

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ACTS AND RESOLVES

PASSED BY THE

## FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

OF THE

## STATE OF MAINE.

1863.

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Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,  
February 26, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

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1863.

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PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1863.

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**Chapter 208.**

CHAP. 208.

An act to increase the efficiency of the militia.

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

The governor and commander-in-chief, with the advice and consent of the council, is hereby authorized to organize companies, regiments and brigades of militia, and by general and special orders to make such rules and regulations for their control, discipline, armament and equipment as may be constitutional and necessary, which rules and regulations shall have the force of law, and all parts of the statutes inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Militia.  
Governor and council authorized to organize.

Approved March 25, 1863.

**Chapter 209.**

An act to amend chapter one hundred and thirty-six of the public acts of eighteen hundred and sixty-two, in relation to interest on money.

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

SECT. 1. Chapter one hundred and thirty-six of the public acts of eighteen hundred and sixty two is hereby amended by striking out the word "promised" wherever it occurs.

Chap. 136,  
public laws,  
1862, amended.

SECT. 2. No action to recover back usurious interest as authorized by said chapter, shall be maintained, unless commenced within one year from the time when the cause of action accrued.

Actions, where maintained.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect when approved by the governor.

Approved March 25, 1863.

**Chapter 210.**

An act for the establishment of normal schools.

WHEREAS, the interests of public education are suffering by reason of incompetent teachers, and

Preamble.

WHEREAS, normal schools have proved in other states a very efficient means of furnishing teachers better qualified for their work,

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

SECT. 1. Three persons whom the governor and council shall appoint, shall constitute a commission to make the necessary inves-

Commissioners,  
appointment  
of.

## CHAP. 210.

—duties of.

Proviso.

Schools,  
how to be  
conducted.Commissioners,  
relating to.Course of  
study, by whom  
arranged.Diplomas  
provided for.Applicants for  
admission,  
qualification of.

tigations, and to locate, subject to the approval of the governor and council, two normal schools, one in the eastern and the other in the western part of the state, at such places as will best suit the public convenience; *provided*, that the citizens of such places, or the trustees of any institutions there existing, will furnish without expense to the state suitable buildings for the instruction of two hundred pupils for the term of at least five years, and provided that such locations shall not be within the limits of any incorporated city.

SECT. 2. Said schools are established for the purposes and shall be conducted upon the principles herein set forth:

*First*—They shall be thoroughly devoted to the work of training teachers for their professional labors.

*Second*—The course of study shall include the common English branches in thorough reviews, and such of the higher branches as are especially adapted to prepare teachers to conduct the mental, moral and physical education of their pupils.

*Third*—The art of school management, including the best methods of government and instruction, shall have a prominent place in the daily exercise of said schools.

*Fourth*—Said normal schools, while teaching the fundamental truths of christianity, and the great principles of morality, recognized by statute, shall be free from all denominational teachings and open to persons of different religious connections, on terms of entire equality.

SECT. 3. The commissioners shall be guided in locating said schools by the following considerations:

*First*—The size and condition of the buildings.

*Second*—The character of the community and healthfulness of the location.

*Third*—The means of access by railroad or otherwise.

*Fourth*—Facilities for obtaining board, and cost of the same.

*Fifth*—Extent and character of library, apparatus and cabinets offered for the use of said schools.

*Sixth*—Opportunity for experimental or model schools.

SECT. 4. The course of study shall occupy two years with suitable vacations; and together with the terms of admission shall be arranged by the superintendent of schools, subject to the approval of the governor and council.

SECT. 5. Any students who shall complete the course of study prescribed, and otherwise comply with the regulations of the school, shall receive a diploma certifying the same.

SECT. 6. Applicants for admission to said schools shall be sixteen years of age if females, and seventeen if males, and shall signify their intention to become teachers, and shall come under obligation to teach in our own state for at least one year, and in

case they receive the diploma mentioned in section five, two years after they shall have graduated; and on these conditions shall be received without charge for tuition; each pupil shall pay one dollar per session for incidental expenses of the school.

Tuition.

SECT. 7. Said schools shall be put in operation in August, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, or as soon thereafter as the necessary arrangements can be made therefor, due notice of the time of commencement and the terms of admission being given in the public newspapers of that section of the state in which said schools are severally located, four weeks at least before the time of commencing.

Schools, when to be put in operation.

Notice of.

SECT. 8. To sustain said schools during the period of five years, four half townships of the public lands are hereby appropriated; the same to be sold in whole or in part at such times and in such manner as shall be deemed best by the governor and council, acting as a board of trust and management in the premises; and before these lands shall be sold they shall be advertised six months in a newspaper in Bangor, Augusta and Portland, and then sold at public auction to the highest bidder; and the avails of such sales shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the normal school fund thus created.

Appropriation of lands.

How sold.

Avails, where deposited.

SECT. 9. It shall be the duty of the superintendent of common schools to act as superintendent of the normal schools; to employ teachers and lecturers for the same and with the consent of the governor and council to provide such apparatus and other facilities for conducting the operations of the schools as may be deemed necessary; the whole arrangements to be approved by the governor and council, who shall audit all accounts for expenditures in this behalf, and draw their warrant for the payment of the same when approved.

Superintendent of common schools, duties of.

Accounts, by whom audited.

SECT. 10. This act shall take effect when approved by the governor.

Approved March 25, 1863.

## Chapter 211.

An act relating to divorce.

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

SECT. 1. Chapter sixty of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding to the end of the second section thereof, the words, or if the libellant, when the cause for divorce occurred resided in this state.

Chap. 60, R. S., relating to divorce, amended.