MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE

NO. 574

In Senate, March 21, 1913.

Reported by Senator Burleigh from Committee on Public Health, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT additional to Chapter sixty-one of the Revised Statutes providing for the correction of errors in the records of births, marriages and deaths.

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

Section 1. If the record relating to a birth, marriage or
2 death does not contain all the required facts, or if it is
3 alleged that the facts are not correctly stated therein, the
4 town clerk shall receive an affidavit containing facts re5 quired for record, if made by a person who was required
6 by law to furnish information for the original record, or,
7 at the discretion of the town clerk, by one or more credible
8 persons having knowledge of the case. The town clerk

g shall file such affidavit and record it in a separate book to 10 be kept for that purpose, with the name and residence of 11 the deponent and the date of such record, and shall there-12 upon draw a line through the incorrect statements in the 13 original record without erasing them, and shall then enter 14 the facts required to amend the record; and forthwith, if 15 a copy of the record has been sent to the state registrar of 16 vital statistics, shall forward to the registrar a certified copy 17 of the corrected record upon blanks to be provided by said 18 registrar, and the registrar shall thereupon amend the rec-19 ord in his office and state in the margin thereof his author-20 ity therefor. Reference to the record of the affidavit shall 21 be made by the clerk on the margin of the original record. 22 If the clerk furnishes a copy of such record, he shall cer-23 tify to the facts contained therein as amended, and shall 24 state in addition that the certificate is issued under the pro-25 visions of this section, a copy of which shall be printed on 26 every such certificate. Such affidavit, or a certified copy 27 of the record of any other city or town or of a written 28 statement made at the time by any person since deceased 29 who was required by law to furnish evidence thereof, may, 30 at the discretion of the clerk, be made the basis for the rec-31 ord of a birth, marriage or death not previously recorded, 32 and such copy of a record may also be made the basis for 33 completing the record of a birth, marriage, or death which 34 does not contain all the required facts.

Sect. 2. An oath which is required by the provisions of

2 this chapter may be administered by the clerk or assistant 3 clerk of a city or town, and they shall receive no fee for 4 so doing. The clerk shall receive from his town for re-5 ceiving and recording an affidavit and forwarding a copy 6 thereof under the provisions of section one a fee of fifty 7 cents.