

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. 26.

Transaction of business relating to schools, in towns containing but one school district.

Provision of ch. 17, sec. 41, relative to making certain returns, repealed.

District agents.

Act of Feb. 23, 1833, repealed.

Provisions of ch. 117, sec. 42 to 49, to apply to school districts.

SECT. 14. In any town containing but one district all business relating to schools and school-houses may be transacted at any regular town meeting, in the same way and manner in which other town business is transacted.

SECT. 15. So much of section forty-one of chapter seventeen of the revised statutes, as requires superintending school committees to make certain returns to the selectmen is hereby repealed.

SECT. 16. When any town shall vote to authorize its several school-districts to choose their own agents, as provided in the third section of chapter seventeen, as aforesaid, such vote shall continue in force from year to year until rescinded; and the agents of every such district shall annually, in March or April, call district meetings for the choice of agents and other business, by causing notice to be given as provided in the twenty-fourth section of the same chapter.

SECT. 17. An act entitled "an act additional to provide for the education of youth," approved February twenty-eighth, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three, is hereby repealed.

SECT. 18. The provisions of chapter one hundred and seventeen of the revised statutes, which are contained in the sections from forty-two to forty-nine (both inclusive) of said chapter, shall apply as well to executions against any school-district as against towns.

[Approved July 31, 1847.]

Chapter 26.

An act respecting the election of electors of president and vice president.

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

Electors of President and Vice President.

SECT. 1. In each year, when the election of president and vice president of the United States is to take place, there shall be chosen from the inhabitants of this state as many electors of president and vice president as this state may at such time be entitled to.

Meetings for electors, how called.

SECT. 2. On Tuesday next after the first Monday in the month of November, of the year when the election of president and vice president is to be made, the people of this state qualified to vote for senators in its legislature, shall assemble in town, plantation, city or ward meeting, to be notified, held and regulated in the manner prescribed by the constitution and laws for the election of such senators.

Names to be offered on a single ballot.

SECT. 3. Each voter shall bring in on a single ballot the names

of the whole number of electors to which this state may be then entitled, or of so many of them as he may determine to vote for. CHAP. 26.

SECT. 4. The votes shall be sorted, counted, declared and recorded, and the returns of the number of ballots, and of the votes given for the respective electors, shall be in conformity to the requirements of the constitution and laws respecting the election of such senators, and shall be made to the secretary of state on or before the second Tuesday after such meeting. Proceeding at said meetings.
Votes, how returned.

SECT. 5. On the second Tuesday after such meeting, the governor and council shall be in session, and shall open and examine the returns of votes so made, and shall count the same; and the secretary of state shall forthwith transmit to each of such persons as shall have received the greatest number of votes so returned, not exceeding the number by this act required to be then chosen, a certificate of his election. Votes to be examined by the governor and council.

SECT. 6. If, upon examination of the votes as aforesaid, it shall appear that there has not been a choice of a majority of the whole number of electors, the governor shall, by proclamation, call the legislature together forthwith; and the legislature shall, by joint ballot of the senators and representatives, assembled in one room, choose as many electors as shall be necessary to complete the number to which this state may then be entitled. Vacancies, how filled, if a majority has not been elected.

SECT. 7. The electors so chosen, shall convene in the senate chamber, at Augusta, on the Tuesday preceding the first Wednesday of December next after their election, at two of the clock in the afternoon; and in case any elector so chosen, by reason of death or for any other cause, shall not be present, the electors then present shall by a majority of votes, forthwith elect the requisite number of persons suitably qualified to supply such deficiency. Meeting of the electors.

SECT. 8. The said electors shall on the said first Wednesday of December, vote by ballot for one person for president, and one person for vice president of the United States; one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of this state; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as president, and in distinct ballots, the person voted for as vice president; they shall make and subscribe three certificates of all the votes by them given, each of which certificates shall contain two distinct lists, one of the votes given for president, and the other of the votes given for vice president; they shall seal up the same and certify on each certificate, that a list of votes of the state of Maine, for president and vice president of the United States is contained therein; the said electors or a major part of them, shall also under their hands appoint a person to take charge of one of the said certificates and deliver the same at the seat Proceedings at said meetings.

CHAP. 27.

of government of the United States, to the president of the senate of the United States, before the first Wednesday of January then next ensuing; they shall forward by the post-office forthwith one other of the said certificates directed to the president of the same senate, at the same seat of government; and they shall forthwith cause the other of the said certificates to be delivered to the judge of the district court of the United States for the district of Maine.

Compensation.

SECT. 9. The said electors shall receive such compensation for their travel and attendance as the members of the legislature.

Secretary of state to furnish blank forms for returns of votes.

SECT. 10. The secretary of state shall procure blank returns of the proper form, for such cities, towns and plantations, and to furnish the several clerks thereof with the same, at least thirty days before the day for the election of electors by the people of this state as aforesaid.

Duty of city, town and plantation officers.

SECT. 11. All laws in force, not inconsistent with the provisions of this act, in relation to the duties of city, town and plantation officers and of voters, in the election of governor, senators and representatives to the legislature of this state, shall, as far as the same may be applicable, apply and be in force, in regard to the meetings and elections to be held, and the returns to be made, under the provisions of this act; and the like penalties shall be incurred for the violation thereof.

SECT. 12. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

[Approved July 31, 1847.]

Chapter 27.

An act to amend "an act to secure to married women their rights in property."

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

Act of March 22, 1844.

SECT. 1. The act "to secure to married women their rights in property," passed the twenty-second day of March, one thousand eight hundred and forty-four, shall be amended by striking out the proviso in the first section thereof, which proviso is hereby repealed, and inserting in lieu thereof at the end of the section, the following words: exempt from any liability for the debts or contracts of her husband—so that the section as amended shall be as follows:

Married women may hold property exempt from the debts of husband.

"**SECT. 1.** Any married woman may become seized or possessed of any property, real or personal, by direct bequest, demise, gift,