

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FOURTH REVISION.

THE  
REVISED STATUTES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

PASSED AUGUST 29, 1883, AND TAKING EFFECT JANUARY 1, 1884.

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BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE LEGISLATURE.



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CHAP. 54. such judgments, and they are not satisfied within six months, the creditors may satisfy them from the private property of the shareholders as if the judgment had been against them in their private capacity.

Proprietors, tenants in common of property left. R.S., c. 54, § 10. SEC. 10. If such corporation owns any estate at its dissolution the proprietors shall be tenants in common thereof in proportion to the shares or interest which they hold in its stock.

## CHAPTER 55.

### LIBRARIES, CHARITABLE SOCIETIES, AND PUBLIC CEMETERIES.

#### LIBRARIES AND CHARITABLE SOCIETIES.

- SEC. 1. Application to a justice of the peace to call the first meeting.
2. Notice of the meeting, how given.
3. Manner of organization. Powers, duties, and liabilities.
4. What estate, real and personal, it may hold, and for what purpose.
5. Corporations for charitable and benevolent purposes not to sue their members, or be sued by them, for dues or benefits.
6. County law library association, how organized.
- 7, 8. Duties of treasurer and clerk thereof.
9. Towns may establish public libraries, and raise money therefor.
10. Towns and plantations may receive gifts for public libraries; when such plantation is incorporated, they vest in the town.

#### PUBLIC CEMETERIES.

- SEC. 11. How proprietors of public cemeteries may be incorporated. Their property and stock are exempt from attachment and taxation.

#### LIBRARIES AND CHARITABLE SOCIETIES.

Libraries, and societies for certain charitable, literary, social, moral and benevolent purposes, how incorporated, 1883, c. 136.

SEC. 1. When seven or more persons desire to be incorporated as proprietors of a social, military, literary, scientific, or county law library; as a masonic lodge, or chapter of any order or degree; as lodge of the independent order of odd fellows; as a division of the sons of temperance; as a tent of rechabites; as a grange of patrons of husbandry; as a council of the sovereigns of industry; as a relief or benefit association for mutual assistance; as a monument, or memorial association; as a society to promote temperance; or for any literary, scientific, musical, charitable, educational, social, military, agricultural, moral, religious, or benevolent purpose; they may apply in writing to any justice of the peace in the county, who may issue his warrant directed to one of said applicants, requiring him to call a meeting thereof at such time and place as the justice appoints.

Notice of the meeting, how given. R.S., c. 55, § 2.

SEC. 2. The justice may call it, by reading the warrant in the presence and hearing of each, or by leaving an attested copy thereof at his last and usual place of abode, at least fourteen days before the day of meeting, or by publishing an attested copy thereof in some newspaper printed in said county, for two weeks successively, the first publication to be at least fourteen days before the day of meeting.

SEC. 3. When assembled pursuant to the warrant, they may organize themselves into a corporation, adopt a corporate name, and they, their associates, and successors may have continual succession; have a common seal; elect all necessary officers; adopt by-laws, not inconsistent with law, and enforce the same by suitable penalties; have the same rights and be under the same liabilities, as other corporations, in prosecuting and defending suits at law; and enjoy all other rights, privileges, and immunities, of a legal corporation.

SEC. 4. Such corporation may take and hold by purchase, gift, devise, or bequest, personal or real estate, in all not exceeding in value one hundred thousand dollars, owned at any one time, and may use and dispose thereof only for the purposes for which the corporation was organized.

SEC. 5. No corporation, organized for charitable or benevolent purposes, shall sue any of its members for dues or contributions of any kind, or be sued by any member for any benefit or sum due him, but all such rights and benefits, dues and liabilities, shall be regulated and enforced only in accordance with its by-laws.

SEC. 6. In every county, where five or more attorneys reside, any five of them may procure themselves and the other attorneys resident in the county to be incorporated as aforesaid for the purpose of establishing a law library; and the notification required, if posted in some conspicuous part of the court house seven days previous to their meeting, is sufficient; they may take the name of "The trustees of the law library in the county of ——" and at such meeting, which shall be held at a term of the court therein, they may choose a clerk, librarian and treasurer, to be sworn, and hold their offices during the pleasure of the corporation; they may make all necessary and lawful regulations; and at their meetings, the oldest member present shall preside.

SEC. 7. The treasurer of each library association, under the direction of the trustees, shall apply all moneys received of the county treasurer, and all bequests and gifts, to form a law library under the appointed regulations; and the clerk shall keep an exact record of all their proceedings.

SEC. 8. The treasurer shall keep an exact account of all moneys, gifts, and bequests, belonging to the corporation, and annually settle the same on oath, in the manner prescribed; and the treasurer, librarian and clerk, shall be answerable for all misfeasance in an action by the corporation. The treasurer shall, annually, before the second Wednesday in January, deposit in the office of the treasurer of state a statement of the funds received by the corporation during the year preceding.

SEC. 9. Any town may establish and maintain a public library therein, for the use of its inhabitants, and provide suitable rooms therefor, under such regulations for its government as the inhabitants from time to time prescribe; and may appropriate, for the foundation and commencement of such library, a sum not exceeding one dollar, and for its maintenance and increase annually, a sum not exceeding twenty-five cents, for each of its ratable polls in the year preceding.

SEC. 10. Any city, town or plantation, as such, may receive, hold and manage devises, bequests or gifts for the establishment, increase

## CHAP. 55.

Manner of organizing into a body corporate.  
R.S., c. 55, § 3.

What estate it may hold, and for what purposes.  
1881, c. 10.

Charitable corporations not to sue members or be sued by them.  
R.S., c. 55, § 5.

County law library association, how organized.  
R.S., c. 55, § 6.

Duties of treasurer and clerk.  
R.S., c. 55, § 7.

Treasurer shall keep an account of all moneys, and annually settle the same.  
R.S., c. 55, § 8.

Towns may establish public libraries, and raise money therefor.  
R. S., c. 55, § 9.

Towns may receive devises and

CHAP. 55. or maintenance of a public library therein; and when such plantation is incorporated into a town, such gifts and the proceeds thereof fully vest in such town.

gifts for public libraries.  
R.S., c. 55, § 10.

## PUBLIC CEMETERIES.

How proprietors of public cemeteries may be incorporated; exemption from attachment and taxation.  
R.S., c. 55, § 11.

SEC. 11. Any seven or more persons may be incorporated in the manner hereinbefore provided, for the purpose of owning, managing and protecting lands and their appurtenances appropriated for public cemeteries; and the property of such corporations and the shares of stock therein, are exempt from attachment and taxation.

## CHAPTER 56.

## PROPRIETORS OF LANDS, WHARVES, AND OTHER REAL ESTATE, IN COMMON.

- SEC. 1. Warrant for calling meetings; to whom directed.
2. Modes of giving notice.
  3. Officers, and manner of calling future meetings.
  4. Officers to be sworn.
  5. No business to be transacted, unless specified in the warrant. How votes are to be counted. May pass by-laws, subject to approval of county commissioners, and annex penalties.
  6. Prosecution and defence of actions.
  7. Raising and assessment of moneys. Publication of assessment.
  8. Payment may be enforced by sale.
  9. Right of redemption.
  10. Treasurer's power and duties.
  11. Management of property. Proxies.
  12. Proprietors' records, how preserved.
  13. Certain corporate powers continued after final division.
  14. How owners may raise money for highways.

Warrant for calling meetings, to whom directed.  
R.S., c. 56, § 1.  
12 Me., 313,  
400.  
18 Me., 215.  
26 Me., 549.

SEC. 1. When any five, or a majority of the proprietors of lands lying in common, desire a meeting of the proprietors, and make written application signed by them or their agents, to any justice of the peace residing in the county in which the lands lie, he may issue his warrant calling a meeting, at the time and place, and for the purposes distinctly stated in the application, directed to one of the proprietors, requiring him to give notice thereof.

Modes of giving notice.  
R.S., c. 56, § 2.

SEC. 2. If the lands lie in one or more incorporated towns, a notice in writing shall be posted in some public place in each, and published in the state paper, and in one of the newspapers printed in the county where any part of them lies, fourteen days before the meeting; but if not, in the state paper, and in one other newspaper, if any, in the county where any part of them lies, four weeks successively next before the meeting; or the meeting may be warned by posting written notifications, in some public place in each town where any proprietor resides, fourteen days before the time appointed therefor.