

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE.

No. 452

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of aid in building a highway bridge across the Kennebec River between the towns of Fairfield and Clinton in the counties of Somerset and Kennebec.

Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, 2 to be paid, twelve thousand five hundred dollars in the year 3 nineteen hundred and nine and twelve thousand five hun- 4 dred dollars in the year nineteen hundred and ten., be and 5 hereby is appropriated from any unexpended moneys in the 6 treasury to aid in building a highway bridge across the 7 Kennebec river between the towns of Fairfield and Clinton 8 in the counties of Somerset and Kennebec.

Provided, the sum of eight thousand dollars be raised by 10 each of said counties and the necessary balance by the 11 towns of Fairfield, Clinton and Canaan, or otherwise, which,

12 together with the amount herein appropriated, shall be suf-
13 ficient to fully complete said bridge, within two years from
14 the date of the approval of this resolve without further aid
15 from the State. And said counties are hereby authorized
16 and required to raise the sum herein provided for them to
17 raise, by taxation or otherwise, within two years from the
18 date of the approval of this act; and said towns are hereby
19 authorized to raise, by taxation or otherwise, any sums
20 which may be necessary for them, or either of them, to
21 raise to carry out the provisions of this act.

Provided also, that the location and erection of said bridge
23 shall be under the supervision of the county commissioners
24 of Somerset and Kennebec counties. Said bridge shall be
25 built of steel or iron not less than twenty feet wide upon
26 stone piers and abutments, upon plans of a competent bridge
27 engineer, to be approved by the Governor and Council, and
28 said bridge shall be completed, opened to the public and
29 accepted by the Governor and Council before the last in-
30 stallment, above provided for, to be paid by the State, shall
31 be paid. All moneys under this resolve shall be paid upon
32 vouchers satisfactory to the Governor and Council.

Provided further, that said bridge shall be kept in repair
34 at the expense of the towns of Fairfield and Clinton in pro-
35 portion to their respective valuations as fixed, from time
36 to time, by the State assessors.

Provided also, that said bridge shall be built on the basis
38 of a cost of fifty thousand dollars, and that the amount paid

39 by the State under this resolve shall not exceed one-half of
40 the cost.

Provided also, that the actual damages sustained by the
42 owner of the ferry at this place caused by the building of
43 this bridge, shall be appraised by the county commissioners
44 of said counties, the same to be paid by said counties in
45 proportion to their respective valuations.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The location of the bridge called for by the accompanying resolve is across the Kennebec River between the northeast part of Fairfield and the northwest part of Clinton and between the counties of Kennebec and Somerset. It is midway between the villages of Fairfield and Skowhegan and is eight miles distant from the bridges over the Kennebec at either place. Situated on the west side of the river, near the proposed location is the East Fairfield station of the Maine Central Railroad Company.

The people of the town of Canaan and an extensive country lying east and south, ship their produce and products from this point. For years a ferry, operated by hand power, has been maintained at this point and, save in the winter time, when the ice affords a crossing, this is the only means of going from one side of the river to the other. In the spring and fall of each year, when the ice is going out and forming, there are weeks at a time when crossing is absolutely impossible. On the east side of the river is Carrabasset stream with a fall of one hundred feet within five miles. This water power is capable of a wonderful development, and with the proposed bridge, it will undoubtedly be fully utilized, bringing to the State and towns of Canaan and Clinton a larger increase in taxable property. The bridge will afford easy access for manufactured products along this stream to a shipping point.

A short distance below the East Fairfield station, on the same side, are located the Good Will Home for Girls and the Good Will Home for Boys, an institution known and recognized for

its worth all over this country. Situated on the opposite side of the river is a park connected with these institutions, known as "The Pines," at which an annual assembly is held, and many people are obliged to cross back and forth.

This bridge will be a great convenience to many people from distant points, desiring to cross the State.

In the summer season, millions of logs float down the river and seriously interfere with the running of the ferry boat.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, March 4, 1909.

Reported by Mr. COLE from Committee on Ways and
Bridges and ordered printed under joint rules.

E. M. THOMPSON, *Clerk.*