

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 383

House of Representatives, Feb. 25, 1915.

*Reported by Mr. Thibodeau from Committee on Library,
and ordered printed under joint rules.*

C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

RESOLVE, in favor of an History of Pemaquid, of Bristol.

Resolved, That the state librarian, under the supervision
2 of the governor and council, in conformity to the policy of
3 the state to aid in the publication and preservation of its
4 early history, be and hereby is authorized to purchase three
5 hundred copies of the History of Ancient Pemaquid, en-
6 titled "Twenty Years at Pemaquid," and it is further re-
7 solved that there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of
8 six hundred dollars for that purpose, which will allow each
9 member of the legislature and other officers of the state
10 one copy each.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Comparatively few people of our state today are aware that on our seacoast of Maine, about 40 miles east of Portland, are the remains of a settlement that rivals the far-famed Plymouth of Massachusetts, and to which that early colony were glad to come for food in 1622. Here the English people landed 13 years previous to the Pilgrims, and had quite a fleet of ships trading and fishing there when Gov. Bradford sent Captain Winslow (an ancestor of the author of this book) there for food which the sea-captains supplied him with free of expense. There have been four forts erected and torn down at this place excepting the foundations of Forts William and Frederic which were built of solid masonry and covered nearly half an acre of ground and are yet well preserved, they were the strongest the English ever built in the territory of the United States, and served many years to hold New England against the French and other nations then struggling for possession of this continent. After the fall of Quebec these forts were dismantled, and the tide of immigration turned further south, leaving Pemaquid neglected and almost forgotten till its fort walls, buried paved streets and stone-walled cellars were unearthed by the efforts of Mr. J. H. Cartland. The walls of the forts were found to be six and eight feet high and some six feet thick. A part of them were originally 22 feet high and that of the castle 35 feet. This has been restored by the state and serves as a fine museum for the many relics which are continually being gathered there, the portraits, paintings, etc., pertaining to its history. All of these forts were dismantled and the early settlers driven away before our Revolution. Within a few years this place has become a great resort for people from Massachusetts and New York, who take a decided interest in it when they learn that it was during colonial times, under the jurisdiction of both states, at different periods. One of the first governors of New York, Sir Edmond Andros, came here in 1677 and built Fort Charles, its second fort, which stood 12 years, the records of which can be seen in the archives at Albany, and are of wonderful interest to antiquarians today. The

author of this work has given over 20 years of his life gathering its history and relics of this locality, which are preserved within the walls of the castle and are valued at thousands of dollars, gathered mostly at his own expense. These are to become the property of the state at his decease. He is anxious that our citizens should know more of its history, and as Massachusetts has done for Plymouth by advertising its attractions, we can make it a source of income to our state. This book will contain over 40 views, beside an excellent plan of Fort William Henry, built by Sir William Phips, a Maine-born man, found in the public records of London a few years ago by Hon. James P. Baxter of Portland. More than 25 books are to be found in the Boston Library containing history of Pemaquid.