

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Sixth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 158.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of First Maine Heavy Artillery.

Resolved, That the sum of six hundred dollars is hereby
2 appropriated to be paid out of any money in the State
3 treasury to the treasurer of the First Maine Heavy Artil-
4 lery Association the same to be used in the purchase of
5 land and erection of a suitable memorial tablet on the
6 field of their fatal and now famous charge of 18th June,
7 1864 near Petersburg, Va. Said sum to be paid when
8 committee of said association shall have raised an equal
9 amount and shall have caused said tablet to be erected
10 and completed.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The First Maine Heavy Artillery stands upon the records of the late *war* as the *regiment* which suffered greater losses of men *killed* and wounded in battle than any other in the service of the United States in that or any other war.

They were perfectly organized, finely disciplined and became in the bloody campaign of 1864 truly a charging regiment. On the afternoon of June 18, 1864, this regiment was ordered to make a final assault and, if possible, to carry the strongly fortified works of the enemy in front of Petersburg, Va. To run that wide field; to break that abbatis; to scale those strong works; to drive out those strong lines of infantry and well posted batteries of artillery, looked impossible. *But* they were *soldiers* and obeyed orders. They charged at command, eight hundred and fifty strong. Ten minutes in a *volcano* of *fire, lead* and *iron*, and six hundred and four of their number lay killed or wounded upon the field. Over seventy per cent of their number went down in this fatal charge.

At a meeting of the survivors in association at Bucksport on August 21, 1891, the undersigned were appointed a committee to ask the State for an appropriation of six hundred dollars to be added to an equal sum to be raised by donation from members to purchase land and erect a suitable memorial upon this field where one of Maine's best regiments made the most fearful sacrifice of the war.

H. H. SHAW,
J. A. DOLE,
G. R. FERNALD. } *Committee.*

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 21, 1893. }

Reported by Mr FULLER of Hallowell, from Committee on Military
Affairs, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*