

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

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SENATE.

No. 87.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE in favor of George M. Coombs.

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*Resolved*, That the sum of four thousand eight hundred  
2 and ninety-five dollars be and hereby is appropriated from  
3 the State treasury, the same to be paid to George M.  
4 Coombs in full settlement for the balance due him for plans  
5 and specifications for the Eastern Maine Insane Hospital  
6 buildings furnished by him under a contract made by him  
7 with the commissioners appointed under a resolve approved  
8 March 5, 1889, authorizing the same.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS.

By a resolve approved March 5, 1889, (chapter 207, laws, 1889,) the governor and council were directed to appoint a commission to purchase a site for an Eastern Maine Insane Hospital. Jos. W. Porter, Jasper Hutchins and Dr. D. A. Robinson all of Bangor were appointed such commission. The commission purchased the site during the summer of 1889. The resolve directed and required the commission whenever they should have procured the site, to cause plans and specifications for buildings to be erected upon such site; and after such plans had been accepted by them to cause said site to be graded and put in condition suitable for the erection of buildings according to the plan and specifications they had accepted. After consulting various architects, in December, 1889, the commission selected Mr. Coombs as architect and contracted with him to furnish the plans and specifications required by the terms of the resolve, his compensation to be the usual architect's fee of one per cent. on the cost of buildings for such plans and specifications as he was to furnish. The resolve appropriated twenty-five thousand dollars for the purposes of the commission, but at the time when the contract was made the appropriation had been so far exhausted by the purchase of the site and the amount reserved for grading the lot that the commission was without the necessary fund to pay for the plans and specifications which the resolve required them to procure. Under the circumstances Mr. Coombs agreed to furnish the plans for the usual price, taking the sum of fifteen hundred dollars on account, which sum was named by the commission as the amount which would probably be available from their appropriation, leaving the balance to be paid him as a part of his compensation for services as architect of the buildings to which position both he and the commission understood he had been appointed by his selection to make the plans and specifications. In accordance with this contract Mr. Coombs

made the required plans and specifications, delivered them to the commission and they were accepted by it for the State and approved by the governor and council. Mr. Coombs appeared before the legislative committees of 1891, 1893 and 1895, at their request and was recognized by them as the architect in charge of the proposed buildings.

Mr. Coombs' cash expenses including sums paid for travelling expenses, clerks, draughtsmen and materials incurred in carrying out his contract with the commission amounted to more than \$3,000. When the present commission was appointed it employed another architect and procured other plans. Hence, Mr. Coombs never received any compensation or remuneration for his services and expenses except the \$1,500 paid him by the first commission.

The sum appropriated by the resolve is the original contract price less the fifteen hundred dollars paid him on account by the commission.

STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, February 18, 1897.

Reported by Mr. SAVAGE, from Committee on the Judiciary, and laid  
on table to be printed under joint rules.

KENDALL M. DUNBAR, *Secretary.*