

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1855.

AUGUSTA:

STEVENS & BLAINE, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1855.

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

No. 9.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

RESOLVES providing for an amendment of the Consti-
tution relating to the Elective Franchise.

Resolved, Two-thirds of both branches of the Leg
2 islature concurring, that the Constitution of this State
3 shall be amended in the eighth section of the first
4 part of the fifth article, by inserting after the words
5 “Judicial officers,” in second line of said section the
6 words “except Judges of Probate and Municipal and
7 Police Courts,” and by striking out the words “Attor-
8 ney General, the Sheriffs, Register of Probate” in
9 second and third lines thereof and by inserting after
10 the words “provided for” in the seventh line of said
11 section the words “except the Land Agent,” and also
12 by inserting the words following at the close

13 of said eighth section, “and Judges of Probate,
14 Sheriffs, Registers of Probate, shall be elected by the
15 people, at their annual meeting in September, by
16 plurality vote, for the term of four years from their
17 election. The Municipal and Police Judges shall be
18 elected by the cities and towns where such courts are
19 established, at their annual meeting in March, for the
20 term of four years, and the Land Agent and Attorney
21 General shall be chosen by the Legislature at their
22 annual meeting in January of each year.”

Also, in the third section of the seventh article, in
24 the fourth line thereof, by striking out the words
25 “appointed by the Governor and Council,” and insert-
26 ing instead thereof, the words “chosen by the Legis-
27 lature as the Secretary of State, State Treasurer and
28 Councillors are chosen.”

Resolved, That the Aldermen of cities, and Select-
2 men of the several towns and the Assessors of the
3 several plantations in the State are hereby empowered
4 and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respec-
5 tive cities, towns and plantations in the manner pre-
6 scribed by law, at the annual meeting in September
7 next, to give in their votes upon the amendments

8 proposed in the foregoing Resolve, and the question
9 shall be, shall the Constitution be amended as propos-
10 ed by a Resolve of the Legislature providing that the
11 Judges of Probate, Registers of Probate, Sheriffs and
12 Municipal and Police Judges shall be chosen by the
13 people, and also providing that the Land Agent, At-
14 torney General and Adjutant General, shall be chosen
15 by the Legislature as the Secretary of State, State Treas-
16 urer, and Councillors now are, and the inhabitants of
17 said cities, towns and plantations shall vote by ballot
18 on said questions, of electing said officers separately ;
19 those in favor of said amendments respectively express-
20 ing it by the word "yes" upon their ballots, and those
21 opposed to the amendments respectively, expressing it
22 by the word "no" upon their ballots ; and the ballots
23 shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in
24 open ward, town and plantation meetings, and lists
25 shall be made out of the votes by the Aldermen, Select-
26 men and Assessors and Clerks of the several cities,
27 towns and plantations and returned to the office of
28 Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for
29 Senators ; and the Governor and Council shall count
30 the same and make return thereof to the next Legisla-

31 ture ; and if a majority of the votes are in favor of
32 any of said amendments, the Constitution shall be
33 amended accordingly.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the State shall prepare
2 and furnish the several cities, towns and plantations
3 blank returns in conformity to the foregoing resolves,
4 accompanied with a copy thereof.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, February 8, 1855.

ORDERED, That 350 copies of the foregoing Resolve be printed for
the use of the Legislature.

LOUIS O. COWAN, *Secretary*.