

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING THE

EXTRA SESSION OF 1853, AND SESSION OF 1854.



Augusta:

WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1854.

THIRTY - SECOND LEGISLATURE.

EXTRA SESSION.

HOUSE.]

[No 1.

PUBLIC LANDS.

STATE OF MAINE.

THE joint special committee, to which was referred the message of the governor in relation to the purchase of the lands owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and lying within the limits of the State of Maine, together with the report of the commissioners appointed under a resolve of the last session of the legislature to negotiate with the State of Massachusetts for said purchase, after obtaining all the information within their reach on the various branches of the subject committed to them, and as full a consideration of the same as time and the nature of the case would permit, have, with a vote nearly unanimous, decided to recommend the purchase, and to effect the same, the adoption of the resolutions herewith submitted.

On a subject which has received so large a share of the attention of the members of the legislature and the people of Maine, your committee have not deemed it advisable to prolong the session by asking time to prepare an extended report, but submit the question for the action and decision of the legislature, with the brief remark, that while we feel entire confidence

that the state will in the end suffer no pecuniary loss by the purchase, we believe the honor and interest of our state require that the title of the State of Massachusetts to *all* lands within the limits of this state should be at once and forever *extinguished*.

We have the assurance of our commissioners that Massachusetts will, without unnecessary delay, convey to Messrs. McCrillis and Clark the fee of all lands recently purchased by them of that commonwealth; and by the passage of the resolutions herewith submitted, we shall have the control of our own territory, have our lands and policy for the settlement thereof regulated by uniform laws of our own adoption, and put an end forever to a question which has caused no little annoyance and vexation during the whole period of our existence as an independent state.

JOS. TITCOMB, *Chairman*.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVES in relation to the purchase of lands belonging to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts lying in the State of Maine.

Resolved, That the contract for the purchase of all
2 the lands belonging to the Commonwealth of Massa-
3 chusetts situate in the State of Maine entered into at
4 Boston on the twenty-third day of July, in the year of
5 our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three,
6 by and between E. M. Wright, Jacob H. Loud, David
7 Wilder, junior, commissioners, and Samuel Warner,
8 junior, land agent of the Commonwealth of Massa-
9 sachusetts, in behalf of said commonwealth, and
10 Reuel Williams, W. P. Fessenden and Elijah L.
11 Hamlin, commissioners of Maine, in behalf of said
12 state, be and the same is hereby ratified and con-
13 firmed.

Resolved, That to provide for the payment of the
2 purchase money for said lands, there be and hereby
3 is appropriated out of any money in the treasury not
4 otherwise appropriated, the sum of one hundred
5 twelve thousand five hundred dollars, and for the
6 balance thereof, being two hundred and fifty thousand
7 dollars, the treasurer of state is hereby authorized
8 and directed to issue, payable to the treasurer of said
9 commonwealth or his successor in office, in Boston,
10 certificates of stock therefor in sums not less than ten
11 thousand dollars each, with coupons for each year's
12 interest at the rate of five per centum per annum
13 attached thereto, which certificates shall be signed by
14 him as treasurer, countersigned by the governor and
15 attested by the secretary of state, with the seal of the
16 state, but the coupons shall be signed by the treasurer
17 only ; and said stock shall be redeemable at such
18 times as in the opinion of the treasurer shall be most
19 advantageous to the state, not exceeding twenty years.

Resolved, That the governor of this state, by and
2 with the advice and consent of council, be and he
3 hereby is authorized to draw his warrant on the treas-
4 urer of state for the sum of one hundred twelve
5 thousand five hundred dollars in favor of the Com-

6 monwealth of Massachusetts, payable on the fifth
7 day of October next; and the treasurer of state is
8 also authorized and directed to deliver to the treasurer
9 of said commonwealth the certificates of stock pro-
10 vided for by the second resolve, bearing date the fifth
11 day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand
12 eight hundred and fifty-three, provided the authorities
13 of said commonwealth shall be ready to deliver a good
14 and sufficient deed to convey to the State of Maine
15 the lands belonging to said commonwealth lying in
16 the State of Maine, including all claims upon settlers,
17 according to the contract of said commissioners
18 mentioned in the first resolve, which said deed shall
19 first be examined and approved by the commissioners
20 on the part of the State of Maine.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
September 24, 1853. }

ORDERED, That three hundred and fifty copies of this Report and accompanying Resolves, be printed for the use of the Legislature.

ALANSON B. FARWELL, *Clerk.*