

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

FIFTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1875.

Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,
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PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1875.

Chapter 35.**CHAP. 35.**

An act relating to directors of railroads.

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

SECT. 1. Whenever any city or town in this state shall, in its corporate capacity, hold one-fifth, or more, of the shares in the capital stock of any railroad incorporated by the legislature of this state, any citizen of such city or town, being a freeholder and resident therein, shall be eligible as a director of such railroad company.

Railroads owned in part by towns, eligibility of certain persons as directors.

SECT. 2. This act shall take effect when approved.

Approved February 23, 1875.

Chapter 36.

An act to amend chapter one hundred and twenty-four, section twenty-eight of the revised statutes, relating to cruelty to animals.

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

SECT. 1. Any officer or agent of the society for the prevention of cruelty to animals may lawfully interfere to prevent the perpetration of any act of cruelty upon any animal in his presence, and any person who shall interfere with or obstruct any such officer or agent in the discharge of his duty, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Animals, cruelty to, to prevent.

SECT. 2. Any officer or agent of said society may lawfully destroy, or cause to be destroyed, any animal found abandoned and not properly cared for, appearing, in the judgment of two reputable persons called by him to view the same in his presence, to be glandered, injured or diseased past recovery for any useful purpose.

—diseased, may be destroyed.

SECT. 3. When any person arrested is, at the time of such arrest, in charge of any vehicle drawn by or containing any animal, said officer or agent of said society may take charge of such animal, and of such vehicle and its contents, and deposit the same in a safe place of custody, or deliver the same into the possession of the police or sheriff of the county or place wherein such arrest was made, who shall thereupon assume the custody thereof.

—in charge of persons arrested, how cared for.

SECT. 4. Upon complaint, under oath or affirmation, to any magistrate authorized to issue warrants in criminal cases, that the complainant has just and reasonable cause to suspect that any of

Violation of this act, proceedings in case of.

CHAP. 37. the provisions of law relating to or in any wise affecting this act, are being or about to be violated in any particular building or place, such magistrate shall immediately issue and deliver a warrant to any person authorized by law to make arrests for such offences, authorizing him to enter and search such building or place, and to arrest any person or persons there present found violating any of said laws, and to take such person or persons before a magistrate of competent jurisdiction, to be dealt with according to law.

Words and terms,
meaning of.

SECT. 5. In this act, and in every law of this state passed or which may be passed, relating to or affecting animals, the singular shall include the plural; the words 'animal,' or 'dumb animal,' shall be held to include every living creature; the words 'torture,' 'torment,' or 'cruelty,' shall be held to include every act, omission or neglect whereby unjustifiable physical pain, suffering or death is caused or permitted; and the words 'owner' and 'person' shall be held to include corporations as well as individuals; but nothing in this act shall be construed as prohibiting the shooting of birds for the purpose of human food.

Approved February 23, 1875.

Chapter 37.

An act relating to the meeting of the grand jury of Oxford county, at the December term of the supreme judicial court.

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

Terms of grand
jury, when held

That the grand jury for the county of Oxford, shall attend only at the terms of the supreme judicial court holden in said county of Oxford, in the months of March and September, unless otherwise specially required by any judge of said court, and that all laws conflicting with this act be inapplicable so far as relates to the December term of said court in said county; *provided*, that all the provisions of law applicable to the several terms of the supreme judicial court in said county in relation to criminal business, shall be applicable to said December term, with the exception of the assembling of the grand jury as hereinbefore provided.

Proviso.

Approved February 23, 1875.