

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

PASSED BY THE

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

A. D. 1847.

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

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1847.

PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

1847.

CHAP. 12.

yoke, with bows, ring and staple, suitable therefor, all of the value of three dollars; two chains, each of the value of three dollars; and one ox sled, of the value of ten dollars.

[Approved July 3, 1847.]

Chapter 12.

An act in relation to the support of paupers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :

Not lawful for any pauper to be set up and bid off by way of auction for support or service.

Proviso.

SECT. 1. It shall not be lawful for the inhabitants of any town in this state, by its overseers or otherwise, to permit any poor and indigent persons, chargeable to such town, to be set up and bid off by way of auction, either for support or service : *provided* nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent any town from contracting for the support of their poor by receiving proposals therefor, reserving to themselves the right to judge of the fitness of the person making the proposal.

SECT. 2. All acts and parts of acts, inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed.

[Approved July 3, 1847.]

Chapter 13.

An act additional to chapter eighty-nine of the revised statutes, respecting divorce.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :

When the justices of the S. J. court may decree a divorce from the bonds of matrimony.

SECT. 1. The justices of the supreme judicial court are authorized and empowered, at any term of said court, holden by a majority of the justices thereof, to decree a divorce from the bond of matrimony in all cases not now provided for by law, when there is no collusion between the parties for the purpose of procuring a divorce, when a majority of all said justices, in the exercise of a sound discretion, shall deem it reasonable and proper, conducive to domestic harmony, and consistent with the peace and morality of society, that a divorce should be granted.

Power to impose terms in regard to the future support of the wife, &c.

SECT. 2. In such cases, the said justices shall have the same authority to impose terms in regard to the future support of the

wife, out of the property of the husband ; to decree concerning the custody, care and maintenance of the minor children of the parties ; and to employ compulsory process in executing the powers conferred by this act, as said court have in chapter eighty-nine of the revised statutes, when they decree a divorce from the bond of matrimony.

SECT. 3. The restrictions and limitations contained in sections thirteen and fourteen of chapter eighty-nine of the revised statutes, shall apply to all cases coming within the provisions of this act.

Provisions of sec. 13 and 14 of R. S. to apply to such cases.

[Approved July 13, 1847.]

Chapter 14.

An act to authorize the incorporation of charitable and benevolent societies.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :

SECT. 1. Whenever seven or more persons are desirous of associating themselves together, to form a Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, or a Division of the Sons of Temperance and Tent of Rechabites, or to promote in any way the cause of temperance or for any charitable and benevolent purpose whatsoever, they may make application in writing to any justice of the peace in the town or county in which such applicants reside, setting forth in their application the object or objects of their proposed association ; and the said justice upon the receipt of such application shall issue his warrant to one of the applicants, directing him to call a meeting of all the applicants, and expressing in the warrant the time, place and occasion of the meeting and the purposes for which it is called.

First meeting, how called.

SECT. 2. The meeting shall be called by reading the warrant in the presence and hearing of each of the said applicants or by leaving at the last and usual place of abode of each, a copy of the same, signed by the person to whom the warrant was directed, fourteen days at least prior to the day of meeting.

Notice to applicants.

SECT. 3. The said applicants, when assembled pursuant to such notice, may proceed to organize themselves as a body politic and corporate with such name, style and title, as they may choose to adopt ; and by such name they and their associates and successors shall and may have continual succession ; may have a common seal and may change and alter the same at their pleasure ; shall be capable in law to sue and be sued ; to answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended in all courts and places whatsoever ;

Said applicants, when assembled, may proceed to organize as a body politic and corporate.

Powers and privileges.