

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Sixty-Sixth Legislature.

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SENATE.

No. 154.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE in aid of the inscription of Dow's Sixth Maine Battery and Company D, U. S. Sharpshooters, upon the High Water Mark Monument at Gettysburg.

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*Resolved,* That the sum of two hundred dollars is hereby  
2 appropriated for the benefit of Dow's Sixth Maine  
3 Battery, and the further sum of one hundred dollars is  
4 hereby appropriated for the benefit of Company D, United  
5 States Sharpshooters to the end that the names of said  
6 battery and company may have their proper place and  
7 inscription upon the High Water Mark Monument  
8 erected upon the Gettysburg battlefield under the auspices  
9 of the Gettysburg Battle Field Memorial Association.  
10 The sums hereby appropriated shall be paid by the gov-  
11 ernor and council when proper vouchers therefor shall be  
12 filed.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS.

222 NEW JERSEY AVE.,

S. E. WASHINGTON, D. C.,

February 2, 1893. }

General Charles Hamlin, Maine Gettysburg Commission :

*My Dear Sir:* On the 28th of January I sent you photographs of the high water mark monument in its present condition, accompanied by a lithograph of the design after which it was expected the monument would be constructed. Great changes in the design, and increase of cost took place, as shown by the accompanying report.

The adaptation of this report to the State of Maine is more fully shown by the following notes, each note being read at its proper place in the report.

\* Maine had but one regiment (the 19th) at that point, and she paid the Memorial Association two hundred dollars.

† In the 9th line from the bottom of the right hand page of the photograph of the book appears the names of "Thompson's, Phillips', Hart's, Cooper's, Dow's, and Ames' batteries" which I added as a compliment, but since I find myself obliged to pay more out of the treasury, New York has paid me \$200 each for Hart's and Ames' batteries (and \$200 for Fitzhugh's on the same line) and Massachusetts has paid \$200 for Phillips' battery, and I will introduce a bill soon in the *Pennsylvania Legislature* for Thompson's and Cooper's battery. The United States sharpshooters, having companies in several states, (Maine having one) now ask the association to re-cast the tablet, and add them, and it will be done for \$100 per company. Vermont has appropriated \$300 for her three companies, and other states are moving. But the association has asked their treasurer to deposit it until it is known what other states will do.

Hence Maine's share will be \$300—\$200 for the battery and \$100 for sharpshooters.

Yours truly,

JNO. BACHELDER.

## HIGH WATER MARK MONUMENT.

[Report.]

In the construction of the monument recently erected at Gettysburg, to indicate the "high water mark" of the rebellion, each state paid its pro-rata share of the estimated cost; and each state appropriated *every dollar* asked for;\* the monument contains the names of the states, cast in bronze, which contributed to erect it.

The original design contemplated an open bronze book weighing 1272 lbs., supported by two pyramids of cannon balls. It bore a brief legend which described Longstreet's assault and its repulse, and gave the names of divisions, brigades and regiments which made it. The book rested upon a plinth of polished Fox Island, Me., granite, with a rough-faced base, 7 feet, 4 inches, by 9 feet, 4 inches.

As the work progressed changes in the design of the monument were suggested, which, although they improved its beauty, greatly increased its cost. But the committee saw at a glance that it was to mark a great historic event—the pivotal moment of the whole war. There was no opportunity to consult the state legislatures interested, and the committee, guided by its best judgment, decided to go on with the work and trust to the patriotism of the several states for reimbursement.

The first change suggested was to place a polished Quincy granite base 7 feet, 4 inches wide, by 9 feet, 4 inches long and 18 inches thick, between the polished Fox Island plinth and the rough-faced base of Gettysburg granite; which now became the sub-base or water-table. This Quincy base and the Fox Island plinth are without a blemish, and are as perfect stones as were ever sent from those famous quarries.

The completed structure has five distinct legends, cast in the statuary bronze. One bears the names of the confederate divisions, brigades and regiments which marched in the charging column. The second; the names of the Union regiments, batteries, brigades and divisions which met and re-

pulsed it. The third; the story of the assault, with the names of the organizations that made it, and of those that supported them. The fourth; the story of the repulse, the names of the organizations that made it, and also the names of the batteries which engaged the enemy on either flank and assisted in the repulse.† And the fifth; the names of the states which contributed to erect the monument.

Generally the monuments on the field show best at a distance, and are finished by sodding the ground around them; but this marks an important historic event, and visitors are attracted to read the legends it bears; and it became apparent to the committee that if sodded, it would become a perpetual expense to maintain the grass; and besides, it would always look ragged and worn: hence it was decided to enclose the monument with a walk composed of granolithic cement, having a four foot foundation. This walk is 4 feet, 8 inches wide on the sides, and 5 feet, 8 inches in front. It is separated from the water-table by a raised dais, consisting of a hammered granite curb, with an 18 inch space filled with granolithic cement; there is also a hammered granite curb, outside of the sidewalks, while the approach in front is by two steps of hammered granite, 25 and 27 feet long, with two wing-steps, on either side, 5 and 6 feet long. On either flank of the structure is a quarter-circle wing, which is enclosed by hammered granite curbing, inside of each of which stands a 12-pounder brass Napoleon gun, with pyramids of cannon balls.

The committee at first intended to sod this space; but when it was considered that the grass on it must be cut regularly forever, to keep it in good condition, it was decided to remove the soil, put in a 3-foot masonry foundation, and cover it with the same granolithic cement as that used in the walks.

The first design contemplated a monument 7 feet, 4 inches, by 9 feet, 4 inches. The completed structure is 18 feet, 6 inches, by 48 feet, 6 inches, and is considered one of the most interesting monuments on the field.

When it was finished, however, still another expense presented itself. The ground on which the monument stands, inclines to the south, which caused the level of the steps to run beneath the surface at the upper end; and this necessitated moving the soil at the north of the monument, (in places two feet deep,) some 50 or 75 yards to the south of it, and also the re-sodding of the surface.

In the original plan, the states were asked to contribute at the rate of \$200 for each command engaged at that point.\* The batteries on Cemetery Hill and on Cemetery Ridge, on the right and left of the point assailed were not included, as they did not actually come in *contact* with the enemy. But when the changes in the plan involved additional expense, the committee decided to ask each state for an additional appropriation for these batteries. The met they assaulting column with a converging fire of shot, shell, case shot, shrapnel and canister; and contributed largely to his repulse, and they are entitled to this recognition. Their names have been cast in bronze, and appear on the monument.†

Very respectfully,

JNO. B. BACHELDER,

*Director Battlefield Memorial Association  
and Building Committee.*







STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, March 10, 1893.

Reported by Mr. HARPER, from Committee on Military Affairs, and  
laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

KENDALL M. DUNBAR, *Secretary*.