

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.

HOUSE.]

[No. 34.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

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AN ACT to abolish punishment by death.

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

SECTION 1. The second section of the one hundred  
2 and eighteenth chapter of the revised statutes is  
3 amended so as to read as follows:

4 "SECT. 2. When murder is committed with express  
5 malice aforethought, or in perpetrating or attempting  
6 to perpetrate a crime punishable by imprisonment for  
7 life or an unlimited term of years, it shall be deemed  
8 murder of the first degree and punished by imprison-  
9 ment for life."

SECT. 2. The first section of the one hundred and  
2 nineteenth chapter of the revised statutes is amended  
3 so as to read as follows:

4 "SECT. 1. Whoever willfully and maliciously sets  
5 fire to the dwelling house of another, or to any build-  
6 ing adjoining thereto, or to any building owned by  
7 himself or another, with the intent to burn such  
8 dwelling house, if it is thereby burnt in the night  
9 time, shall be punished by imprisonment for life."

SECT. 3. In all cases in which the punishment of  
2 death is now provided by law, imprisonment for life  
3 is to be therefor substituted.

SECT. 4. The seventh, eighth and ninth sections of  
2 the one hundred and thirty-fifth chapter of the revised  
3 statutes are hereby repealed.

SECT. 5. This act shall take effect when approved  
2 by the governor.

STATE OF MAINE.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 11, 1858.

This bill was twice read, and on motion of Mr. WOODMAN of Bucksport, laid upon the table, and 350 copies of the same ordered to be printed for the use of the Legislature.

GEO. W. WILCOX, *Clerk.*