

FIFTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 124.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to amend chapter one hundred and five of the public laws of eighteen hundred and seventynine, relating to ways.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter one hundred and five of the 2 public laws of eighteen hundred and seventy-nine 3 is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

4 Sect. 13. The jury are to view the premises, hear 5 the testimony and arguments of the parties or their 6 counsel, and render a verdict signed by all of them, 7 which is to be enclosed in an envelope with an en-8 dorsement thereon stating the contents, and is to 9 be delivered to the officer having charge of them, 10 who is to return it to the supreme judicial court, at

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11 the next term thereof, to be held in the same coun-12 ty, with his doings, stating his own travel and at-13 tendance and that of each juror. Said court shall 14 receive said verdict and the certificate and report 15 of the person presiding. Either party interested 16 therein may file a written motion to set aside said 17 verdict for the same cause that a verdict rendered in 18 court may be set aside. The court shall hear any 19 competent evidence relating to the same, and, by 20 agreement of the parties, adjudicate thereon, con-21 firm the verdict, or set it aside for good cause, re-22 serving the right to except as in other cases. If 23 the parties do not agree to an adjudication by the 24 court, the case shall be reported by the objecting 25 party, otherwise by the party filing the motion, to 26 the law court for judgment upon the law and the 27 facts; and the law court may, upon motion and re-28 port of the evidence, set aside a verdict and order 29 a new trial, as in other cases. If the matter is 30 determined by a committee, as provided in this 51 chapter, their report shall be made to the next term 32 of said court held in that county, and like proceed-33 ings shall be had thereon as on a verdict returned The clerk of said court shall certify 34 as aforesaid. 35 such verdict or report, as the case may be, with 36 the final adjudication of the court thereon, to the

37 commissioners at their next meeting after such ad-38 judication, who shall record the same; and if the 39 jury shall not have agreed on a verdict, or the ver-40 dict or report been set aside by the court to which 41 it was returned, or upon exceptions, the commis-42 sioners, on application therefor, shall order a new 43 jury, or the parties may agree upon a new commit-44 tee; and thereupon like proceedings shall be had 45 as are herein provided. The party prevailing shall 46 recover costs, to be taxed and allowed by the court 47 to which the verdict or report is returned and cer-48 tified with it to the commissioners; except that the 49 costs shall not be recovered by the party claiming 50 damages, but by the other party, if upon appeal 51 taken as provided in this chapter, by either party, 52 said claimant shall fail to recover and have adjudged 53 to him, a greater sum as damages than was allowed 54 to him by the commissioners; and said court shall 55 determine the compensation of the committee, and 56 of the persons presiding at the trial by jury.

SECT. 2. This act shall take effect when approved.

STATE OF MAINE.

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IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 15, 1880.

Reported by Mr. STROUT from Committee on Judiciary, and ordered printed under rule.

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ORAMANDAL SMITH, Clerk.