

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 544

House of Representatives, March 18, 1913.

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

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

RESOLVE in favor of DeForest Keyes.

Resolved, That the state treasurer be and hereby is authorized and directed to pay to DeForest Keyes from any mon-
2 eys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated the sum of
3 eys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated the sum of
4 eighteen thousand one hundred and sixty-six dollars and
5 three cents, being the amount paid to the state by said
6 Keyes in the years nineteen hundred and two and nineteen
7 hundred and three for defective conveyances of the inter-
8 est of the state in lands alleged to have been forfeited for
9 non-payment of taxes; provided, that said Keyes shall exe-
10 cute to the state land agent for and on behalf of the inhab-
11 itants of this state a deed of release of all his rights, title
12 and interest acquired by said conveyances, and also of all
13 claims and demands against the state arising from said
14 transactions.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

DeForest Keyes, in September of 1902 and the following year, bid in a large amount of tax titles on wild lands in this state which had been advertised for sale by the state treasurer as forfeited to the state pursuant to the provisions of the law as it then existed. The state treasurer issued and delivered to Mr. Keyes deeds of conveyance of the supposed right, title and interest of the state in the land in question. As a matter of fact, the deeds conveyed no title to him, whatsoever, the descriptions being so indefinite that no land could possibly be located under them, a defect which our supreme court has repeatedly held, rendered the deeds absolutely void. Besides, in a great many instances, no land could be found which in any way responded to the attempted descriptions in the deeds and the deeds themselves in form were absolutely void.

The amounts paid for worthless tax titles and interest thereon with the amount paid for worthless tax deeds with interest thereon at 4% per annum amounts to the aggregate sum of \$25,843.35.