

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 160

House of Representatives, Feb. 5, 1913.

*Tabled pending reference to a committee, by Mr. Morison
of Corinth, and ordered printed.*

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND THIRTEEN.

AN ACT to establish a county farm in the County of Penobscot.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Section 1. The county commissioners of the county of
2 Penobscot are hereby authorized to acquire a tract of land
3 situated in said county of Penobscot, suitable for farming
4 purposes, not exceeding five hundred acres in area, to be
5 used as a county farm for the employment and reformation
6 of inebriates and other male persons, either by purchase,
7 exchange, or by taking as for public uses, and said county
8 commissioners are further authorized to erect and maintain
9 upon said lands, suitable buildings for officers' quarters, the

10 proper accommodations and custody of such prisoners as
11 may hereafter be sent there by the courts of Penobscot
12 county, and such other buildings as said county commis-
13 sioners shall deem necessary.

Sect. 2. The county commissioners shall have the general
2 superintendence, management and control of said county
3 farm, and of the land and buildings, officers and employees
4 thereof, of the inmates confined therein, and all matters
5 relating to the government, discipline, contracts, and fiscal
6 concerns thereof, and make such rules and regulations not
7 inconsistent with law as may seem to them proper or nec-
8 essary for the government of said farm, its officers and
9 employees and for the employment, discipline and improve-
10 ment of the inmates thereof, said board of county commis-
11 sioners shall constitute a board of parole and shall have
12 power to parole or discharge inmates as hereinafter pro-
13 vided. They shall cause to be kept regular and complete
14 books of accounts of all property, expenses and income of
15 the farm and shall publish the same together with a report
16 of the superintendent in their annual report now required
17 by law.

Sect. 3. The officers of the county farm shall be a super-
2 intendent and as many assistants as the superintendent and
3 county commissioners shall deem necessary; all of such
4 officers shall be males, one of whom shall act as deputy
5 superintendent during the absence of the superintendent.
6 The superintendent shall be appointed by the county com-

7 missioners and shall hold office during their pleasure and
8 he shall have and exercise all of the powers of a deputy
9 sheriff in criminal matters. Before entering upon his du-
10 ties he shall give a bond to the treasurer of the county of
11 Penobscot in the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5000) with
12 sureties approved by the county commissioners for the faith-
13 ful performance of his duties. He shall reside at all times
14 within the precincts of the county farm, appoint all neces-
15 sary assistants for whom he shall be responsible, keep the
16 names of all prisoners committed, in a suitable book, a rec-
17 ord of the conduct of each, have control of them, govern
18 and employ them according to the rules of the farm, and
19 shall have the management and direction of the farm, its
20 inmates, its employees, and officers, subject to the approval
21 of the county commissioners.

Sect. 4. The superintendent shall receive a sum not ex-
2 ceeding one thousand dollars (\$1000) per annum, and in
3 addition be allowed to have his immediate family reside
4 on said farm at the public charge. The salary of each as-
5 sistant shall be established and determined by the county
6 commissioners, to be paid monthly by the county treasurer;
7 no other rewards shall be allowed, except that all of such
8 officers shall reside on said farm at the public charge and
9 each shall be allowed a vacation of fourteen days without
10 loss of pay. The superintendent may employ at the ex-
11 pense of the county a suitable person to act in their place
12 during each vacation.

He shall act in conjunction with the county commissioners, shall provide moral and religious instruction at a cost not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) per annum.

Sect. 5. The judge of the supreme court of the county of Penobscot and the judges of the municipal courts and trial justices in the several cities and towns in said county may sentence male persons convicted of any crime in said courts, to imprisonment and labor on said county farm, in accordance with section fifty-seven, chapter twenty-nine, of the Revised Statutes of 1903, and any act additional thereto and amendatory thereof, instead of in the county jail or in any house of correction.

Sect. 6. When a man is sentenced to be imprisoned on the county farm, the judge or trial justice shall not impose a sentence of less than one month or more than one year. When a man is so sentenced to be imprisoned on the county farm, he shall be held and employed thereon for not more than one year.

Sect. 7. When a prisoner has been confined on the farm for the term of three months, if it appears to the superintendent and the county commissioners that he has reformed, they may issue to him a permit to be at liberty during the remainder of his term of sentence, which may be revoked by them at any time previous to its expiration, subject to such rules as they may prescribe and he shall report to them or any probation officer in said county at such times as they require for a period not longer than the minimum period of his original sentence.

Sect. 8. If the holder of a permit to be at liberty from
2 the county farm shall faithfully fulfill all of the require-
3 ments of the superintendent, county commissioners, and pro-
4 bation officers and in no way violate the same, the charges
5 against him shall be dropped and he shall not be liable to
6 be re-arrested on the same charge.

Sect. 9. If the holder of a permit to be at liberty from
2 the county farm violates the provisions thereof or it is
3 revoked by the superintendent and county commissioners,
4 they or any one of them may issue an order for his return
5 to the farm, and he may be returned by any of them or any
6 officer qualified to serve civil or criminal precepts. A pris-
7 oner who has been so returned to the county farm shall be
8 detained thereon according to the terms of his original sen-
9 tence. In computing the period of his confinement the time
10 between his release upon a permit and his return shall not
11 be considered as any part of the term of his original sen-
12 tence.

If at the time of the order of return to the farm or of the
14 revocation of his permit to be at liberty he is confined in
15 any jail or prison, service of such order shall not be made
16 until his release therefrom, and any person so returned may
17 be again permitted to be at liberty after the expiration of
18 three months.

Sect. 10. If a prisoner serving sentence at the county
2 farm is refractory or if during the term of his sentence
3 he refuses or neglects without reasonable cause, to labor

4 in a suitable manner when required, he may be kept in soli-
5 tary confinement and fed on bread and water so long as he
6 remains refractory, or refuses to labor. Any person so
7 punished shall not be eligible to secure a permit to be at
8 liberty until three months from date of such punishment.

Sect. 11. If a prisoner serving sentence at the county
2 farm escapes or attempts to escape or goes away from said
3 farm without permission, he shall when captured be re-
4 turned subject to such rules and regulations as said county
5 commissioners and superintendent shall deem necessary to
6 keep him at the farm.

Sect. 12. The county commissioners in addition to the
2 salary allowed them by law, shall be reimbursed by the
3 county treasurer for such necessary expenses as are in-
4 curred for travel to and from the county farm or in con-
5 nection with the business thereof.

They may provide prisoners with clothing whenever they
7 shall deem it necessary and may furnish transportation to
8 their homes.

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