

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 671

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*House of Representatives, March 12, 1915.*

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

*C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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RESOLVE Relating to Documentary History of Maine.

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*Resolved,* That the Maine Historical Society, agreeing  
2 to supervise the copying, attesting, editing, indexing and  
3 publishing of volumes twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three  
4 and twenty-four of the documentary history of Maine in  
5 the same manner as volumes of said documentary history  
6 previously published under the resolves approved March  
7 fourteenth, nineteen hundred and thirteen; the governor  
8 and council shall purchase for the state five hundred copies  
9 of each said volumes at two dollars and fifty cents per vol-  
10 ume, said volumes to be distributed or exchanged at the dis-  
11 cretion of the state librarian.



STATEMENT OF FACTS ACCOMPANYING RESOLVE  
RELATING TO DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF  
MAINE.

The Maine Historical Society has just issued its twentieth volume of the Documentary History of Maine—a series of volumes which will supply the future town, state and family historian with materials otherwise mostly inaccessible to him. Other New England states have been obliged to employ editors and clerical assistants to do this work at large expense. Massachusetts it is estimated having already expended in the vicinity of a hundred thousand dollars, and New Hampshire a proportionably large sum. Owing, however, to the interest taken in this work by its president, the Maine Historical Society has been able to accomplish what it has thus far done without the expense of gathering, preparing and editing, which other states have been obliged to incur. The last volume has nearly reached the end of the Revolutionary War, and a few more volumes will bring it to the separation from Massachusetts, when Maine will have the most valuable Documentary History of any of her sister states, an achievement of which she may well be proud, for it has been said that the character of a community is best exhibited by the manner in which it preserves and makes its history accessible. While other states have made large appropriations to meet the editorial and clerical expense of doing this work, Maine has only been asked by its State Historical Society to subscribe for five hundred copies of the work at an expense of two dollars and a half per volume, thus enabling it to supply its town and school libraries with a collection of historical volumes of the greatest future value to the communities which they serve. The Society is, of course, anxious to complete this work while it can do it as it is now being done, without the expense of an editorial bureau which other states have been obliged to maintain.