

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1864.

AUGUSTA:
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1864.

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 15.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to define the extent and duration of the Lord's day; and to amend chapter eighty-one and chapter one hundred and twenty-four of the revised statutes, relating to the observance of the Sabbath.

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

SECTION 1. The Lord's day shall be and include
2 the time between twelve o'clock Saturday night and
3 twelve o'clock Sunday night.

SECT. 2. Chapter eighty-one of the revised statutes
2 is hereby amended in section ninety-one, by striking
3 out of the second line the words, "from midnight pre-
4 ceding to midnight following Sunday," and inserting

5 in lieu thereof the words, on the Lord's day, so that
6 said section shall read as follows :

7 Sect. 91. No person shall serve or execute any civil
8 process on the Lord's day; but such service shall be
9 void, and the person executing such process shall be
10 liable in damages to the party aggrieved, as if he had
11 no process.

SECT. 3. Chapter one hundred and twenty-four of
2 the revised statutes is hereby amended in section
3 twenty, by striking out of the first and second lines
4 the words, " which is the time between midnight pre-
5 ceding and sunset of the same day," and adding after
6 the word " warehouse," in the second line, the words,
7 place of business, so that said section shall read as
8 follows :

9 Sect. 20. Whoever on the Lord's day keeps open
10 his shop, workhouse, warehouse or place of business,
11 travels or does any work, labor or business on that
12 day, except works of necessity or charity ; uses any
13 sport, game or recreation; or is present at any dancing,
14 public diversion, show or entertainment, encouraging
15 the same, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding
16 ten dollars.

SECT. 4. Said chapter one hundred and twenty-four
2 is further amended in section twenty-one by striking

3 out of the first and second lines the words, " or on the
4 evening preceding or following it," so that said section
5 shall read as follows :

6 Sect. 21. If any innholder or victualler, on the
7 Lord's day, suffers any persons except travellers,
8 strangers or lodgers to abide in his house, yard or
9 field, drinking or spending their time idly, at play or
10 doing any secular business, except works of charity or
11 necessity, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding
12 four dollars for each person thus suffered to abide ;
13 and if, after conviction, he is again guilty, by fine not
14 exceeding ten dollars for each offence ; and upon a
15 third conviction he shall also be incapable of holding
16 any license ; and every person so abiding shall be
17 punished by fine not exceeding four dollars for each
18 offence.

SECT. 5. Said chapter is further amended in section
2 twenty-four by striking out of the first line the word
3 " shall" after the word " tythingmen" and inserting in
4 lieu thereof the words : or any other persons may ; and
5 also by striking out of the second line the words, twen-
6 ty-two, so that said section shall read as follows :

7 Sect. 24. Tythingmen or any other persons may
8 prosecute for all offences described in sections seven-
9 teen, twenty and twenty-one, at any time within six

10 months after the commission thereof, in any competent
11 court.

SECT. 6. Section twenty-two of said chapter one
2 hundred and twenty-four and all other acts and parts
3 of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

SECT. 7. This act shall take effect when approved
2 by the governor.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
March 1, 1864. }

On motion of Mr. CLAY of Gardiner, laid on the table and 350
copies ordered to be printed for the use of the Legislature.

HORACE STILSON, *Clerk.*