

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No 29.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to supply the people of Houlton with pure water.

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

SECTION 1. Walter Mansur, Hudson T. Frisbie,
2 Almon H. Fogg, James Frank Holland, Charles
3 P. Tenney, Charles D. Merritt, Black Hawk Put-
4 nam, Benjamin L. Staples, Eben Woodbury, John
5 H. Bradford, with their associates and successors,
6 are hereby made a corporation by the name of the
7 Houlton Water Company, for the purpose of fur-
8 nishing to the people of Houlton a supply of pure
9 water for domestic, mechanical and manufacturing
10 purposes, and to the town of Houlton water for
11 the extinguishment of fires and other public uses,

12 with all the rights, privileges and immunities inci-
13 dent to similar corporations.

SECT. 2. Said corporation may acquire and hold
2 real and personal estate, necessary and convenient
3 for the purposes aforesaid, not exceeding in
4 amount fifty thousand dollars; may sell and con-
5 vey the same; may issue certificates of stock to
6 an amount not exceeding the amount of its capital
7 stock, actually paid in; and may issue and sell
8 bonds to an amount not exceeding one-half of its
9 capital stock, so paid in, to aid in the construction
10 of works.

SECT. 3. Said corporation is hereby authorized
2 for the purposes aforesaid, to take, hold, convey to,
3 into and through the village of Houlton, water
4 from all springs, artesian wells and running
5 streams, situate in the town of Houlton, or in its
6 vicinity, to which said corporation may at any
7 time acquire title, by purchase or otherwise; and
8 also may take and hold, by purchase or otherwise,
9 any land, or real estate, or easement therein, neces-
10 sary for forming reservoirs, and for laying and
11 maintaining conduits for carrying and distributing,
12 discharging and disposing of water, and for pro-
13 viding an additional supply of water at any time,
14 by pumping or otherwise, and for any other object

15 necessary, convenient and proper for the purposes
16 of this act.

SECT. 4. Said corporation may construct con-
2 duits, in manner aforesaid, from their sources of
3 water supply to, into and through said town of
4 Houlton, and secure and maintain reservoirs,
5 dams, and heads of water; may erect and maintain
6 hydrants, stand pipes, and all usual fire guards,
7 public and private; may build and maintain pump-
8 ing stations, and buildings, constructions and ap-
9 pliances for using water for mechanical and manu-
10 facturing purposes; and may establish regulations
11 for the use of the water, and fix and collect the
12 prices and rents to be paid therefor. And said
13 corporation is hereby authorized, for the purposes
14 aforesaid, having first obtained the permission of
15 the municipal officers of said town, and under such
16 restrictions and regulations, as said municipal offi-
17 cers may prescribe, to lay down, in and through
18 the streets, highways and lands of said town, and
19 take up, replace and repair all such conduits, pipes
20 and fixtures, as may be necessary for the objects
21 of its incorporation; to carry and lay conduits and
22 pipes under any water course, railroad or private
23 way, and to cross any drain or sewer, or, if nec-
24 essary to change its direction in such manner as

25 not to obstruct the use thereof: to enter and
26 dig up any such street road or way, for the purpose
27 of laying down pipes beneath the surface thereof,
28 for erecting and placing hydrants or other fixtures,
29 and for maintaining and repairing the same, and in
30 general to do any other acts and things necessary,
31 convenient and proper to be done for the purposes
32 of this act.

SECT. 5. Said corporation shall file in the regis-
2 try of deeds for the southern district of Aroostook
3 county, a certificate containing a description of
4 land taken, or in which an easement may be taken,
5 under the provisions of this act and a statement of
6 the purposes for which it is taken, to be recorded
7 by the register; and such land or easement shall
8 be deemed to be taken upon the filing of such
9 certificate.

SECT. 6. Said corporation shall be liable to pay all
2 damages that shall be sustained by any person in
3 his property by the taking of any land, or ease-
4 ment therein, under the provisions of this act.
5 And if any person sustaining damage as aforesaid,
6 and said corporation shall not mutually agree upon
7 the sum to be paid therefor, such person may cause
8 his damage to be ascertained in the same manner
9 and under the same conditions and limitations as

10 are by law prescribed in the case of damages by
11 the location of railroads.

SECT. 7. Said corporation, at all times, after it
2 shall commence receiving pay for water supplied
3 by it, shall be bound to furnish, at reasonable rates,
4 to the inhabitants of said town of Houlton, in their
5 corporate capacity, water for the extinguishment
6 of fires and other public uses, upon reasonable
7 demand therefor by the municipal officers.

SECT. 8. Any person who shall corrupt the
2 waters of any of the sources of supply, or reser-
3 voirs of said corporation, or render them impure,
4 or who shall throw or leave any offensive matter or
5 materials upon them when frozen over, or who shall
6 wilfully injure any dam, reservoir, conduit, pipe,
7 hydrant, engine, water wheel, or other property
8 held, owned or used by said corporation for the
9 purposes of this act, shall pay three times the
10 amount of damages to said corporation, to be re-
11 covered in any proper action; and every such per-
12 son, on conviction of either of said acts aforesaid,
13 shall be punished by fine not exceeding five hun-
14 dred dollars, and by imprisonment not exceeding
15 one year.

SECT. 9. The affairs of said corporation shall be
2 controlled by a board of directors, consisting of

3 not less than five members, who shall be citizens of
4 the town of Houlton, and elected annually by vote
5 of the stockholders of the corporation; and the
6 board of directors shall choose such other officers
7 as may from time to time be required by the by-
8 laws of the corporation.

SECT. 10. Any two of the persons mentioned in
2 the first section of this act, may call the first meet-
3 ing of said corporation, by publishing notice there-
4 for two weeks, in a newspaper printed in said
5 Houlton.

SECT. 11. This act shall take effect on its ap-
2 proval by the governor.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 13, 1880. }

Reported by Mr. STROUT from the Committee on the Judiciary,
and ordered to be printed under Rule.

ORAMANDAL SMITH, *Clerk.*