

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 29.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of Olof Ljungren and Magnus
Jeppson.

Resolved, That the land agent be and is hereby
2 authorized to contract to Olof Ljungren and Magnus
3 Jeppson a lot of land each, on the terms and condi-
4 tions contained in "an act to promote immigration
5 and facilitate the settlement of the public lands," ap-
6 proved February twenty-four, eighteen hundred and
7 seventy-one, and said land shall be exempt from state
8 taxation for the term of five years from the passage of
9 this resolve.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

To the Honorable Governor of the State of Maine and the Senate
and the House of Representatives :

The undersigned respectfully ask your honorable body to invest power in the Land Agent to authorize him to comply with the requirements of the enclosed contracts, namely, to grant the signers a lot of land for each contract. We came to this country on the recommendation of Mr. W. W. Thomas, Jr.'s circulars, but as the land was not lotted then, we, together with others of our countrymen, were obliged to go to work on the E. & N. A. Railway, and afterwards the Governor of the State of Maine in 1871, whose name we do not know, and Mr. W. W. Thomas, Jr., came to us and they promised us that we might stay out at work as long as we wanted and then we might come and get our lot of land ; but the local agent here will not let us have it now. So for this reason we humbly ask your honorable body to comply with the above named requests, and your obedient servants will ever pray.

OLOF LJUNGREN,
MAGNUS JEPPSON.

NEW SWEDEN, Dec. 31, 1876.

PORTLAND, January 10, 1877.

Hon. E. C. Burleigh—DEAR SIR: The two Swedes, Olof Ljungren and Magnus Jeppson, immigrated to Maine in 1871. They were promised 100 acres of land each *free*, according to the immigration law then in force.

As immigrants at that date were pouring into New Sweden faster than we could take care of them, these two Swedes, with others, were advised to work out for a time, and assurances were given them that they should not lose anything by so doing, but that they should each receive 100 acres whenever they might apply for the same. Since that time, and I think in 1874, the law

granting immigrants 100 acres of land free has been repealed. *In equity*, however, this repeal should not cut off pre-existing contracts and obligations.

I think, therefore, that the Land Agent should give a certificate such as was given to the Swedes in 1871, of 100 acres of land to both Olof Ljungren and Magnus Jeppson ; and if the Land Agent has not authority to do this at the present time, that the Legislature should confer such authority.

Yours very truly,

W. W. THOMAS, JR.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January 20, 1877. }

Reported from the Committee on State Lands and State Roads, by Mr. PORTER
of Burlington, and ordered printed, with Statement of Facts, under the Joint Rule.

ORAMANDAL SMITH, *Clerk.*