annual report had I not unexpectedly been called to Massachusetts on business relative to the public lands, which detained me from the office the greater part of December.

The sales I have made of the undivided lands, are of those, mostly, that lie west of the seventh range of townships, and not connected with the settling lands of Aroostook; and I cannot doubt that the true interest of the State is to sell the remainder of those lands west of said seventh range as fast as fair prices can be obtained for them.

My opinion is also requested as to the "value of the residue of the undivided lands, or, what they could be sold for at this time."

That these lands could now be sold at a fair price, I have no doubt, judging from the numerous applications now in this office and the increasing anxiety to purchase.

Those tracts which I have sold under the resolves of last year, average about fifty-six cents per acre, and the remainder can be sold as high as thirty-five to forty cents per acre.

Very respectfully,

Your ob't serv't,

A. P. MORRILL, Land Agent.

Account Sales of Maine's interest in the Undivided Lands, in pursuance of the Resolves approved March 3, 1852.

" 23, 1853. Jan. 1, H. N. West & Co., Same, " " John Turner, " " James R. Bachelder, " " G. A. Nourse, " " C. S. Clark,	Township. 11, R. 10, 14, R. 14, 14, R. 16, 13, R. 16, 12, R. 16, 15, R. 12, 16, R. 12, 16, R. 12,	Acres. 12,077 50-100 10,675 7,373 50-100 11,019 10,742 19,958 50-100 10,785 50-100 11,485 11,485 11,485 11,485 11,485 11,102 50-100 11,102 50-100 11,102 50-100 11,203 50-100	Amount. 3,623 24 16,856 27 11,069 25 15,469 00 5,5 99 50 5,371 00 4,919 37
	12, R. 17, 15, R. 15, 15, R. 10, 16, R. 8, 18, R. 7, 17, R. 7, 5, R. 9.	789 5,714 22-100 do.	4,6\(\frac{9}{2}\) 57 4,5\(\frac{9}{2}\) 99 9,2\(\frac{9}{3}\) 24 5,7\(\frac{2}{3}\) 50 5,9\(\frac{4}{4}\) 12 9,2\(\frac{5}{2}\) 08 4,4\(\frac{9}{4}\) 08 ks, 197\(\frac{4}{0}\)
Net quantity conveyed, .		430,636 47-10	1

STATE OF MAINE.

House of Representatives, February 23, 1853.

Ordered, That 350 copies of the communication of the Land Agent, with annexed schedule, be printed for the use of the Legislature.

A. B. FARWELL, Clerk.