

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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Augusta:

WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1854.

PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1854.

CHAP. 88. April, beginning in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

SECT. 4. All parts of the act to which this is additional, inconsistent with this act, are hereby repealed, and this act shall take effect from and after its approval by the governor.

[Approved April 15, 1854.]

Chapter 88.

An act additional to an act to establish the reform school.

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

SECT. 1. The fourth section of an act entitled "an act to establish the reform school," passed the twenty-third day of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, shall be amended by striking out all after the words "reform school" in the tenth line, and inserting the words "it shall be conditioned that if such boy or youth shall not be received or kept in the reform school, for the term prescribed by his sentence, he shall then suffer such other or alternative punishment as said court or justice may order in pursuance of law; *provided, however,* that the provisions of this section shall not in any way impair the power given to the board of trustees, in the act to which this is additional," so that said fourth section shall read as follows :

SECT. 4. After proclamation shall have been made, as provided in the third section of this act, when any boy or youth, under the age of eighteen years, shall be convicted of any offense known to the laws of this state, and punishable by imprisonment, other than such as may be punished by imprisonment for life, the court, (or justice, as the case may be,) before whom such conviction shall be had, may, at their discretion, sentence such boy or youth to the state reform school, or to such punishment as is now provided by law for the same offense. And if the sentence shall be to the reform school, it shall be conditioned that if such boy or youth shall not be received or kept in the reform school, for the term prescribed by his sentence, he shall then suffer such other or alternative punishment as said court or justice may order in pursuance of law; *provided, however,* that the provisions of this section shall not in

Juvenile offenders sentenced to reform school, punishment of, &c.

Proviso.

any way impair the powers given to the board of trustees, in the act to which this is additional.

CHAP. 89.

SECT. 2. The costs of transporting to the reform school, boys or youth sentenced to that institution, shall be paid out of the treasuries of the respective counties where such boys or youth shall be convicted, in the same manner as the costs of conveying prisoners to the several county jails are now by law paid; and the county commissioners of the several counties shall have power to examine and allow all such costs as may appear to them to be reasonable.

Transportation,
how paid.

[Approved April 17, 1854.]

Chapter 89.

An act to provide for the appointment of a superintendent of common schools, and for county conventions of teachers.

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

SECT. 1. There shall be appointed by the governor and council a superintendent of common schools, who shall be duly sworn, and whose term of office shall continue for three years from the first day of May next; and on the expiration of said term, or the occurrence of a vacancy in said office by death, resignation or removal, a new appointment shall be made for a like term of three years.

Superintendent
of common
schools, appoint-
ment and term
of office.

SECT. 2. It shall be the duty of the superintendent to devote his time to the improvement of common schools and the promotion of the general interests of education in this state. He shall carefully investigate the operation of our school laws; collect information in regard to the arrangement of school districts, the location and construction of school houses and the use of the best school apparatus; consult and advise with superintending school committees on the selection of text books adapted to the wants of schools, and on the methods of ascertaining the qualifications of teachers, and of visiting and examining schools, inquire into the most approved modes of teaching, and the best means of training and qualifying teachers for their duties; examine the returns made by superintending school committees to the office of the secretary of state, and obtain from them such facts and statistics as may be useful, and in general, procure information from every available source, for the improvement of common schools.

—duties of.