

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

No. 45.

STATE OF MAINE.

[S. 27.] RESOLVE in favor of rebuilding bridge across east branch of forks of the Kennebec river in Somerset county.

Resolved, That the sum of two thousand five hundred 2 dollars, or such part of said sum as is necessary, be 3 and the same is hereby appropriated for rebuilding the 4 bridge across the east branch of the forks of the Ken- 5 nebec river in the county of Somerset, under the 6 direction of Albert N. Greenwood, at or near the loca- 7 tion of the toll bridge now there standing ; *provided,* 8 that before the building of said bridge is commenced, 9 the Kennebec Log Driving Company shall execute 10 and lodge with the treasurer of this state a good and 11 sufficient bond, in the sum of five thousand dollars, 12 that they have purchased and will hold the franchise 13 of said toll bridge during the continuance of the char-

14 ter of the same, and keep the bridge to be erected in
15 good and passable repair, free of all tolls, until the
16 expiration of said charter.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The forks bridge is situated in Somerset county, nearly midway between Bingham and Moose river, a distance of nearly sixty miles, with only scattered houses and small clearings, in some cases several miles apart. At Moose river there is quite a settlement, with a church and school house, and a collector of customs has been usually stationed there.

The bridge is across a deep and rapid stream, that is practically impassible except by bridge. This bridge is used by the lumbermen from all parts of the lower Kennebec, and to some extent by the lumbermen of the Penobscot. In fact it is more essential to the lumbering interest of the State at large than to the people living in the vicinity.

The scattered and unorganized inhabitants along the sixty miles of road, which was built by the State and is a State road, are poor and utterly unable to erect and maintain a bridge; and it is necessary for the transportation of the mails through to Quebec, and for the lumbering interests, that this bridge should be built and maintained.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, February 10, 1876.

Reported from the Committee on Ways and Bridges by Mr. CARNEY of Lincoln, and laid over to be printed, with Statement of Facts, under the Joint Rule.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary.*