

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 307.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE that the Land Agent be empowered and directed
to Convey Settlers Lots in Wallagrass Plantation.

Resolved, That the land agent is hereby empowered and
2 directed to release all the right, title and interest that the
3 State of Maine may have in, and to, the following named
4 lots of land in Wallagrass Plantation, formerly known as
5 township number seventeen; range seven, W. E. L. S.
6 Namely, numbers two, three, four, ten, thirteen, fifteen,
7 seventeen, twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-four, twenty-
8 six, twenty-seven, thirty, thirty-one, thirty-four, thirty-five,
9 thirty-eight, forty-seven, forty-eight, and forty-nine, to the
10 several persons legally entitled to the improvements and
11 occupation of said lots, either as original settlers or lawful
12 claimants under the original settlers thereof.

And said land agent is directed to determine what persons
14 are entitled to the benefits of this resolve, and to give deeds
15 of conveyance to the same on behalf of the State.

Said land agent is authorized, at the expense of the State,
17 to make such personal investigation as may be necessary
18 to determine what persons are entitled to conveyances.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Under the Act of Separation of Maine and Massachusetts the wild land in the district of Maine became the property, one-half to the commonwealth, and the other half the property of the State of Maine. Township seventeen, range seven, in the county of Aroostook, fell within the purview of said act of separation. On the twenty-seventh of December, eighteen hundred and fifty-one, the commonwealth of Massachusetts conveyed all its title and interest, in and to said township, with others, to Clark & McCrillis, reserving, however, the lots of settlers in the several townships and tracts embraced in said deed, which had theretofore been conveyed, contracted, or awarded to them by the report of the commissioners, under the treaty of Washington dated December twenty-five, A. D. eighteen hundred and forty-four.

On November twenty-third, eighteen hundred and fifty-three, said commonwealth, by deed, conveyed to the State of Maine all its interest, right and title in the lands of said State.

On the twenty-fifth day of February, eighteen hundred and eighty-one, the commonwealth of Massachusetts conveyed to the State of Maine all its right, title and interest in, and to, the settlers' lands, so called, situated in said ownership. The State of Maine to hold the same for certain purposes named in a certain resolve which had passed the general court of the commonwealth, entitled a resolve in favor of certain settlers upon lands in the State of Maine. Thus it appears that after receiving the deeds above named, the State of Maine held an interest, reserved by the commonwealth, for the benefit of certain settlers; that it became a trustee for said settlers is apparent from the reference to the resolve recognizing their right referred to in the deed given in eighteen hundred and eighty-one.

At the date of the deed to Clark & McCrillis the lots named in the foregoing resolve were occupied by certain settlers; between the years eighteen hundred and sixty and eighteen hundred and seventy, the settlers on said lots paid for the same, in whole or in part, in road labor. It is the purpose of the foregoing resolve to quiet the title of the occupants of said lots, who claim heirs or under original settlers thereof.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

March 16, 1897.

Reported by Mr. DUDLEY of Brookton, from Committee on State
Lands and State Roads, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*