

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

PASSED BY THE

EXTRA SESSION OF THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 1853,

AND THE

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

1854.

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Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,  
Feb. 26, 1840, and March 16, 1842.  
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WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1854.

RESOLVES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

EXTRA SESSION, 1853.

CHAP. 79.**Chapter 79.**

Resolve in favor of the town of Salem, in the county of Franklin.

State tax abated.

Resolved, That the treasurer be directed to make an abatement in the state tax assessed upon the town of Salem, in the county of Franklin, in obedience to the act passed March twenty-second, eighteen hundred and fifty-three, entitled "An act to apportion and assess on the inhabitants of this state a tax of two hundred and one thousand three hundred twenty-nine dollars eighty-three cents," of the sum of thirty dollars and six cents, so that the state tax under said act assessed upon said town shall be ninety dollars and ninety-one cents, instead of one hundred and twenty dollars ninety-seven cents.

Amount.

[Approved September 27, 1853.]

STATE OF MAINE.

THE joint special committee, to which was referred the message of the governor, in relation to the purchase of the lands owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and lying within the limits of the State of Maine, together with the report of the commissioners appointed under a resolve of the last session of the legislature to negotiate with the State of Massachusetts for said purchase, after obtaining all the information within their reach on the various branches of the subject committed to them, and as full a consideration of the same as time and the nature of the case would permit, have, with a vote nearly unanimous, decided to recommend the purchase, and to effect the same, the adoption of the resolutions herewith submitted.

On a subject which has received so large a share of the attention of the members of the legislature and the people of Maine, your committee have not deemed it advisable to prolong the session, by asking time to prepare an extended report, but submit the question for the action and decision of the legislature, with the brief remark, that, while we feel entire confidence that the state will in the end suffer no pecuniary loss by the purchase, we believe the honor and interest of our state require that the title of the State of Massachusetts to *all* lands within the limits of this state should be at once and forever *extinguished*.

We have the assurance of our commissioners that Massachusetts will, without unnecessary delay, convey to Messrs. McCrillis and Clark, the fee of all lands recently purchased by them of that Commonwealth, and by the passage of the resolutions herewith submitted, we shall have the control of our own territory, have our lands and

policy for the settlement thereof regulated by uniform laws of our own adoption, and put an end forever to a question which has caused no little annoyance and vexation during the whole period of our existence as an independent state.

JOSEPH TITCOMB, *Chairman.*

Chapter 80.

Resolves in relation to the purchase of lands belonging to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts lying in the State of Maine.

Resolved, That the contract for the purchase of all the lands belonging to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts situate in the State of Maine, entered into at Boston on the twenty-third day of July, eighteen hundred and fifty-three, by and between E. M. Wright, Jacob H. Loud, David Wilder, junior, commissioners, and Samuel Warner, junior, land agent of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in behalf of said commonwealth, and Reuel Williams, W. P. Fessenden, and Elijah L. Hamlin, commissioners of Maine in behalf of said state, be and the same is hereby ratified and confirmed.

Contract for the purchase of Massachusetts lands, confirmed.

Resolved, That to provide for the payment of the purchase money for said lands, there be and hereby is appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of one hundred twelve thousand five hundred dollars, and for the balance thereof, being two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, the treasurer of state is hereby authorized and directed to issue payable to the treasurer of said commonwealth or his successor in office, in Boston, certificates of stock therefor in sums not less than ten thousand dollars each, with coupons for each year's interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum attached thereto, which certificates shall be signed by him as treasurer, countersigned by the governor and attested by the secretary of state with the seal of the state, but the coupons shall be signed by the treasurer only—and said stock shall be redeemable at such times as, in the opinion of the treasurer, shall be most advantageous to the state, not exceeding twenty years.

Purchase money, how paid

Resolved, That the governor of this state, by and with the advice and consent of council, be, and he hereby is, authorized to draw his warrant on the treasurer of state for the sum of one hundred twelve thousand five hundred dollars, in favor of the treasurer of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, payable

Same subject.

CHAP. 81.

on the fifth day of October next. And the treasurer of state is also authorized and directed to deliver to the treasurer of said commonwealth the certificates of stock provided for by the second resolve, bearing date the fifth day of October, eighteen hundred and fifty-three, *provided* the authorities of said commonwealth shall be ready to deliver a good and sufficient deed to convey to the State of Maine the lands belonging to said commonwealth, lying in the State of Maine, including all claims upon settlers, according to the contract of said commissioners mentioned in the first resolve, which said deed shall first be examined and approved by the commissioners on the part of the State of Maine.

[Approved September 23, 1853.]

Chapter 81.

Resolve in relation to lighting the public buildings.

Public buildings
to be lighted
with gas.

Resolved, That the superintendent of public buildings be authorized to contract for lighting said buildings with gas, providing the governor and council shall deem the same expedient.

[Approved September 23, 1853.]

Chapter 82.

Resolve authorizing the governor and council to audit and pay the claims of honorable Reuel Williams, William P. Fessenden and Elijah L. Hamlin, commissioners to purchase the Massachusetts lands.

In favor of
Reuel Williams,
W. P. Fessenden
& E. L. Hamlin.

Resolved, That the governor and council be and they hereby are authorized to audit and settle the claims of honorable Reuel Williams, William P. Fessenden, and Elijah L. Hamlin, for their services and expenses as commissioners in negotiating for the purchase of the Massachusetts lands. And the governor, with the advice and consent of council, is authorized to draw his warrant upon the treasurer of state in favor of each of the aforesaid individuals for the amount which may be found due, to be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

[Approved September 23, 1853.]