

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

## SIXTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

## STATE OF MAINE

1895.

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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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PUBLIC LAWS  
OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE.

1895.

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**Chapter 85.**

An Act relating to the Settlement of Titles to Real Estate.

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

Ch. 104, R. S.,  
amended.

Chapter one hundred and four of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto, the following section :

A supposed  
claimant to  
real estate can  
be compelled  
to bring  
action to  
settle title.

'SECT. 49. A person in possession of real property, having either by himself or those under whom he claims been in uninterrupted possession thereof, for ten years or more, claiming an estate of freehold therein, may file a petition in the supreme judicial court setting forth his estate, stating the source of his title, describing the premises and averring that an apprehension exists that persons named in the petition, or persons unknown claiming as heirs, devisees or assigns or in any other way, by, through or under a person or persons named in the petition, claim some right, title or interest in the premises adverse to his said estate ; and that such apprehension creates a cloud upon the title and depreciates the market value of his property ; and praying that such persons be summoned to show cause why they should not bring an action to try their title to the described premises. If any such supposed claimants are unknown, the petitioner or his attorney shall so allege under oath, but the truth of the allegation shall not after decree filed be denied, for the purpose of defeating the title established thereby. Upon such petition the court shall order notice returnable at a term of the supreme judicial court to be held in the county where the real estate described lies. Personal service by copy of the petition and order of notice, shall be made upon all such supposed claimants residing in the state, fourteen days before the return day ; and upon all such supposed claimants residing out of the state, service may be made by personal service of copy of the petition and order of notice ; by publication for such length of time, in such newspapers or by posting in such public places as the court may direct ; or in any or all of these ways at the discretion of the court. If any claimants appear to answer to said petition the procedure shall be the same as is provided by section forty-eight ; and if the court upon hearing, finds that the allegations of the petition are true and that notice by publication has been given as ordered,

Notice to the  
supposed  
claimant.

—proceedings  
if any claim-  
ants appear.

it shall make and enter a decree that all persons named in the petition and all persons alleged to be unknown claiming, by, through or under persons so named, and who have not so appeared, shall be forever debarred and estopped from having or claiming any right or title adverse to the petitioner in the premises described in the petition; which decree shall within thirty days after it is finally granted be recorded in the registry of deeds for the county where the land lies, and shall be effectual to bar all right, title and interest of all persons whether adults or minors, upon whom notice has been served, personally or by publication, as herein provided. The court may in its discretion appoint agents or guardians, ad litem, to represent minors or other supposed claimants.'

—decree shall be final.

Approved March 13, 1895.

## Chapter 86.

An Act relating to the Taxation of Vessel Property.

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

SECT. 1. All sailing vessels registered or enrolled under the laws of the United States or foreign governments, owned wholly or in part by inhabitants of this state, shall be taxed upon an appraised value of twenty dollars per ton gross tonnage for new vessels completed on or before the first day of April of each year. Vessels of one year old or more shall be reduced in value at the rate of one dollar per ton per year for each additional year of age, until they shall have reached the age of seventeen years, at and after which time, said vessels shall be taxed upon an appraised value of three dollars per ton, gross tonnage.

New vessels shall be taxed at the rate of twenty dollars per ton.

—tax shall be reduced annually, at rate of one dollar per ton.

SECT. 2. Vessels when rebuilt shall be taxed on the same valuation as vessels of one-half the age of such rebuilt vessels.

How rebuilt vessels shall be taxed.

SECT. 3. A vessel shall be regarded as rebuilt only on an expenditure being made of not less than forty per cent of the cost of such vessel if built entirely new.

When vessels shall be regarded as rebuilt.

SECT. 4. Vessels if repaired to the extent of twenty-five per cent of the costs of such vessel if built entirely new, shall be taxed on the same valuation as vessels of five-eighths of the age of such repaired vessel.

How vessels shall be taxed, when repaired to extent of 25 per cent of cost.