

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Ninth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 170.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to incorporate the Van Buren Water Company.

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

Section 1. James Crawford, Thomas J. Cochran, Peter C.
2 Keegan, Simeon Cyr, Michael A. Barrett, Allan E. Hammond,
3 Joseph F. Theriault, Abraham J. Dubay, their associates, suc-
4 cessors and assigns, are hereby constituted a body corporate
5 and politic by the name of the Van Buren Water Company, for
6 the purpose of conveying to and supplying the village of Van
7 Buren and vicinity with pure water.

Sect. 2. Said corporation for said purpose is hereby author-
2 ized to hold real and personal estate, necessary and convenient
3 therefor, to the amount of fifty thousand dollars.

Sect. 3. Said corporation is hereby authorized to acquire, by
2 purchase or otherwise, the several springs or streams on the

3 height of land overlooking said village, or so much of the
4 Violette Brook stream, or any of its tributaries, as may be
5 necessary for the purposes to be attained by this act, and to
6 erect and maintain reservoirs and dams, and lay down and
7 maintain all pipes and aqueducts necessary for the proper
8 accumulation, conduct, discharge, distribution and disposition
9 of water and forming proper reservoirs thereof; and said cor-
10 poration may take and hold, by purchase or otherwise, any
11 lands or real estate necessary therefor, and may make excava-
12 tions through any lands whatever when necessary for the
13 purposes of this corporation.

Sect. 4. Said corporation shall be held liable to pay all
2 damages that may be occasioned to any person by the taking
3 of any land or other property, or by the flowage, or by excava-
4 tion through any land for the purpose of laying down pipes
5 and aqueducts, building dams and reservoirs, and also damages
6 for any other injuries resulting from said acts; and if any per-
7 son, sustaining damage as aforesaid, and said corporation
8 cannot mutually agree upon the sum to be paid therefor, such
9 person may cause his damages to be ascertained in the same
10 manner and under the same limitations, conditions and restric-
11 tions as are by law prescribed in the case of damages by the
12 laying out of railroads.

Sect. 5. The capital stock of said corporation shall be
2 ten thousand dollars, which may be increased to twenty-five
3 thousand dollars by a vote of said corporation, and be divided
4 into shares of one hundred dollars each, and said corporation
5 may issue bonds to raise money for the construction of said
6 works and their extension and repair, to an amount not exceed-
7 ing fifteen thousand dollars, to be secured by mortgage upon
8 its real estate, works and franchise.

Sect. 6. Said corporation is hereby authorized to lay down,
2 in and through the streets and ways, in said town of Van Buren

3 and take up, replace and repair all pipes, aqueducts and fix-
4 tures as may be necessary for the purposes of their incorpora-
5 tion, under such reasonable restrictions as may be imposed by
6 the selectmen of said town. Said corporation shall be respon-
7 sible for all damages to persons and property occasioned by
8 the use of such streets and ways, and shall also be liable to
9 said town for damages from obstructions caused by said corpo-
10 ration, and for all expenses, including reasonable counsel fees
11 incurred in defending such suits with interest on the same.

Sect. 7. Said corporation is hereby authorized to make
2 contracts with the town of Van Buren, Van Buren Village
3 Corporation, whenever such a corporation shall be formed, and
4 with any or all other corporations or individuals for the purposes
5 of supplying said corporations with water for fire and other
6 municipal purposes, or any other corporations or individuals
7 with water for any other purposes whatsoever; and said
8 municipal corporations, by its selectmen or assessors, shall
9 have the legal right to contract with said water company; and
10 in consideration of supply of water for public buildings, school
11 houses and other public places, said town may contract with
12 said corporation to remit its taxes and other public burdens.

Sect. 8. Said corporation in making any changes, additions
2 or improvements on its works in any streets of said Van Buren
3 village, shall cause the same to be done with as little obstruc-
4 tion to public travel as may be practicable, and shall at its own
5 expense, without unnecessary delay, cause the earth and pave-
6 ments removed by it to be replaced in proper condition.

Sect. 9. Any person who shall willfully injure any of the
2 property of said corporation, or who shall knowingly corrupt
3 the springs or streams or its tributaries out of which said water
4 company's water is obtained, in any manner whatever, or ren-
5 der them impure, whether the same be frozen or not, or who
6 shall throw the carcasses of dead animals or other offensive

7 matter into said waters, or who shall willfully destroy or injure
8 any dam, reservoir, aqueduct, pipes, hydrant or other property
9 held or owned by said corporation for the purposes of this act,
10 shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars,
11 or by imprisonment less than one year, and shall be liable to
12 said corporation for three times the actual damage, to be re-
13 covered in any proper action.

Sect. 10. In case the works of said corporation shall not be
2 put in actual operation within six years from the date of the
3 approval of this act, the rights and privileges herein granted
4 shall cease.

Sect. 11. The first meeting of said corporation may be
2 called by a written notice thereof, signed by three corporators
3 herein named, served upon each corporator by giving him the
4 same in hand, or by leaving the same at his last and usual place
5 of abode, seven days before the time of meeting.

Sect. 12. This act shall take effect when approved.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, February 23, 1899.

Reported by Mr. GENTLEMAN of Porter, from Committee on Legal
Affairs, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*