

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTIETH LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

No. 48.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to promote immigration into this state.

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

SECT. 1. Whereas, in section three of an act entitled an act to provide means for the defence of the northeastern frontier, approved March twenty-four, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, it is provided, " that the European and North American Railway Company is charged with the duty of encouraging immigration into the state, and shall be required to appoint a suitable immigrant agent, and annually publish such plans, statements and other information, as shall give to the public a better knowledge of the extent, value and situation of the public lands of Maine, now open for settlement, and cause this information to be printed in

13 our own and other languages, and distributed into
14 other states of the union and into foreign lands ;” and
15 whereas, it is provided in the same section, that “ the
16 legislature of this state shall have the right at all times
17 to inquire into the manner in which these trusts are
18 executed, and to pass any laws that may be necessary
19 to impose fines and penalties to secure a compliance
20 with the provisions, liabilities and duties hereinbefore
21 set forth and enjoined ;” and whereas, said railway
22 company have utterly failed to perform the duties
23 therein enjoined, it is hereby declared and made
24 known, that the time may be extended for the per-
25 formance of these duties until the first day of July
26 next, and no further.

SECT. 2. It shall be duty of the attorney general of
2 this state to inquire into and ascertain whether the
3 duties set forth in the said act of eighteen hundred and
4 sixty-four and in section one of this act, and at the
5 time as extended in said section one of this act, have
6 been performed ; and if at that time the said company
7 shall have failed to perform these duties, they shall be
8 fined not less than five thousand dollars, and the same
9 sum yearly thereafter, to be recovered in the same
10 manner as an action for debt against said company ;
11 and it shall be the duty of the attorney general to

12 make immediate demand of said company for the fine
13 or fines thus imposed, and in case the said company
14 shall neglect or refuse to pay the fines thus demanded
15 within ten days after such demand, it shall then be
16 the duty of the attorney general to sue said company
17 in the name of the state, and collect the fine or fines
18 as soon as due process of law will allow; and all
19 moneys so collected shall be expended under direction
20 of the commission of immigration to promote immigra-
21 tion into this state.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect when approved.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, February 15, 1871.

Reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, by Mr. VOSE,
and laid on the table to be printed under the Joint Rule.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary.*