

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

A. D. 1858.



AUGUSTA:

STEVENS & SAYWARD, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1858.

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.]

[No. 22.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in relation to the settlement of the public lands.

Whereas, representations have been made to the
2 present legislature by Henry Silberman, a native of
3 Germany, that there is a large and steady emigration
4 yearly from the northern part of Germany to the
5 United States, and that this emigration is almost en-
6 tirely directed to the western states, through the ports
7 of Boston, New York and Philadelphia, and that by
8 judicious measures, some portion of the emigration
9 might be directed to Maine; *and whereas*, it is mani-
10 festly for the best interest of the state to have its
11 vacant lands made productive by converting the same
12 into farms, and that some effort should be made to
13 invite emigration into the fertile valley of the Aroos-
14 took, therefore

Resolved, That under the direction of the governor
2 and council, the land agent is hereby authorized to
3 enter into a contract with any such party or parties
4 as may emigrate with the design of making a settle-
5 ment upon the public lands, for the conveyance of a
6 tract of land, not exceeding one township, upon the
7 following terms and conditions :

8 The contract shall provide for the settlement of at
9 least one hundred families upon the whole township,
10 fifty families upon a half township, or twenty-five
11 families upon a quarter township, as the case may be,
12 within the term of five years after making said con-
13 tract ; and the contract shall further provide that the
14 following settling duties shall be performed by the
15 party or parties contracting, viz : the said party or
16 parties so contracting, shall within two years from the
17 date of said contract, establish his or their residence
18 upon each lot of not exceeding two hundred acres, to
19 be surveyed out of said tract or township by the land
20 agent, and shall within four years from such date,
21 clear on each lot not less than ten acres, six of which
22 shall be well laid down to grass, and build a com-
23 fortable dwelling-house thereon ; or if such party or
24 parties so contracting shall elect, he or they may per-
25 form an amount of settling duties on any part of said

26 tract or township ; *provided* such improvements shall
27 be equal to the improvements required as above upon
28 each lot.

29 And the party or parties so contracting shall be
30 required to pay in cash for such tract or township at
31 the rate of twenty-five cents per acre, one half of
32 which payment shall be made in advance, or at the
33 time of making such contract, and the other half at
34 the expiration of five years from the date of such
35 contract.

36 And the land agent shall be authorized to execute,
37 in behalf of the state, a deed to the party or parties
38 so contracting, with conditions therein for securing
39 the performance of the settling duties, and the cash
40 payment, as herein provided.

41 This resolve shall take effect and be in force from
42 and after its approval by the governor.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, February 24, 1858.

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

ATTEST:

JOSEPH B. HALL, *Secretary.*