

NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 838

House of Representatives, March 18, 1915. Reported by Mr. Cobb from Committee on Ways and Bridges, and ordered printed under joint rules.

C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

RESOLVE in favor of aid in repairing the bridge between Eastport and Perry.

Resolved, That there be and hereby is appropriated the 2 sum of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2500) in the 3 year 1915 and two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2500) 4 in the year 1916 to be paid to the city of Eastport for the 5 purpose of aiding in the repair of the toll bridge between 6 the city of Eastport and the town of Perry, in the county 7 of Washington; provided, however, that said sums are ap-8 propriated only upon the condition that the city of Eastport 9 shall henceforth make said toll bridge a free bridge. •

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

This bridge connects Moose Island on which is located the city of Eastport with the mainland at Perry. The bridge is twelve hundred and five feet long, of wooden construction, and has been operated by the city of Eastport as a toll bridge. This resolve is to assist the city of Eastport in repairing this bridge and making it free from tolls.

Eastport has been almost completely destroyed by fire three times. Its tax rate is second to the highest in the state, among cities of its size, being exceeded only by Houlton, with its rate of thirty-one mills, while Eastport's rate is thirty mills. Eastport's total bonded indebtedness is \$70,000. The city still owes \$6000 on bonds issued for the purpose of raising troops during the Civil War, and also has outstanding bonds to the amount of \$25,000 which it was necessary to issue to relieve suffering at the time of the last great fire in 1887. In 1913 a schoolhouse was destroyed by fire, and owing to insufficient insurance, the city's debt has been increased about twenty-four thousand dollars to pay the cost of a new school building. The city's valuation last year was \$1,751,383.