

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

HOUSE.

No. 397

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of Juno F. Curtis of Bingham.

Resolved, That the sum of one thousand dollars be and is
: hereby appropriated to be paid to Juno F. Curtis of Bingham
3 to make up in part for her loss as the owner of the ferry at
4 Bingham, caused by the building of the bridge between
5 Bingham and Concord.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Seven years ago Juno F. Curtis purchased the house and lot and the ferry between Bingham and Concord and paid \$2,500 for the same, the ownership of the house and lot being necessary for the operation of the ferry. This purchase was long before there was any agitation in relation to a bridge across the Kennebec river near that place. The house was in a ruinous condition and to render it comfortable she has expended fifteen hundred dollars upon the same, making the cost of the whole \$4,000. In order to pay for the repairs on said house Mrs. Curtis has overworked and is now an invalid.

When resolve chapter 92 of the legislature of 1905 in relation to said bridge was passed, among other things, it was provided that the actual damages sustained by the owner of the ferry at Bingham caused by the building of the bridge in question, should be appraised by the county commissioners of Somerset county, the same to be paid by the county. The county commissioners have acted upon the same. But they have construed the resolve to mean that they could not legally allow for any damages except the cessation or discontinuance of the ferry for three years following the abandonment of the same, and have awarded Mrs. Curtis but five hundred dollars and this included the putting in of the boats in the spring of 1906 which were used but for a brief time and at a loss. The location of said house and lot are such that by a discontinuance of said ferry the same has become greatly depreciated in value and she has had to sell the same for the sum of fifteen hundred dollars.

No provision was made in said resolve for an appeal from the decision of the county commissioners, so no appeal could be taken. Mrs. Curtis has been financially ruined by the course that has been taken and no alternative is now left her except to appeal to the legislature.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Augusta, March 7, 1907.

Reported by Mr. BARROWS from Committee on Claims, and ordered
printed under joint rules.

E. M. THOMPSON, *Clerk*