

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Fifty-Seventh Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 72.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to vest the franchise and property of the proprietors of Merrymeeting bridge, in the inhabitants of the county of Sagadahoc.

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

SECTION 1. The proprietors of Merrymeeting bridge
2 are hereby authorized to transfer and convey, by gift,
3 their said bridge, with all the franchises, buildings,
4 land and appurtenances thereto belonging, to the county
5 of Sagadahoc ; and when the stock, or a majority of
6 the shares, shall have been conveyed to said county,
7 as provided in this act, all the franchises of said
8 Merrymeeting bridge company, together with all the
9 powers, rights and privileges, granted to the proprie-

10 tors of said bridge by an act of the legislature, ap-
11 proved March twenty-one, eighteen hundred and
12 thirty-five, shall vest in the inhabitants of said county
13 of Sagadahoc, subject to the servitudes, duties and
14 obligations imposed by said act.

SECT. 2. The county of Sagadahoc is hereby author-
2 ized and empowered to take and hold said bridge as a
3 toll bridge, with all the franchises, buildings, land and
4 appurtenances thereto belonging, and maintain the
5 same in suitable repair.

SECT. 3. So much of the land and location of said
2 bridge, with the approaches thereto, as lie within the
3 county of Cumberland, including the road leading
4 thereto from the county road, or road leading from
5 Brunswick to Bath, are hereby set off from the county
6 of Cumberland and annexed to the county of Sagada-
7 hoc.

SECT. 4. The county commissioners of Sagadahoc
2 county are hereby authorized to restore and keep in
3 repair said bridge and approaches thereto, so that the
4 same shall be safe and convenient for the public travel,
5 and to include in their annual estimates of county taxes
6 the sums required therefor ; or they may provide for
7 any extraordinary repairs that may be necessary the
8 first year, by hiring money on the credit of the county,

9 and issue bonds or notes of the county therefor, on
10 time not to exceed twenty years, to be signed by the
11 county treasurer and countersigned by said commis-
12 sioners.

SECT. 5. The county commissioners of said county
2 of Sagadahoc shall regulate and establish, from time
3 to time, such rates of toll as shall in their judgment be
4 sufficient to maintain said bridge, and give public
5 notice thereof. They shall employ a suitable person,
6 at a stipulated salary, to superintend the bridge and
7 collect the tolls, who shall render to the county com-
8 missioners, on the first day of each and every month,
9 a statement, under oath, of the amount of tolls col-
10 lected during the preceding month, and pay the same
11 to the county treasurer, and who shall receive his
12 salary from the county treasurer, on the written order
13 of the county commissioners, and not otherwise ; and
14 all excess of moneys so received into the county
15 treasury, over and above what is required for neces-
16 sary expenses and repairs, shall be set aside, and shall
17 constitute a sinking fund for the payment of such
18 bonds or notes as may be issued by virtue of this act.

SECT. 6. The city of Bath, by a concurrent vote of
2 the two branches of the city council, is hereby author-
3 ized to transfer and convey, as a gift, to the inhabi-

4 tants of the county of Sagadahoc, all the stock held
5 by said city in the Merrymeeting bridge corporation.

SECT. 7. This act shall be inoperative, unless the in-
2 habitants of said county, at their annual town meet-
3 ings in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-eight,
4 shall by a majority vote accept the same ; the municipi-
5 pal officers of the city of Bath and of the several towns
6 in said county shall insert in their respective warrants
7 for said meetings an article for this object. The vote
8 at said meetings shall be by ballot, thus :

9 Merrymeeting Bridge, yes ;

10 Merrymeeting Bridge, no ;

11 The ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and
12 declared as provided in section four, chapter seventy-
13 eight of the revised statutes, for election of county
14 commissioners ; and like proceedings, as provided in
15 said section of said chapter, shall be had, excepting
16 that the clerks of said city and towns shall transmit
17 true returns of the votes cast in their respective towns
18 as herein provided, to the county commissioners for the
19 county of Sagadahoc within ten days, who shall open
20 and compare the votes so returned, and if errors appear
21 in the returns they shall be corrected on proper evi-
22 dence ; and if there be a majority of ballots with Yes,
23 it shall be deemed to be an acceptance of this act, and

24 said act shall then be in force ; if there be a majority
25 of ballots with No, it shall be deemed to be a rejection
26 of the same.

SECT. 8. All acts and parts of acts, inconsistent with
2 this act, are hereby repealed.

SECT. 9. This act shall take effect when approved.



STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January 30, 1878. }

Reported from the Committee on Ways and Bridges, by Mr. BROWNE of Bowdoinham, and on motion of Mr. WILSON of Bowdoin, the same was ordered printed.

ORAMANDAL SMITH, *Clerk.*