

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)

ACTS AND RESOLVES

PASSED BY THE

TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

OF THE

S T A T E O F M A I N E ,

A. D. 1843.

Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820, February 26, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

AUGUSTA:

WM. R. SMITH & Co., PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1843.

RESOLVES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

1843.

[COPY.]

PARIS, February 1st, 1843.

*To His Excellency,**Governor of the State of Maine,**Augusta:*

SIR:—The citizens of the United States, temporary residents of this Capital, have instituted by the means of voluntary contribution, an "*American Athenæum*." The main object of this institution is to afford to every American visiting Paris, a place where each may have access to the principal newspapers and other periodical publications of the Union. Furthermore, in order to extend its usefulness beyond that of a mere reading room, the directors have in view both to make it a medium of communication, a sort of literary agency between societies and men of learning in the two hemispheres; and a centre of information where those of Europe may gratify their desire of acquiring knowledge on the state of society and the institutions of America.

Our jurisprudence, it is well known, on many points is an object of studious enquiry in Europe. To mark it out to the world as worthy of example, must be our pride. To this end we are particularly desirous to collect *all laws and statutes* of the individual states, and, in general, every thing concerning American legislation and statistics. A complete set of state laws, to the present time, to be continued hereafter, would be invaluable at this emporium of European knowledge, where, oftentimes, questions are propounded by jurists and other men of learning, which cannot be answered for want of the necessary references.

It has occurred to us, sir, that in stating particularly our views to you, and through you to the legislature of your state, we might possibly obtain from its liberality, what the limited means of our young institution do not at present allow us to defray ourselves,—and at the same time, furnish our public men at home a fair opportunity of performing a patriotic act abroad, by their contributing to an intellectual common stock, an *American library of useful knowledge*.

Should you and the legislature deem proper to extend to us the patronage to which, in the names of our countrymen here, we make the present appeal: books, and all other objects destined for this useful purpose, by being placed in the hands of either I. Carrol Brent, Esq., Washington city, or William B. Draper, Esq., No. 51, Beaver-street, New York, agents of the Athenæum, will safely reach the institution here.

We are, sir, with great respect,

Your very obedient servants,

HENRY LEDYARD,

Charge d' Affaires of the U. S. at Paris,

LORENZO DRAPER,

Consul U. S., Paris,

GEO. M. GIBBES,

}
Directors of the
American Athenæum.

CHAP. 185.**Chapter 185.**

Resolves in favor of the American Athenæum.

Whereas, certain citizens of the United States resident in Paris, France, have established by means of voluntary contribution, an institution in that city, for the purpose of collecting information in relation to the jurisprudence, the state of society and the institutions of America, and have solicited the cooperation of this state, to aid them in effecting that object, therefore

Secretary to furnish American Athenæum with certain books and documents.

Resolved, That the secretary of state be authorized and directed to forward to the American Athenæum, at Paris, one copy of the revised statutes, one set of the private and special laws and resolves, and legislative documents up to and including the present year, and one set of Dr. Jackson's reports on the geology of Maine.

Same subject.

Resolved, That the laws and resolves and legislative documents of this state, be transmitted to said institution annually, until otherwise directed by the legislature.

[*Approved March 22, 1843.*]

Chapter 186.

Resolves in relation to the rights of certain citizens of this state.

Rights of certain citizens of this state.

Resolved, That while we deprecate all interference with the social institutions and rights of other states, and while we hold ourselves bound by the strongest possible obligations to comply with every requisition of the constitution of the United States, and especially with that of section 2d, article 4th, we do hold the right of every citizen, colored or not colored, to the protection of that constitution in his person and his property to be equally good.

Protest.

Resolved, That we do most solemnly, in behalf of the people of this state, protest against the existence of any laws in any of the states, or territories of this Union, which subject our free colored citizens to the liability to be arrested and imprisoned, and to be sold into slavery for the payment of the costs of such arrest and imprisonment—that we do protest against such laws as unconstitutional and as endangering this Union.

Resolved, That our senators in congress be instructed and our representatives requested to protest solemnly against such laws, and to use their best efforts to procure the repeal of all such laws within the states or territorial governments, if any such exist.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be forwarded to each of our senators and representatives in congress, and to the governor of each of our states and territories.

[*Approved March 22, 1843.*]