MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

HOUSE. No. 5.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Amend Section eleven of Chapter two hundred and twenty-four of the Private and Special Laws of eighteen hundred and forty-nine relating to the Augusta Municipal Court.

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

- Section 1. Section eleven of chapter two hundred and
- 2 twenty-four of the Private and Special Laws of eighteen
- 3 hundred and forty-nine is hereby amended by adding thereto
- 4 the following: 'Said court shall also have original juris-
- 5 diction, concurrent with the superior court, of all civil
- 6 actions at law, except complaints for flowage, real actions
- 7 and trespass quare clausum, in which the debt and damages

8 demand, exclusive of cost, does not exceed fifty dollars in 9 which any party defendant or a person summoned in good 10 faith and on probable grounds as trustee resides in the 11 county of Kennebec or having his residence beyond the 12 limits of this State is served with process within said county.

If any defendant his agent or attorney in any action in 14 said court, in which the debt or damages claimed in the 15 writ exceeds twenty dollars, shall appear at the first term 16 and on or before the first day of the second term file in said 17 court an affidavit that he has a good defence to said action 18 and intends in good faith to make such defence and claims a 19 jury trial, the said action shall be removed into and entered 20 at the next term of the superior court for said county. And 21 the judge of said municipal court on payment to him of the 22 entry fee in said superior court by the plaintiff shall forth-23 with cause the original writ and all other papers in the case 24 to be filed in the clerk's office of said superior court.

Any party may appeal from any judgment or sentence of 26 said municipal court to the superior court in the same man27 ner as from a judgment of a trial justice. The costs and 28 fees allowed to parties and attorneys in civil actions before 29 said court in which the debt or damages recovered do not 30 exceed twenty dollars shall be the same as are allowed before 31 trial justices, except that the plaintiff, if he prevails, shall 32 be allowed two dollars for his writ, and the defendant, if he 33 prevails, shall be allowed one dollar for his pleadings. In

- 34 all actions in which the amount recovered exceeds twenty 35 dollars, the costs and fees of parties and attorneys shall be 36 the same as in the superior court.'
 - Sect. 2. This act shall take effect when approved.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, January 22, 1897. Reported by Mr. WEEKS of Fairfield, from Committee on Judiciary and ordered printed under House rules.

W. S. COTTON, Clerk.