

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

SIXTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1887.

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

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1887.

RESOLVES
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE.

1887.

CHAP. 76**Chapter 76.**

Resolve relating to Settlers on Lands in Madawaska Territory.

Preamble.

Whereas, originally the title to the townships in what is known as the Madawaska territory was in the state, and by a law of the state then existing, squatters on said territory could secure title to a limited quantity of land therein by payment in labor on roads; and whereas, the population on said territory rapidly increased, and settled on the river lots included under the Ashburton treaty, leaving only wild lands to be occupied by the following or succeeding generation; and whereas, the young men of that day entered upon said wild land and have cleared up the same and made for themselves homes without securing title from the state; and whereas, the state sold and conveyed said wild lands without reserving such lots so taken, to such squatters, many of whom have occupied said lots for forty years, but now find themselves without title and at the mercy of the owners thereof; and whereas, such settlers have been, and are now being vexed by suits and otherwise, by said owners, and many are unable to make satisfactory terms with such owners and liable to be evicted from their homes; and whereas, these pioneers under the foregoing circumstances are entitled to consideration by the state; therefore

Settlers on Madawaska, in favor of.

Resolved, That the governor and council be and they are hereby authorized to appoint a commissioner or commissioners, to investigate the condition of such settlers, the nature of their rights to the lands claimed, their differences and disputes with the land owners, ascertain if possible, the terms of settlement between them and the ability of such settlers to comply therewith, and report with their recommendations to the governor and council for the information of the next legislature, and the sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars is hereby appropriated to pay the expenses and services of such commission, to be paid by the state treasurer on warrants of the governor and council.

Approved March 10, 1887.