

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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THE  
REVISED STATUTES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

PASSED APRIL 17, 1857;

TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED

THE CONSTITUTIONS

OF THE

UNITED STATES AND OF THE STATE OF MAINE:

WITH AN

APPENDIX.

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PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE LEGISLATURE.

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BANGOR:  
WHEELER & LYNDE.

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1857.

## CHAP. 52.

Certain sections of chapter 51, applicable to steamboats, stage coaches, and common carriers.  
1848, c. 70, § 2.  
1853, c. 44,  
§ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.  
1854, c. 107, § 1.  
1855, c. 161,  
§ 1, 2.

SEC. 7. The provisions respecting payment and evading payment of fares, contained in section forty-seven of chapter fifty-one, are applicable to steamboats. The effects left by passengers in steamboats are to be advertised as provided in section forty-nine of that chapter. The provisions contained in sections forty-nine, fifty, fifty-one and fifty-two, of that chapter, are applicable to these corporations. The provisions contained in section forty-two of that chapter are applicable to these corporations, and to the proprietors of stage coaches, and to common carriers.

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 CHAPTER 53.

## TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.

- SEC. 1. Owners liable for errors in transmitting dispatches, and for unnecessary delays.
2. Agents liable for misfeasance. Owners liable in case of inability of agent.
3. Operator, &c., not exonerated in case of fraud. Owners and operators not exonerated from liabilities at common law.

Owners liable for errors in transmitting dispatches. And for unnecessary delays.  
1852, c. 237,  
§ 1, 2.

SEC. 1. A person or company owning or using any line of telegraph, wholly or partly in this state, for any error, or improper and unnecessary delay in writing out, transmission, or delivery within the usual delivery limits of their offices, of a dispatch by their operators or agents, making it less valuable to the person interested therein, shall be liable for the whole amount paid on such dispatch.

Agents liable for misfeasance.  
1852, c. 237, § 3.

SEC. 2. Such operator or agent who designedly falsifies a dispatch for any purpose, shall forfeit not less than twenty, nor more than one hundred dollars for each offence, to be recovered in an action of debt; and in case of his avoidance or inability to pay a judgment recovered against him for such cause, such person or company shall forfeit the same sum.

Operator, &c., not exonerated in case of fraud, &c.  
1852, c. 237, § 4.

SEC. 3. Nothing herein shall exonerate any operator, agent, clerk, or other officer, employed on a telegraph line, from liability for any act of fraud committed or attempted by means of telegraphic communication; or the company from any liabilities existing at common law for any neglect or wrongdoing of such company or its agents.