

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1864.

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AUGUSTA:  
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1864.

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# FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE.

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HOUSE.

No. 20.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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

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AN ACT providing for the registration of births, marriages and deaths.

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

SECTION 1. The clerk of every city, town or plantation in this state shall annually, in the month of May, obtain and chronologically record, as required by the forms prescribed in the second section of this act, the facts respecting births, marriages and deaths occurring in their respective cities and towns, and shall on or before the second Monday of May, make duly certified returns thereof to the secretary of state, for each year ending with the last day of March, accompanying the same with a list of such persons as are required by law to make returns to him, who have neglected to do so.

SECT. 2. It shall be the duty of the secretary of  
2 state to receive the returns made in pursuance of this  
3 act and carefully file and preserve them in his office.  
4 He shall also furnish blank forms to carry out the pro-  
5 visions of this act, to clergymen and others authorized  
6 to solemnize marriage, to physicians, to sextons, un-  
7 dertakers or other persons having charge of a burial  
8 ground, to selectmen or assessors, to town clerks and  
9 to clerks of the Society of Friends, substantially after  
10 the following forms, viz: the record of a birth shall  
11 state the date and place of birth, name and sex of  
12 child; the name and surname, color, occupation, res-  
13 idence and birth-place of the parents. The record of a  
14 marriage shall state the date and place of marriage,  
15 the name, residence and official station of the person  
16 by whom married, the names and surnames of the par-  
17 ties, age, color, occupation and residence of each, con-  
18 dition (whether single or widowed) whether first, sec-  
19 ond or other marriage, and the occupation, birth-place  
20 and name of their parents. The record of deaths shall  
21 state the date of death, name and surname of deceased,  
22 the sex, color, condition (single or married) age, occu-  
23 pation, place of death, place of birth, names and birth-  
24 place of parents, and the disease or cause of death.

SECT. 3. Every person authorized by law to unite

2 persons in marriage, shall make a record of each mar-  
3 riage solemnized before him, in manner and form before  
4 prescribed, and annually before the fifteenth day of  
5 April deliver to the clerk of the town, city or planta-  
6 tion in which such rite was performed, a copy of such  
7 record for the year ending on the last day of March.

SECT. 4. Every physician attending in the last sick-  
2 ness and at the time of death of any person dying in  
3 this state, shall make a record of such death in manner  
4 and form before prescribed, and annually before the  
5 fifteenth day of April deliver a copy of such record to  
6 the assessors of the town in which the death occurred.  
7 Every undertaker, sexton or other person having charge  
8 of a burial ground, shall make a record of each burial,  
9 specifying the date and place of death, name and sur-  
10 name of the deceased, and such other facts prescribed  
11 in the second section as he may be able to obtain, and  
12 shall annually before the fifteenth of April deliver a  
13 copy of such record to the assessors of the town in  
14 which the death occurred.

SECT. 5. It shall be the duty of the assessors of the  
2 several towns, cities and plantations in this state, an-  
3 nually, while taking the inventory in the month of  
4 April, to ascertain by inquiry of each family or house-  
5 hold in their respective city, town or plantation, and

6 from the certificates of physicians, undertakers, sex-  
7 tons or other persons having charge of burial grounds,  
8 furnished them as before provided, and record upon  
9 blanks supplied for that purpose, the statistics of births  
10 and deaths required in the second section of this act ;  
11 and they shall deliver such records annually on or  
12 before the last day of April to the clerks of their re-  
13 spective towns, cities or plantations.

SECT. 6. If any person shall wilfully neglect or re-  
2 fuse to perform any of the duties imposed on or required  
3 of him by the provisions of this act, he shall on con-  
4 viction thereof be fined not exceeding twenty dollars  
5 for each offence, one half thereof for the use of the  
6 town in which such offence shall occur, the other half to  
7 the use of the person who shall complain of the same.

SECT. 7. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with  
2 this act are hereby repealed.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }  
March 5, 1864. }

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

HORACE STILSON, *Clerk.*