

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

FIFTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1878.

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Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,  
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1878.

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PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1878.

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or before any court having jurisdiction in the case, one-half CHAP. 42.  
to the use of the complainant, and one-half to the use of the  
town of Dover aforesaid.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect when approved.

Approved February 13, 1878.

### Chapter 42.

An act to vest the franchise and property of the proprietors of Merrymeeting bridge  
in the inhabitants of the county of Sagadahoc.

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

SECT. 1. The proprietors of Merrymeeting bridge are hereby authorized to transfer and convey, by gift, their said bridge, with all the franchises, buildings, land and appurtenances thereto belonging, to the county of Sagadahoc; and when the stock, or a majority of the shares, shall have been conveyed to said county, as provided in this act, all the franchises of said Merrymeeting bridge company, together with all the powers, rights and privileges granted to the proprietors of said bridge by an act of the legislature, approved March twenty-one, eighteen hundred and thirty-five, shall vest in the inhabitants of said county of Sagadahoc, subject to the servitudes, duties and obligations imposed by said act.

Proprietors authorized to convey Merrymeeting bridge to county of Sagadahoc.

—franchises, powers, &c., to vest in inhabitants of Sagadahoc county.

SECT. 2. The county of Sagadahoc is hereby authorized and empowered to take and hold said bridge as a toll bridge, with all the franchises, buildings, land and appurtenances thereto belonging, and maintain the same in suitable repair.

County authorized to take and hold bridge.

SECT. 3. So much of the land and location of said bridge, with the approaches thereto, as lie within the county of Cumberland, including the road leading thereto from the county road, or road leading from Brunswick to Bath, are hereby set off from the county of Cumberland and annexed to the county of Sagadahoc, and no portion of the expense of construction, repair or maintenance of said bridge shall ever be required to be paid in any event by said Cumberland county.

Certain land in Cumberland county annexed to Sagadahoc county.

Expense of construction, &c.

SECT. 4. The county commissioners of Sagadahoc county are hereby authorized to restore and keep in repair said

Commissioners authorized to make bridge safe and convenient.

CHAP. 42. bridge and approaches thereto, so that the same shall be safe and convenient for the public travel, and to include in their annual estimates of county taxes the sums required therefor; or they may provide for any extraordinary repairs that may be necessary the first year, by hiring money on the credit of the county, and issue bonds or notes of the county therefor, on time not to exceed twenty years, to be signed by the county treasurer and countersigned by said commissioners.

Commissioners  
to establish and  
regulate toll.

—shall employ  
superintendent.

SECT. 5. The county commissioners of said county of Sagadahoc shall regulate and establish, from time to time, such rates of toll as shall in their judgment be sufficient to maintain said bridge, and give public notice thereof. They shall employ a suitable person, at a stipulated salary, to superintend the bridge and collect the tolls, who shall render to the county commissioners, on the first day of each and every month, a statement, under oath, of the amount of tolls collected during the preceding month, and pay the same to the county treasurer, and who shall receive his salary from the county treasurer, on the written order of the county commissioners, and not otherwise; and all excess of moneys so received into the county treasury, over and above what is required for necessary expenses and repairs, shall be set aside, and shall constitute a sinking fund for the payment of such bonds or notes as may be issued by virtue of this act.

City of Bath  
authorized to  
transfer stock to  
county of Saga-  
dahoc.

SECT. 6. The city of Bath, by a concurrent vote of the two branches of the city council, is hereby authorized to transfer and convey, as a gift, to the inhabitants of the county of Sagadahoc, all the stock held by said city in the Merry-meeting Bridge Corporation.

Inhabitants of  
county author-  
ized to accept act.

SECT. 7. This act shall be inoperative, unless the inhabitants of said county, at their annual town meetings in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, shall by a majority vote accept the same; the municipal officers of the city of Bath, and of the several towns in said county, shall insert in their respective warrants for said meetings an article for this object. The vote at said meetings shall be by ballot, thus: "Merry-meeting Bridge, yes;" "Merry-meeting Bridge, no." The ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared as votes for town officers are, and shall be recorded by the clerk in the town record, and true copies thereof, sealed and attested, shall be transmitted to the county commissioners for the county of Sagadahoc within ten days, who shall open

and compare the votes so returned, and if errors appear in the returns they shall be corrected on proper evidence; and if there be a majority of ballots with "yes," it shall be deemed to be an acceptance of this act, and said act shall then be in force; if there be a majority of ballots with "no," it shall be deemed to be a rejection of the same.

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

SECT. 9. This act shall take effect when approved.

Approved February 13, 1878.

### Chapter 43.

An act for the protection and preservation of Bass in the waters of Winnegance creek.

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

SECT. 1. For the period of three years from the first day of April, eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, no bass shall be taken, except by hook and line, in the waters of Winnegance creek above the Winnegance mill dam, under a penalty of not less than ten dollars nor more than fifty dollars for each offense, and a further fine of five dollars for each bass taken. Penalty for taking bass in Winnegance creek for three years, except by hook and line.

SECT. 2. After the expiration of three years from the first day of April, eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, it shall be lawful for any person to take bass in the said waters by net during the months of January and February only in each year; *provided*, that no person shall use more than one net at a time, and that no net shall be used exceeding twenty fathoms in length, and of less than five inches mesh. Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be subject to a penalty of not less than ten nor more than fifty dollars for each offense, and a further penalty of five dollars for each bass so taken. When bass may be taken by net. Proviso. Penalty for violation.

SECT. 3. After the first day of April, eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, no nets shall be set in the flood gates of the Winnegance mill dam, under a penalty of not less than twenty nor more than one hundred dollars for each offense. Penalty for setting nets in flood gates.