

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1857.

PART SECOND.

AUGUSTA:
STEVENS & BLAINE, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.
1857.

THIRTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE.]

[No. 14.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to amend Chapter eighteenth of the Revised
Statutes, entitled “ of Parishes and Ministerial Lands.

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

SECTION 1. The 9th section of the eighteenth chap-
2 ter shall be amended by adding the following: “ As
3 provided for in the 33d section of this chapter, and
4 the moneys so assessed and paid in, shall be appropri-
5 ated for the maintenance of religious worship in said
6 parish, in such manner as a majority of the members
7 and pew holders present and voting at any legal meet-

8 ing shall determine." So that the whole section as
9 amended will read as follows :

10 Where any house of worship belongs to the mem-
11 bers of the parish, or where the same and the fee of
12 the land, on which it stands, is vested in trustees, for
13 the use of a parish, such parish may, if they see cause,
14 assess any moneys voted as aforesaid, wholly or in
15 part on the pews or seats of individual owners,
16 whether members of such parish or religious society, or
17 not ; and they may be present and vote in granting
18 all sums to be assessed on such pews or seats, as
19 provided for in the 33d section of this chapter ; and
20 the moneys so assessed and paid in, shall be appropri-
21 ated for the maintenance of religious worship in said
22 parish, in such manner as a majority of the members
23 and pew-holders present and voting at any legal meet-
24 ing shall determine.

SECT. 2. The eleventh section of chapter 18th of
2 the Revised Statutes is hereby repealed, and the fol-
3 lowing is substituted in its place :

4 Any person owning a seat or pew in the house
5 of worship of any Territorial parish, which seat

6 or pew is not customarily occupied by him, or
7 his family, or by some person or persons holding
8 under him, and who may be dissatisfied with the
9 action of the parish under the last clause of the 9th
10 section of this chapter, shall have the right to sell his
11 pew or seat to the parish—and in case he cannot
12 agree with the assessors of said parish upon a price
13 for said pew, the price shall be ascertained and de-
14 termined in the following manner: The pew-holder
15 shall designate one discreet and disinterested appraiser,
16 the assessors of the parish a second, and these two a
17 third, which three shall proceed to estimate the value
18 of said seat or pew, and to fix the price of the same;
19 and the assessors in behalf of the parish, shall at the
20 expiration of one month after the fixing of the price
21 as aforesaid, purchase and pay for the said pew, at the
22 price agreed upon by the appraisers ; provided, always,
23 that the pew-holder, if he shall so elect, may at any
24 time before the expiration of the month aforesaid, dis-
25 pose of the same at private sale, or at auction to the
26 highest bidder.

SECT. 3. The following section being section 33d,
2 shall be added to chapter 18th of the Revised Stat-

3 utes. Every male citizen of the United States, of the
4 age of twenty-one years and upwards, except persons
5 under guardianship, or members of a poll parish,
6 having his residence established within the limits of
7 any territorial parish in this State shall be entitled to
8 vote in the affairs thereof; provided that he shall
9 have paid taxes in the same, according to the provis-
10 ions and requirements of this chapter, for the year
11 next preceding the meeting, at which he shall present
12 his vote, and not otherwise.

SECT. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force
2 from and after its approval by the Governor.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
Feb. 27, 1857.

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

GEO. W. WILCOX, *Clerk.*