

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 16.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT relating to the duties of sheriffs and county attorneys.

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

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of sheriffs to obey
2 all such orders and directions relating to the enforce-
3 ment and execution of the laws of the state, as they
4 shall from time to time receive from the governor.

SECT. 2. It shall be the duty of sheriffs and their
2 deputies, diligently and faithfully to inquire into all
3 violations of the laws of the state, within their respect-
4 ive counties, and to institute legal proceedings against
5 violators or supposed violators of law, and particular-
6 ly the laws against the illegal sale of intoxicating
7 liquors, and the keeping of drinking houses and tip-

8 pling shops, gambling houses or places, and houses of
9 ill fame, either by promptly entering a complaint be-
10 fore a magistrate competent to examine or try the of-
11 fence charged, and execute such warrants as may be
12 issued on such complaint, or by furnishing the county
13 attorney promptly and without delay, with the names
14 of alleged offenders, and of the witnesses. For ser-
15 vices under the provisions of this law, sheriffs and their
16 deputies, acting under their directions, shall be entitled
17 to the same per diem compensation, as for attendance
18 on the supreme judicial court, and the same fees for
19 travel, as for the service of warrants in criminal cases,
20 together with such necessary incidental expenses as
21 may be just and proper ; bills for which shall be au-
22 dited by the county commissioners, and paid from the
23 county treasury.

SECT. 3. County attorneys shall cause to be sum-
2 moned promptly before the grand jury of their several
3 counties, all witnesses whose names have been fur-
4 nished them by any sheriff or his deputies, as provided
5 in section two of this act, and shall faithfully direct
6 inquiries before that body into violations of law, and
7 shall prosecute persons indicted, and secure the prompt
8 sentence of such as shall be convicted.

SECT. 4. Whenever the governor shall, after inves-
2 tigation, be satisfied that any sheriff or county attorney

3 has wilfully refused or neglected to discharge the du-
4 ties imposed upon each by this act, it shall be his duty
5 to bring such fact to the attention of the legislature at
6 the earliest practical day.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January 30, 1872. }

Reported from the Committee on Prohibitory Law, by Mr.
FOSTER of Bethel, and ordered printed.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Clerk.*