

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

---

---

NINETY - SECOND      L E G I S L A T U R E

---

---

**Legislative Document**

**No. 283**

H. P. 617

House of Representatives, February 1, 1945.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Bell of Thomaston.

---

---

**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-FIVE

---

---

**RESOLVE, in Favor of Knox Memorial Association, Inc., for Support and Maintenance of "Montpelier".**

---

---

**Knox Memorial Association, Inc.; appropriation for. Resolved:** That there be, and hereby is, appropriated in favor of Knox Memorial Association, Inc., the sum of \$1,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946, and the sum of \$1,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1947, to aid in the support and maintenance of "Montpelier", replica of the home of Major General Henry Knox, located at Thomaston, Maine.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

Major General Henry Knox, Revolutionary Patriot, was the close friend of Washington, and was the first Secretary of War of the United States. After retirement from public affairs, Knox built a stately mansion on the Georges River at Thomaston, Maine, which he occupied as his home from 1795 to 1806, the year of his death. This mansion was known as Montpelier.

In 1871 the Knox Mansion was destroyed to make way for the railroad, attempts to save the house having failed. In 1914, the General Knox Chapter, D. A. R., of Thomaston began its effort to erect a suitable monument to Knox, to be a replica of the original home in which to house and preserve Knox relics. In 1924 the Knox Memorial Association was founded and sponsored by the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution, with membership open to all. The late Cyrus H. K. Curtis became interested in the activities of the Association and contributed the amount necessary to build the new "Montpelier" and to furnish it in part. The present "Montpelier", located at Thomaston, is a faithful replica of the original mansion, and contains many valuable pieces of original Knox furniture, manuscripts, etc. Other furniture and furnishings are of the Revolutionary and Early American periods.

The present building, erected in honor of Knox, was dedicated and open to the public July 25, 1931, and universal admiration is expressed for this beautiful reproduction of a colonial home. Many consider it second only to Mt. Vernon, home of Washington.

"Montpelier" is owned by the Knox Memorial Association, Inc., a corporation without capital stock formed under the laws of the State of Maine. Its members are persons interested in the patriotic, historical and educational aspects of the Memorial. All officers of this Association serve without pay and there is no person who has a pecuniary interest in "Montpelier" or the affairs of the association.

Revenue from visitors' fees is not available during the continuance of hostilities in which this country is now engaged. Maintenance costs of the memorial are kept as low as prudence will warrant, but the cost of operations substantially exceeds the income available to the Association. Montpelier is an attraction to visitors in this state, and is valuable for its inherent qualities.

The Association asks for the above appropriation to aid in the preservation of this historical shrine.