

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

PASSED BY THE

THIRTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

1857.

Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 23, 1820, February 26, 1840,
and March 16, 1842.

AUGUSTA:
STEVENS & BLAINE, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.
1857.

PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1857.

CHAP. 52.

Chapter 52.

An act additional in relation to the promulgation of the public laws.

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

Act of Feb. 28,
1865, not author-
izing the publi-
cation of the R. S.

The act passed February twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and fifty-five, entitled "An act for the promulgation of the public laws," shall not be construed to authorize the publication in any public newspaper, of the revised statutes of this state.

[Approved April 15, 1857.]

Chapter 53.

An act declaring all slaves brought by their masters into this state free, and to punish any attempt to exercise authority over them.

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

Slaves brought
into this state to
be free.

—if restrained,
how discharged.

—penalty for re-
straining of, &c.

SECT. 1. Any slave voluntarily brought into this state by his master, or with his knowledge or consent, shall thereby become free ; and if restrained of his liberty, he may on the writ of habeas corpus, be discharged from such restraint ; and any attempt by any person to restrain such slave of his liberty, or to exercise the authority of master over him, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year.

SECT. 2. This act shall take effect on and after its approval by the governor.

[Approved April 15, 1857.]

Chapter 54.

An act additional to chapter twenty-five of the revised statutes, relating to ways.

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

Presiding officer
at views, appoint-
ment, duties and
compensation of.

—proceedings in
case of a vacancy
of.

SECT. 1. Whenever a jury is ordered as provided in the eighth section of the twenty-fifth chapter of the revised statutes, the commissioners may appoint a person to preside at the view and hearing, who shall be sworn and allowed a compensation to be determined as hereinafter provided. When no person is appointed, or when the person appointed is absent, the officer who summoned the jury is to preside. The person presiding is to administer an oath to the jurors, for the faithful discharge of their duties ; to swear the wit-