

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Sixty - Third Legislature.

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HOUSE.

No. 264.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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The Committee on Railroads, Telegraphs and Expresses, to which was referred, by the Legislature of 1885, the following acts—

“ An Act to regulate Fares on Railroads,” and

“ An Act to Adjust Tariff on Railroads ; ”

also, referred in 1887,

“ An Act to regulate Railroad Commerce in the State of Maine,”

have had the same under consideration and ask leave to report that the same be referred to the next Legislature.

Per Order. WESCOTT, for Committee.

IN SENATE, March 16, 1887.

Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

C. W. TILDEN, Sec'y.

The committee deem it their duty to state further that the reasons of their decision are briefly these :

The inter-state commerce bill recently passed by Congress will go into effect on April 4th, next, and will affect in its operations nearly all the manufacturing interests of this State, manufacturers of long and short lumber, dealers in hay, cattle, potatoes, starch, etc., who are away from tide waters and seek a market in other States, and to all those

purchasing grain, corn, flour, etc., in other States, for distribution in this State—aggregating, at least, one-half the tonnage carried by our railroads.

The railroad companies of this State will be obliged to revise and adjust these tariff rates to meet the requirements of the bill; and the passage of another act by this Legislature, requiring another revision and re-adjustment, would be extremely unwise, as it would impose upon the railroad companies the duty of attempting to adjust their rates to two different acts, which in many respects might not be harmonious, and would at the same time tend to seriously disturb the manufacturing and other industries immediately affected thereby.

This bill was presented to the committee for action very late in the present session, and in view of the facts above stated, they recommend its reference to the next Legislature, before which time the inter-state commerce bill will have gone into operation, its construction made plain, and if at the next session further legislation is needed, it can then be had understandingly.

We embrace in this report all the papers coming from the last Legislature on this question, in order that the whole matter may then be considered together, if necessary.

STATE OF MAINE.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }  
March 16, 1887.

Tabled and ordered printed, pending acceptance of report, on motion of  
Mr. NOBLE of Lewiston.

NICHOLAS FESSENDEN, Clerk.