

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 803

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In Senate, March 4, 1931.

Read and ordered placed on file. Sent to the House.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

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House of Representatives, March 4, 1931.

Read and placed on file in concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE  
HUNDRED AND THIRTY-ONE

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Communication from Hon. Wm. Tudor Gardiner, Governor,  
transmitting communication from Percival Proctor Baxter.

March 3, 1931

To the Honorable Senate and  
House of Representatives:

It gives me great pleasure to transmit herewith a communication from an ex-Governor. The substance of his letter is generous proof of his devotion to the State and his thoughtfulness for mankind of this generation and of those to follow throughout the ages.

I have expressed to him such appreciation as was within my power and I know that you will take the opportunity to perfect that expression by prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. TUDOR GARDINER

March third, 1931.

To Hon. William Tudor Gardiner, Governor,  
and the Senate and House of Representatives of the State  
of Maine:

It long has been my ambition to have the State of Maine own Mt. Katahdin, for to my mind that mountain is the grandest and most beautiful of all the natural attractions of our State.

Beginning as a member of the House of Representatives, continuing through my service as Senator and Governor, and later as a private citizen I have consistently maintained my interest in this region and expect some day to see my ambition realized. It has been necessary to overcome many obstacles and some are yet to be surmounted, but time and patience aid a good cause and I am confident of the outcome.

Some time ago I acquired an undivided three-eighths ( $\frac{3}{8}$ ) interest in an area comprising sixteen (16) square miles in Township three (3), Range nine (9), Piscataquis County, within which lies Mt. Katahdin, having purchased the same from the Great Northern Paper Company, whose officials showed a fine public spirit in their willingness to aid me in carrying out my plans.

It was my hope by this time to have acquired the remaining undivided five-eighths ( $\frac{5}{8}$ ) of this area, but this has not yet been accomplished. I, however, shall continue my efforts to obtain the outstanding interest in order to give it to the State at some future date.

The problem that thus confronted me was whether at once to donate to the State my three-eighths ( $\frac{3}{8}$ ) interest, or wait until the remaining portion is acquired. Owing to the uncertainty of life, and being apprehensive lest something might happen to thwart my plans, I have decided to offer at this time to convey my interest in this mountain area as a gift to the State of Maine, and ask that it be accepted by Act of the Eighty-Fifth Legislature in accordance with the terms of the Act of Acceptance submitted herewith.

The only requests that I have to make in connection with this gift are that, in so far as can legally be done with an undivided interest, the donated area forever be used for public park and recreational purposes, forever be left in the natural

wild state, forever be kept as a sanctuary for wild beasts and birds, that no roads or ways for motor vehicles shall hereafter be constructed thereon or therein, and that I be allowed to retain, during my lifetime, the right to determine, and to place whatever markers or inscriptions shall be maintained or erected on or within the donated area herein offered to the State.

In making this gift I desire to show to the people of my native State my appreciation of the honors they conferred upon me in the years gone by.

PERCIVAL PROCTOR BAXTER