

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES  
OF THE  
SIXTIETH LEGISLATURE

OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE.

1881.

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Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,  
February 18, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

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AUGUSTA :  
SPRAGUE & SON, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.  
1881.

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PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1881.

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**Chapter 61.****CHAP. 61.**

An act to amend section nineteen of chapter twelve of the Revised Statutes, relating to Parishes and Religious Societies.

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

Section nineteen of chapter twelve of the revised statutes is hereby amended, by adding thereto the following: 'Such corporations are also invested with the power to organize as corporations, and to make such contracts in relation to such estate, its improvement or disposition, as they may be authorized under the rules of their church to make or be instructed to make by the church or society for which they hold such estate in trust, which contracts may be enforced by or against them, as in other cases; provided, however, that no disposition of such estate shall be made inconsistent with the terms of the grant by which it is held,' so that said section, as amended, shall read as follows :

Sec. 19, ch. 12  
R. S., amended.

'SECT. 19. The church wardens of Episcopal churches, the stewards or trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church, and the deacons of all other protestant churches, are so far corporations as to take, in succession, all grants and donations of real and personal estate, made to their churches, or to them and their successors; and if the ministers, elders or vestry are joined with them in such grants or donations, the two classes of officers shall be corporations for that purpose. Such corporations are also invested with the power to organize as corporations, and to make such contracts in relation to such estate, its improvement or disposition, as they may be authorized under the rules of their church to make, or be instructed to make by the church or society for which they hold such estate in trust, which contracts may be enforced by or against them, as in other cases; *provided, however,* that no disposition of such estate shall be made inconsistent with the terms of the grant by which it is held.'

Officers of  
churches are  
corporations for  
certain purposes.

—may organize  
as corporations  
and make con-  
tracts.

Proviso.

Approved March 12, 1881.