

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

115

PASSED BY THE

FORTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1866.

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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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AUGUSTA:  
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1866.

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PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1866.

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**Chapter 51.**

CHAP. 51.

An act in relation to the rule of damages in actions of tort.

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

Section nine, chapter one hundred twenty-seven of the revised statutes, are hereby amended by striking out all after the word "trespass," in the last line, and inserting the following words:—*for the amount of the injury so done and for further sum not exceeding in all, three times such amount as the jury shall judge reasonable under the circumstances of the case.*

Sec. 9, ch. 127, R. S., relating to malicious trespass, &c., amended.

Approved February 23, 1866.

**Chapter 52.**

An act additional to chapter sixty-one of the revised statutes and to the laws additional thereto, relating to married women.

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

The contracts of any married woman, made for any lawful purpose, shall be valid and binding, and may be enforced in the same manner as if she were sole; and her separate property shall be holden by attachment, or levy on execution, in any suit brought to enforce such contract, but she shall not be liable to arrest, on any writ in such suit, or on any execution issued on a judgment recovered in the same; *provided* that nothing in this act shall be so construed so as to affect any suit now pending.

Contracts made valid, and property liable for breach of same.

Exempted from arrest, and pending suits not affected hereby.

Approved February 23, 1866.

**Chapter 53.**

An act to amend chapter one hundred and two of the public laws of eighteen hundred fifty-nine, relative to the competency of witnesses.

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

Section one of chapter one hundred and two of the public laws of eighteen hundred fifty nine, is amended by inserting after the word "civil" in the first line the words *and criminal*, so that as amended it shall read as follows :

Amendment.

SECT. 1. In the trial of civil and criminal actions, the husband and wife of either party, shall be deemed competent witnesses,

Husband and wife, to be