

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

SEVENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1903.

---

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

---

AUGUSTA  
KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT  
1903

---

PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1903.

---

required in other cases in which paupers become chargeable in places where they have no legal settlement.

Section 10. The master shall keep an exact account of the earnings of each prisoner, and of the expenses incurred for commitment and maintenance, specifying the time of his commitment and liberation, and present it, on oath, to the overseers of the poor of the town where such house is established annually and oftener if directed; and the town may recover the amount of such expenses after deducting the earnings of the prisoner, from the town where such prisoner has his legal settlement.

Earnings and expenditures shall be accounted for.

Section 11. If there are kindred, obliged by law to maintain the prisoner as provided in chapter twenty-four, such master, or the town obliged to pay his account, has the same remedy against such kindred, as is provided in that chapter for towns incurring expense for relief and support of paupers.

Remedy against kindred.

Section 12. Persons shall be committed to work houses, or houses of correction, only upon conviction of the offenses, acts, or conditions for which such commitments are by law authorized, before some municipal or police court, or trial justice.

Persons shall be committed only on conviction.

Approved March 4, 1903.

## Chapter 38.

An Act relating to Work Houses.

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

Section 1. Chapter twenty-one of the revised statutes is hereby repealed.

Chapter 21, repealed.

Section 2. Any town may erect or provide a work-house for the employment and support of persons of the following description; all poor and indigent persons, maintained by or receiving alms from the town; all able bodied persons not having estate or means otherwise to maintain themselves, who refuse or neglect to work; all who live a dissolute and vagrant life and exercise no ordinary calling or lawful business sufficient to gain an honest livelihood; and all such persons, as spend their time and property in public houses, to the neglect of their proper business, or by otherwise misspending what they earn, to the impoverishment of themselves and their families, are likely to become paupers. Any work-house may, by vote of the town,

Work house may be provided by any town.

—persons who may be committed.

**CHAP. 39**

—how work-house may be discontinued.

Overseers of poor shall have charge of.

—may appoint a master of.

Overseers shall hold meetings, and make regulations.

Persons not having legal settlement may be committed.

Persons committed, if able, shall be kept employed.

be discontinued, or applied to other uses. Until such work-house is thus provided the almshouse or any part thereof may be used for that purpose.

Section 3. Such work-house shall be in charge of the overseers of the poor of the town maintaining the same, who shall have the inspection and government thereof, with power to appoint a master and needful assistants for the more immediate care and superintendence of the persons received or employed therein.

Section 4. The overseers, as occasion requires shall hold meetings on the business of their office; and make needful orders and regulations for such house, to be binding until the next town meeting, when they shall be submitted to the consideration of the inhabitants; and such as are approved at said meeting shall remain in force until revoked by the town.

Section 5. When any person, not having a legal settlement in any town in the state, becomes idle or indigent, he may be committed to the work-house provided for the town in which he resides, to be employed, if able to labor, in the same manner, and to be subject to the lawful regulations of the house.

Section 6. Every person committed to such work-house, if able to work, shall be kept diligently employed during the term of his commitment. For idleness, obstinacy, or disorderly conduct, he may be punished as provided by the lawful regulations of the house.

Approved March 4, 1903.

**Chapter 39.**

An Act relating to the dedication of Streets.

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

Municipal officers may vacate location of streets in certain cases.

—proceedings.

—damages, by whom paid, and how determined.

Section 1. Where land has been plotted and a plan thereof made, whether recorded or not, showing the proposed location of streets thereon, and lots have been sold by reference to said plan, the municipal officers of the town or city where such land is situated, may on petition of owners of the fee in such of said proposed streets as are named in the petition, vacate in whole or in part the proposed location of any or all such streets as have not been accepted and located as public ways. The proceedings shall be the same as in case of the location of town ways. All damages thereby occasioned shall be paid by the petitioners, and parties aggrieved by the estimate of damages