

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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PUBLIC ACTS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

PASSED BY THE

FOURTH LEGISLATURE,

AT ITS SESSION, HELD IN JANUARY, 1824.

PUBLISHED AGREEABLY TO THE RESOLVE OF THE 28TH JUNE, 1820.



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1824.

the issuing such warrant, escape or go out of the said county, the Sheriff or any Deputy thereof, to whom the same warrant may be directed, shall have power and authority to pursue the person complained of, and to apprehend him in any county of this State, and to convey him into the county in which the act complained of, may have been committed, that such proceedings may there be had, as the law of the case may and shall require.

Justices of the Peace may take recognizance for further examination of persons accused in certain cases.

SECT. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That any Justice of the Peace before whom any person shall be brought on a complaint for any crime, misdemeanor, or other offence, by law bailable, may take the recognizance of such person, with sufficient surety or sureties, in a reasonable sum, for his personal appearance before said Justice for further examination at future time, not exceeding ten days.

Proceedings in case of default of such recognizance.

SECT. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That if the person thus recognized shall not appear before said Justice at the time appointed for further examination, as set forth in the condition of the recognizance, it shall be the duty of said Justice to note his default on the record, and certify the same recognizance with the record of the default, in the performance of the said condition, to the next Court of Common Pleas for the same county, that a *scire facias* may issue thereon, or an action of debt be brought for the recovery of the penalty.

[*This Act passed January 22, 1824.*]

CHAPTER CCXLV.

AN ACT establishing the law of the Road.

Persons meeting on highways, &c. to turn to the right of the centre.

SECT. 1. *BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in Legislature assembled*, That in all cases of persons meeting each other on any bridge, turnpike, or other road within this State, travelling with carriages, wagons, carts, sleds, sleighs, or other vehicles, the persons so meeting shall sea-

sonably turn, drive and convey their carriages, wagons, carts, sleds, sleighs or other vehicles, to the right of the centre of the travelled part of such bridge, turnpike or other road when practicable, so as to enable their respective carriages, wagons, carts, sleds, sleighs or other vehicles, to pass each other without interference, interruption or injury : *Provided*, That no person or persons, travelling with any of the aforesaid carriages or vehicles heavily loaded, shall be obliged thus to turn, drive and convey the same to the right of the centre, as aforesaid, upon meeting any other person or persons travelling with any of the aforesaid carriages or vehicles, lightly loaded, (where it is difficult thus to turn to the right,) but the person or persons thus travelling with any of the carriages or vehicles aforesaid, heavily loaded, shall stop a reasonable time, at a convenient place, for the person or persons thus travelling and meeting them, with any of the aforesaid carriages or vehicles lightly loaded, to pass by, if there be not convenient room to pass by, without such stopping.

Provision in case of loaded carriages, &c.

SECT. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That whenever any person or persons travelling with any of the carriages or vehicles aforesaid, on any such bridge, turnpike or other road, shall overtake any other person or persons travelling with any of the carriages or vehicles aforesaid, and wishing to travel faster than the person overtaken, shall request the person or persons, so overtaken, to turn, drive or convey his carriage or other vehicle to the right or left of the centre aforesaid, or to stop the same, the person or persons so requested shall so turn, drive or convey his carriage or other vehicle as aforesaid, to the right or left of the centre as aforesaid, or stop in a convenient place, until the person or persons, so overtaking, can conveniently pass by, if there be not convenient room to pass by without such turning out or stopping.

Carriages when required to stop for passing of persons overtaking.

SECT. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That no person shall stop his carriage, wagon, cart, sled, sleigh, or other vehicle, and leave the same in the travelled

Carriages not to be left without drivers.

part of any such bridge, turnpike or other road, so as to obstruct any other person travelling as aforesaid, in passing the same with his carriage, wagon, cart, sled, sleigh or other vehicle; and no person shall permit or suffer his carriage, wagon, cart, sled, sleigh or other vehicle, drawn by oxen or horses, to travel or pass upon any such bridge, turnpike or other road, without a driver or conductor.

SECT. 4. *Be it further enacted,* That no person shall travel on any such bridge, turnpike or other road, with any sleigh or sled drawn by one or more horses, unless there be three or more bells attached to the horse or horses, or some part of their harness.

Bells required to sleighs and sleds.

SECT. 5. *Be it further enacted,* That every person offending against any of the provisions of this act, shall forfeit and pay for each offence or neglect, a fine not less than one dollar, nor more than twenty dollars, to the use of the State, to be recovered on complaint before any Justice of the Peace in the county where the offence shall be committed; and shall further be answerable to any person or persons injured for all the damages arising from such offence or neglect: *Provided,* That no such complaint shall be sustained after the expiration of sixty days from the time the offence was committed; nor any action for damages, unless the same shall be commenced within one year after the cause of action shall have accrued: *And provided also,* That no prosecution shall be sustained for the violations of any of the provisions of this act, except on complaint of the person or persons aggrieved.

Forfeitures.

Limitation of prosecution.

SECT. 6. *Be it further enacted,* That this act shall be in force from and after the first day of July next.

(This Act passed February 3, 1824.)