

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 118

House of Representatives, Feb. 6, 1917.

*Tabled for printing under joint rules by Mr. Ryder of
Brownville.*

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Ryder of Brownville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND SEVENTEEN

RESOLVE in favor of the town of Brownville and covering
one-half the expense of a concrete bridge erected by said
town across Pleasant River, in the years 1915-16.

Resolved, That there be and hereby is appropriated the
2 sum of six thousand and five hundred dollars, to be paid
3 to the town of Brownville, the same being one-half of the
4 sum expended and incurred by said town in building a con-
5 crete bridge across Pleasant river, during the fall of 1915
6 and the spring of 1916.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The town of Brownville, Piscataquis county, has a valuation of \$628,345.00; its tax rate for the past ten years has averaged two cents and five mills.

In 1898 a steel bridge was constructed across Pleasant river at Brownville Junction, at an expense of \$6,000.00; in 1901 this bridge was carried away by freshet and replaced at an expense of \$4,500.00. In 1907 the abutments to the bridge at Brownville village were washed away and replaced at an expense of \$1,500.00.

In 1914 a concrete bridge was built across Whetstone creek, state road, the town's share of this being \$1,100.00.

August 25th, 1915, fire destroyed the wooden bridge across Pleasant river at Brownville village. The "Bridge Bill" had then been enacted by the Legislature and **had it been effective** at that date the town would certainly have received under its provisions the full amount carried by this resolve, for the outlay for the bridge alone increased the tax rate more than the five mills specified under the law; the Bridge Bill was held up by the referendum, the town was obliged to provide a means of crossing the said river as the bridge was a part of a main thoroughfare, and there was no other possible means of crossing; accordingly the town constructed a two-span, concrete bridge 204 feet in length across the said river at an expense of \$13,000, and this resolve is the town's request that it be reimbursed to the extent only, that it would have been, had the bridge bill been effective then as it is now.