

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 35.

MINORITY REPORT OF COM. ON DIVISION OF TOWNS.

Petition of the inhabitants of Limington, praying that a portion of Limerick, which was set off from Limington in 1870, may be re-annexed.

We differ in opinion from our associates for the following reasons.

1st. The hearing before the Legislative Committee in 1870, was a complete and thorough one, examining ten or twelve witnesses on a side, and the case was managed by efficient counsel. The reasons, then given by the petitioners for desiring to be annexed to Limerick, and now urged in their remonstrance, are that between their portion of the town and the business part of Limington, are almost insurmountable hills, so that they knew but little of their town affairs while they resided in Limington, because all their business relations as well as social and religious intercourse was in the town of Limerick. That all their interests dictated that they become a part of Limerick.

2d. In the survey of the six Ossipee towns so called, they were measured out into square townships, Limington being a six mile, while Limerick was only a four mile town. This territory asked for was a gore made in the survey and belonged with neither town. Limington, the larger town, in its act of incorporation succeeded in getting this gore, over the mountains, annexed to herself, when it would have seemed much more just for Limerick then to have had the territory.

3d. When the inhabitants of Limington learned that the people on this territory were getting up a petition to be set off, they at once called a town-meeting and voted to raise three thousand

dollars to build a town-house which they had never been able to do before, and also voted to raise one thousand dollars with which to fight the petitioners, thus arguing to us that they EXPECTED they would be set off. This tax was assessed and collected of these remonstrants.

4th. When the Legislative Committee of 1870 decided to report a bill, the proper Representatives of the two towns got together and estimated the proportionate part of the Limington debts belonging to the inhabitants of this territory, estimating it at about seven hundred and sixty dollars, but fixed on the round sum of eight hundred dollars, which the town of Limerick paid to Limington, thus completing the separation.

5th. In 1871 the town of Limington, as now, petitioned to have this territory re-annexed, and another very extended and full hearing was had before the Legislative Committee and the petitioners' prayer was refused.

6th. The same state of facts now exist that existed in 1870 and 1871. The then petitioners to be set off, now very strenuously remonstrate against being re-annexed.

7th. The argument, that the remonstrants, in being set off did not take a fair share of the town burdens, for that Limington had a large amount of bridge property to keep in repair, seems to us insufficient; since Limerick has as heavy burdens in proportion to its valuation and the remonstrants gain nothing by way of lighter burdens in Limerick.

8th. As the towns now stand Limington is far the superior town in territory, in population, in valuation, in polls and in material prosperity as the following figures and facts will show :

As now constituted Limerick has but

Square miles of territory	16
In population	1426
“ valuation	\$438,061
“ polls	307

While Limington has

Square miles of territory	36
In population	1630
“ valuation	\$522,384
“ polls	420

In conclusion the undersigned think that the action of the Legislature of 1870 ratified by that of 1871, with all the new relations,

LIMINGTON AND LIMERICK.

3

rights and liabilities arising therefrom, may well rest undisturbed by this Legislature. They therefore report, that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

JOHN KIMBALL.

L. R. KING.

C. K. FOSS.

J. L. ROGERS.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 7, 1872. }

Reported from Committee on Division of Towns by Mr. KING,
and ordered printed.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Clerk.*