

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

PASSED BY THE

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

A. D. 1856.

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Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1830, February 26, 1840,  
and March 16, 1842.  
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Augusta:
FULLER & FULLER, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.
1856.

PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1856.

ERRATA:

**The following leaf is
inserted because one or more pages
in this chapter have errors
noticed and corrected here.**

STATE OF MAINE.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Augusta, August 1, 1856. }

I hereby certify, that the acts and resolves contained in this pamphlet have been compared with the originals deposited in this office, and appear to be correctly printed, with the exceptions mentioned in the errata hereunto annexed.

CALEB R. AYER, *Secretary of State.*

ERRATA.

PUBLIC LAWS.

Chapter 239, section 6, seventh line, for "apportioned" read "appropriated."

PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS.

Chapter 551, section 1, eighth line, after "together" insert "with."
580, seventh line, after "three" insert "hundred."
605, section 2, ninth line, for "their" read "this."
643, section 4, second line, for "effect" read "affect."
643, section 4, fifth line, for "and" read "or."

NOTE.—The thirty-fifth legislature of Maine convened on the second day of January, and adjourned on the tenth day of April, 1856.

Chapter 238.

An act in relation to bank returns.

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

SECT. 1. The cashier of every bank in this state, in making the semi-annual returns of the state and condition of the bank, as required by law, shall state the amount of debts due to such bank, which have matured and are unpaid at the time of making such returns.

Amount of debts matured and unpaid, to be returned.

SECT. 2. The said cashier of every bank shall also make returns of the liability of the president and directors of the several banks, as principals or sureties in their individual capacity, and as members of a firm or the agents or officers of any corporation.

Cashier to make return of liabilities of president and directors.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect from and after its approval by the governor.

[Approved April 1, 1856.]

Chapter 239.

An act to establish a board of agriculture.

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

SECT. 1. A state board of agriculture is hereby established, to consist of one member from each county in the state, and the governor and secretary of state shall be members *ex officio*. Said members shall hold their offices for the term of one year, and shall be elected by ballot, as follows: Where there is but one agricultural society, the member shall be elected annually; where there is more than one, the oldest incorporated society shall elect the first year, and the others in successive years by rotation, according to the dates of their respective incorporations. No member or officer of the legislature shall be a member of the board of agriculture, and in all cases the members shall be elected at the annual meetings or fairs of such societies, or at any regular meetings thereof called for such purpose, and they shall receive a certificate of their election, signed by the president and secretary of such society; and in case of any vacancy occurring in the representation of any society at this board, it may be filled by an appointment by the president and secretary of such society.

Board of agriculture established.

Office, term of. Members, how elected.

Officers and members of legislature not eligible, &c.

Vacancies, how filled.

CHAP. 239.

First meeting,
when holden.

SECT. 2. And the first meeting of said board, shall be held at the state house in Augusta, on the third Wednesday of January next.

President, &c.,
to be chosen.

SECT. 3. At the first meeting of the board of agriculture, and at each annual meeting on the third Wednesday of January thereafter, the board shall organize by the choice of a president and such other officers as may be deemed necessary.

Board, duties
of, &c.,

SECT. 4. It shall be the duty of this board to investigate all such subjects relating to agriculture, horticulture and the arts connected therewith in this state, as they may think proper; and it is hereby empowered to take, hold in trust, and exercise control over, any donations or bequests that may be made to it for promoting agricultural education, or the general interests of husbandry.

Donations.

Meeting, time
and place of.

Secretary,
election of.

SECT. 5. The board of agriculture shall meet at the state house in Augusta, once a year; and they are hereby empowered annually to elect a suitable person to act as secretary of the board, and to prescribe and determine his duties; and in case of vacancy by death or otherwise, the governor with the advice of his council, is hereby empowered to fill the same.

Vacancy, how
filled.

Reports, &c.,
returned to
secretary of
board of
agriculture.
Compensation of
secretary.

—of members.

And all reports and returns required by law to be made by said societies, shall be made and returned to the secretary of this board. The governor and council shall determine his compensation, which shall not exceed eight hundred dollars per annum; and the compensation of the members of the board of agriculture shall be the same as the members of the legislature, for a term not exceeding ten days. And the said board shall, annually, on or before the second Wednesday of January, by its secretary, submit to the legislature a detailed report of its doings, together with a digest of the returns of the several agricultural and horticultural societies, and of such statistics as he may be able to collect, with such recommendations and suggestions as the interests of agriculture may be deemed to require, and cause not more than three thousand copies thereof to be printed by the printer of the state, five hundred thereof being for the use of the legislature, and the remainder for distribution, under the direction of the board, among the farmers of the state.

Term limited.

Board shall
report to
legislature.

Copies to be
printed.

Salaries, &c.,
how paid.

SECT. 6. The governor shall draw his warrant on the treasurer, from time to time, for such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the salaries and expenses provided for by this act, an account thereof having been first rendered by the secretary of the board, and audited by the executive council;

and a sum not exceeding one thousand five hundred dollars annually is hereby apportioned to meet such expenses.

SECT. 7. The present executive committee of the state agricultural society, shall constitute the board of agriculture for the current year.

SECT. 8. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

[Approved April 1, 1856.]

CHAP. 240.

Appropriation.

Present board,
how constituted

Chapter 240.

An act authorizing towns to purchase and hold fire engines.

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

SECT. 1. Any town in this state, may purchase and hold one or more fire engines, for the protection and preservation of property within its limits, and may raise money for the same; and the proper town officers may execute and carry out any vote for that purpose, passed within one year before the passage of this act, by any town.

Towns authorized to purchase fire engines.

SECT. 2. This act shall not be construed as limiting or abridging any powers, which cities and towns now have, by law, to make such purchase.

[Approved April 2, 1856.]

Chapter 241.

An act giving further remedies to proprietors of aqueducts for the collection of assessments.

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

If the assessment provided by the sixth section of the eighty-third chapter of the revised statutes, upon the shares of any proprietor in an aqueduct, shall remain unpaid for more than thirty days after notice thereof, the proprietors, in addition to the remedy given by said chapter, may maintain an action on the case, in their corporate name, against such delinquent proprietor, for the collection of such assessment.

Proprietors of shares in aqueducts may maintain an action in their corporate name for assessments.

[Approved April 2, 1856.]