

# 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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### **ERRATA:**

**The following two leaves are  
inserted because one or more pages  
in this chapter have errors  
noticed and corrected here.**

# ERRORS.

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## ERROR IN THE TEXT OF THE REVISED STATUTES.

Page 63, § 3, line one.—Erase the last word “may.”

## ERROR IN THE TEXT OF THE REPEALING ACT.

Page 999.—Transfer “Chapter 48, Section 6, of an act to facilitate the prompt administration of justice by establishing a superior court in Kennebec County,” from the year 1879 to 1878.

## ERROR IN THE COMMISSIONER’S NOTES.

Pages 177, 178.—Erase the last two lines of page 177, and the first three lines of page 178.

## ERRORS IN THE MARGINAL REFERENCES.

Page 59, § 6, ¶ xx.—Erase “*R. S.*, c. 1, ¶ xx”, and supply, at the bottom of the page, “*R. S.*, c. 1, § 4”

“ 66, § 24.—Erase “*Resolve of 1837*, c. 52.”

“ 69, § 44.—Supply “*Resolve of 1840*, c. 107.”

“ 72, § 68.—Erase “*See c. 6*, §§ 40-67.”

“ “ § 70.—Erase “*R. S.*, c. 2, § 66.”

“ 79, § 12, (note b).—“*See c. 18*, § 73” should read “*See c. 18*, § 75.”

“ “ “ “ “*See c. 30*, § 15” should read “*See c. 30*, § 16.”

“ “ § 14.—Supply “*See c. 18*, § 75.”

“ 83, § 40.—“*R. S.*, c. 3, § 34” should read “*R. S.*, c. 3, § 33.”

“ 84, § 46.—“*See c. 18*, § 67” should read “*See c. 18*, § 59.”

“ 86, § 59, ¶ i, (note b).—“*See c. 17*, §§ 25-29” should read “*See c. 17*, §§ 27, 28.”

“ “ “ ¶ vi, (note e).—“*See c. 18*, § 15” should read “*See c. 18*, § 17.”

“ 92, note.—“*c. 18*, §§ 39, 103” should read “*c. 18*, §§ 39, 97.”

“ 97, § 16.—Erase “*R. S.*, c. 4, § 16.”

“ 108, § 86.—“*Art. ii*, § 2” should read “*Art. ii*, § 1, ¶ 2.”

“ 117, § 28.—Erase the first reference to “1878, c. 31, § 1.” Also erase “*R. S.*, c. 5, § 26.”

“ 176, § 27.—“*Resolve of 1883*, c. 20” should read “*Resolve of 1883*, c. 86.”

“ 183, § 5.—“*See* § 93, ¶ 6” should read “*See* § 93, ¶ v.”

“ 202, § 102.—“1883, c. 229” should read “*See c. 115*, § 1.”

“ 209, § 1.—Supply “1880, c. 215.”

“ 210, § 7.—Supply “1880, c. 215.”

“ 249, § 44.—“1875, c. 25, § 6” should read “1875, c. 25, § 6.”

“ 270, § 16.—Supply “1880, c. 215.”

“ 330, § 26.—“*See c. 40*, § 77” should read “*See c. 40*, § 74.”

“ “ § 28.—“*See c. 40*, § 38” should read “*See c. 40*, §§ 33, 40.”

“ 374, § 23.—“*See* § 17” should read “1880, c. 234, § 1.”

“ 384, § 74.—Add “1883, c. 138, § 3.”

“ “ “ “ “1883, c. 144, § 4.”

“ 506, § 1.—Supply “*See* 1880, c. 215.”

“ 642, § 80, bottom of the page.—Supply “1878, c. 48, § 6.”

“ 709, § 105.—“*See c. 134*, § 13” should read “*See c. 134*, § 19.”

“ 773, § 42.—Supply “1883, c. 198, § 2.”

“ 804, § 35.—“*See c. 134*, § 26” should read “*c. 134*, § 26.”

“ 861, § 1.—“*R. S.*, c. 2, § 20,” } should read “1883, c. 221.”  
“ “ “ “ *R. S.*, c. 115, § 1.” }

“ 862, § 4.—“*See c. 63*, §§ 32 to 39” should read “*See c. 63*, § 35.”

## ERRORS IN CITATIONS OF CASES.

- Page 10, § 8, ¶ iii, (note c).—"14 *Pet.*, 504" should read "14 *Pet.*, 540."  
 " 16, § 1, (note b).—"10 *Me.*, 483" should read "10 *Me.*, 283."  
 " 78, § 5, (note a).—"13 *Me.*, 472, 489" should read "13 *Me.*, 472."  
 " " § 7, (note b).—"12 *Me.*, 589" should read "12 *Me.*, 489."  
 " 147, § 97.—"58 *Me.*, 528" should read "58 *Me.*, 532."  
 " 166, § 1.—"64 *Me.*, 549" should read "64 *Me.*, 599."  
 " 200, § 93, ¶ iv.—Erase "20 *Me.*, 545."  
 " 211, § 19.—"3 *Me.*, 347" should read "3 *Me.*, 249."  
 " 241, § 5, (note b).—"68 *Me.*, 28" should read "63 *Me.*, 28."  
 " 257, § 80, (note a), Construction of ways.—"26 *Me.*, 340" should read "26 *Me.*, 240."  
 " 397, § 1, (note a).—Erase "66 *Me.*, 526."  
 " 521, § 2, (note a).—Erase "60 *Me.*, 377."  
 " " § 9.—Erase "60 *Me.*, 533."  
 " 563, § 10.—"31 *Me.*, 286" should read "31 *Me.*, 254."  
 " 597, § 23.—"4 *Me.*, 19" should read "4 *Me.*, 8."  
 " 705, § 78.—"43 *Me.*, 438" should read "48 *Me.*, 438."  
 " 728, § 12.—Erase "68 *Me.*, 30."  
 " 750, § 5.—Erase "20 *Me.*, 325."  
 " 765, § 1, (note a).—Erase "73 *Me.*, 228."  
 " 814, § 19, (note c).—Erase "71 *Me.*, 543."  
 " 817, § 8, (note b).—"27 *Me.*, 363" should read "27 *Me.*, 362."  
 " 885, § 1.—Erase "62 *Me.*, 285."  
 " 886, § 8.—"36 *Me.*, 225" should read "36 *Me.*, 227."  
 " 933, § 4.—"34 *Me.*, 478" should read "39 *Me.*, 478."

## OMISSION IN REFERENCE INDEX TABLE, PART I.

Page 1060.—Supply "1878, c. 48, § 6," with a reference to "R. S., c. 77, § 80."

from and resides out of the state after a cause of action has accrued CHAP. 81.  
against him, the time of his absence shall not be taken as a part of the  
time limited for the commencement of the action. (a)

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## CHAPTER 82.

### PROCEEDINGS IN CIVIL ACTIONS IN COURT.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

- SEC. 1. Actions must be entered on the first day. Further service may be ordered.  
Notice in civil proceedings may be ordered in term time or vacation.
2. When default may be recorded; and when taken off.
  3. Defendant out of the state, proceedings.
  4. Execution against absent defendant shall be stayed for one year, unless bond is given to repay, if reversed on review. Attachment continued.
  5. Bond shall be left with clerk; defendant may petition for review, if review of right is not prosecuted.
  6. Executions inadvertently issued upon judgments rendered on default, without deposit of bond, are valid, unless petition for review is filed within one year, or if judgment is not reversed on review.
  7. Court may allow appeals and complaints to be entered after the first term.
  8. Petition must be filed within one year; attachment or bail is not revived.
  9. On appeals, original papers must be sent up, except writ and pleadings.
  10. Proceedings shall not be abated, arrested, or reversed for want of form.
  11. How writs may be amended.
  12. If writ or process is lost, leave may be granted to file a new one.
  13. Defendants may be struck out or new ones inserted, on payment of costs.
  14. Venue of civil or criminal case may be changed by presiding justice.
  15. Distinction between trespass and trespass on the case, is abolished.
  16. Treasurers may sue in their own names, on contracts given to them or their predecessors.
  17. Penalties are recoverable by action of debt.
  18. Assignee of a grantee may sue on real covenants of first grantor.
  19. Grantees may defend in suits against grantors, if real estate is attached.
  20. Several breaches may be assigned in actions of covenant, and general performance pleaded.
  21. In actions of covenant, if the encumbrance is a right of dower, it may be assigned and be the measure of damages.
  22. General issue may be pleaded with brief statement, and must be joined.
  23. Demurrer, when filed, must be joined and not withdrawn; amendment may be allowed after decision on demurrer, and before exceptions are filed. If demurrer is overruled, defendant may plead anew, on payment of costs, unless plea is adjudged frivolous, on which call judgment shall be entered on demurrer.
  24. In involuntary trespasses on lands, tender may be made, or money brought into court.
  25. Defendant's offer to be defaulted, and its effect.
  26. Plaintiff's offer of judgment against him and its effect.
  27. Tender may be made before entry of action. Towns may tender or offer default, in actions for injuries by defective ways.
  28. Property of deceased debtor on joint contract, is liable as if several.
  29. Libel, in actions for, truth is a justification; except in case of malice.
  30. Counts, misjoinder of, and wrong joinder, is not cause for reversal.

(a) 20 Me., 273; 23 Me., 164, 415; 37 Me., 307, 392; 38 Me., 172; 48 Me., 320; 54 Me., 400; 55 Me., 234; 57 Me., 551; 65 Me., 513.

- CHAP. 82. SEC. 31. Motions in arrest of judgment are not allowed in civil actions.  
 32. Damages shall be assessed by a jury on certain bonds and contracts.  
 33. When sureties on official bonds may defend suits against principal.  
 34. Interest on judgments is allowed.  
 35. Judge's disqualification by residence in a town interested may be waived.  
 36. Death of a party being suggested, executor or administrator may appear or be summoned; and heirs also, if the proceeding is in equity.  
 37. Female litigant marrying, her husband may appear as party.  
 38. When party becomes insane, guardian may be appointed ad litem.  
 39. Motions to set aside verdicts, on report; proceedings. Costs.  
 40. Presiding justice of supreme or superior court may set aside verdict. Limitation.  
 41. Wilful trespasses, proceedings respecting them.  
 42. Damages on protest of bills.  
 43. Ten hours of actual labor is a legal day's work; exceptions.  
 44. Action by a public officer is not abated by his retirement from office.  
 45. Actions are not maintainable on demands discharged by payment of part.

WHEN SUBSEQUENT ATTACHING CREDITORS MAY DEFEND SUITS.

- SEC. 46. Subsequent attaching creditor may petition court to defend suits.  
 47. If leave is granted, he shall give bond and be admitted to defend.  
 48. How judgment shall be entered, when defence fails.  
 49. How to be entered, when defence prevails.  
 50. When judgment in such prior suit is rendered at the first term, creditor may have review. Proceedings.  
 51. Prior attachment made to defraud creditors is void.

SUITS BY AND AGAINST BANKRUPTS.

- SEC. 52. A bankrupt may sue in his own name unless objection is made by plea in abatement.  
 53. An action in which an attachment was made four months before bankruptcy of defendant, shall be disposed of in the ordinary way.  
 54. Other actions against voluntary or involuntary bankrupts, shall be continued until bankruptcy proceedings are closed, unless their names are struck out, which may be done without costs.

SET-OFF.

- SEC. 55. Defendant must file at first term; clerk shall enter date, and notice on docket.  
 56. Kind of demands which may be filed.  
 57. Must be between all of plaintiffs and all of defendants. Dormant partners.  
 58. When a demand assigned, may be set off.  
 59. Demand subsequently acquired, not to be set-off.  
 60. Demand in suits in name of one for benefit of another may be set-off.  
 61. Set-off of sums equitably due only.  
 62. Demands due from a deceased person may be set-off.  
 63. Set-off in actions brought in a representative capacity.  
 64. What demands may be set off in actions brought by executors or administrators of insolvent estates; proceedings therein.  
 65. Pleadings and issue, set-off how to be made.  
 66. Action cannot be discontinued after filing of set-off; statute of limitations.  
 67. Costs in cases of set-off.  
 68. Proceedings before inferior tribunals.

AUDITORS.

- SEC. 69. To be appointed in certain cases, parties to be notified, witnesses to attend.  
 70. Must all hear, but majority may report; report may be recommitted; may be discharged and others appointed.  
 71. Report is evidence, but may be disproved.  
 72. Neglect to appear before them in actions of account, effect of.

REFEREES.

- SEC. 73. Court, by agreement, may appoint referees, to be paid by county.

JURIES.

- SEC. 74. How impanelled and sworn, or drawn by lot. Challenges.  
 75. Supernumeraries, transfers, and excuses.

## SEC. 76. Form of their oath.

77. Their foreman, how chosen.

78. Talesmen, when and how to be returned.

79. New juries may be summoned during term time.

80. Challenges, how to be tried, and when jurors shall be excluded.

81. Each party may challenge, peremptorily, one juror; court may regulate this right by general rules.

82. Presiding justice may order a view by jury, in any case.

83. Shall charge jury on the law, but not express opinion on the facts.

84. Jury may return separate verdicts as to joint defendants. Costs, how to be apportioned.

85. Juries may find special or general verdicts, in cases for law court.

86. When jury does not agree, proceedings.

87. In prosecutions for penalties juror is not disqualified although his town or county is a party.

88. Jurors, objections to, if known and not stated before trial, are waived.

89. Verdicts are not affected by irregularities not injurious, or when not objected to before verdict, if known.

90. Verdict may be set aside for improper practices with jurors.

## WITNESSES AND EVIDENCE.

## SEC. 91. Witnesses may be summoned by clerks and justices of the peace.

92. Religious belief affects credibility only. Atheists may testify.

93. Parties, th ir husbands and wives, and others interested, may be witnesses..

94. Except when cause of action implies an offence.

95. Attestations of wills and other instruments are not affected by section ninety-three.

96. Testimony of a party out of the state, how to be taken.

97. A party may be contradicted, like any other witness.

98. Five preceding sections are not applicable to suits by or against representatives of deceased parties; exceptions.

99. Nor where party is insane.

100. Witnesses, same rules respecting them in all tribunals.

101. Summoned and neglecting to appear; their penalties and liabilities.

102. Refusing to answer, may be fined.

103. Oaths, how to be administered to witnesses.

104. Witnesses, scrupulous of taking an oath, may affirm.

105. Conviction of crime affects credibility only.

106. Fees for travel and attendance must be first paid or tendered.

107. Records of other courts are evidence.

108. Printed copy of records is evidence of the laws of U. S. or of any state.

109. Foreign and unwritten law, how to be proved.

110. In what cases, office copies of deeds are admissible.

111. Attested copies of York county records made from published volumes, have same force as attested copies of original records. Also copies made from records duplicated from originals in York county and filed in Cumberland registry, when attested by Cumberland register.

112. Copies of consular and custom house records are evidence.

113. Adjutant general's certificate is evidence.

114. Testimony of deceased subscribing witness or magistrate may be used in subsequent suit.

115. Deed or writing, is not void because dated on Sunday.

116. Defendant in action on contract made on Sunday must restore consideration.

## Costs.

## SEC. 117. Party prevailing, recovers costs, except in certain cases in the law court.

118. Quarter costs, if plaintiff ineffectually appeals from judgment in his favor.

119. Costs in actions of replevin, regulated.

120. Quarter costs in supreme or superior court in actions that should have been brought before a justice. Full costs on report of referees.

121. Costs, when damages are reduced by set-off.

122. Costs of evidence are not doubled or trebled.

123. Costs are discretionary, on petitions for review, and the like.

124. Costs for first suit must be paid before second suit for same cause is tried. Proceedings shall be stayed, or second suit dismissed, if costs are not paid within time fixed by court.



- CHAP. 82.** SEC. 125. Costs, a person liable for, who sues in the name of the State.  
 126. Costs, when the State is liable for, in a civil suit.  
 127. Costs, are not taxable for travel of attorney for the State.  
 128. Assignee shall indorse writ in suit brought in name of assignor, or defendant may sue him for costs, on stay of proceedings.  
 129. If assignee is not known, defendant may recover costs in an action on the case, and set off the judgment.  
 130. Assignee of choses not negotiable may sue in his own name. Conditions.  
 131. Costs in one action only, when several are unnecessarily brought.  
 132. No costs, in suits on judgments where executions might have issued.  
 133. Costs for travel in actions by corporations, how to be computed.  
 134. Costs, power of court over, on amendments and continuances, unaffected.  
 135. Bankrupt recovers no cost until certificate is produced in court.  
 136. Costs shall be passed upon by the court during term, and exceptions filed. Otherwise, clerk's decision is final.

#### ACTION FOR DAMAGES AGAINST PERJURED PARTIES AND WITNESSES.

- SEC. 137. When judgment has been obtained by perjury, action for damages against party or perjured witnesses.

#### EXECUTIONS.

- SEC. 138. When issued and returnable.  
 139. Not to be issued after one year; exception.  
 140. May be renewed within ten years.  
 141. If it cannot be renewed, scire facias may issue.  
 142. Shall be framed to collect interest on judgment.  
 143. Lost or destroyed, new may issue.  
 144. When amount allowed to a creditor by commissioners on solvent estate is not paid in thirty days, supreme court may order execution to be issued for debt, interest and costs. Clerk's fees.

#### STENOGRAPHERS.

- SEC. 145. Stenographers, their appointment, duties and compensation.  
 146. Testimony of witness may be proved by copy of stenographic notes.  
 147. Stenographic reports may be taxed in bill of costs.

#### CRIER.

- SEC. 148. Duties of crier shall be performed by sheriff or clerk.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

Actions shall be entered on first day: further service. R.S., c. 82, § 1. 56 Me., 425.

—orders of notice, in term or vacation. 1875, c. 32. See c. 89, § 2.

When default may be recorded; when taken off. R. S., c. 82, § 2.

SEC. 1. No action can be entered after the first day of the session of the supreme judicial court without special permission. When it appears that the defendant has not had sufficient notice, the court may order such further notice as it deems proper. Any justice of the supreme or of either superior court may order notice concerning any civil proceeding, in or out of term time, directing how it shall be given; and such order, when made in vacation, shall be indorsed on the process.

SEC. 2. When service of the writ has been made, and the defendant does not appear by himself or attorney within the first three days of the term, his default may be recorded, and the charge in the declaration taken to be true. If the defendant, before the juries are dismissed for the term, enters his appearance and pays to the plaintiff such costs as the court orders, the default shall be taken off. The court may permit it to be taken off for sufficient cause. (a)

If defendant SEC. 3. When the defendant was an inhabitant of the state and

(a) 16 Me., 228; 17 Me., 426; 21 Me., 45; 23 Me., 485; 26 Me., 340; 30 Me., 557; 33 Me., 102, 251; 41 Me., 439; 45 Me., 105.

absent from it at the time of service, and it does not appear that he has returned, or has had actual notice of the suit, the court may continue the action, not exceeding twice unless for special cause, or enter judgment on default. If the defendant was not an inhabitant of the state or within it, and had actual notice of the suit, the court may order a continuance if he does not appear at the first term.

SEC. 4. When judgment is rendered on default of an absent defendant in a personal action as provided in the preceding section, execution cannot be issued thereon within one year thereafter, unless the plaintiff first gives bond to the defendant, with one or more sureties, in double the amount of damages and costs, conditioned to repay the amount to the defendant if the judgment is reversed on review, to which he is entitled of right, if brought within one year, or so much of the amount recovered, as is recovered back on such review, and any attachment made on the original writ continues for one year and thirty days after said judgment is so rendered, when no bond is given; and when a bond is given, it continues for thirty days after said bond is filed with the clerk of said court. (a)

SEC. 5. The bond shall be deposited with the clerk, who shall decide upon the sufficiency of the sureties, subject to an appeal to a justice of the court, and if the review of right is not so prosecuted, the defendant may, within one year after he first has notice of the judgment, petition the court for a review, and the court may grant it on such terms as it deems reasonable.

SEC. 6. Whenever, through accident, inadvertence, or mistake, an execution has been issued by the clerk, judge, or recorder of any court in any county, upon a judgment rendered on default of an absent defendant in a personal action, within one year after the rendition of such judgment, without deposit of the bond specified in sections four and five, all proceedings upon or by virtue of such execution or judgment, shall, after one year from the rendition of such judgment, have the same effect and validity as if the bond had been duly given, deposited and approved, unless a petition for review has been brought within said year; and, in case such judgment is not reversed on review if brought within said year, all such proceedings shall be valid as aforesaid, after final judgment for the defendant in review.

SEC. 7. When an appeal is taken from a judgment of a trial justice or municipal or police court, and the action by mistake or accident is not entered, and the judgment has not been affirmed, the court may, on petition of either party, allow the action or complaint to be entered at another term of the court, upon reasonable terms, with the same effect as if it had been entered at the proper term.

SEC. 8. Such petition must be presented to the court, or filed in the clerk's office within one year after the term at which the action ought to have been entered; and no attachment or bail shall be revived or continued by such proceedings.

## CHAP. 82.

is out of the state, proceedings. R.S., c. 82, § 3. 63 Me., 360. 72 Me., 337.

Execution shall be stayed one year, unless bond is given to repay the amount, if judgment is reversed on review. 1881, c. 59. See c. 76, § 54.

—attachment on original writ, how long it continues.

Bond to be left with clerk; if review of right is not prosecuted, defendant may petition. R.S., c. 82, § 5. 72 Me., 338.

Executions issued by any court, upon judgment on default, without deposit of bond, are valid; unless review is petitioned for within a year. 1877, c. 149. 72 Me., 338. —if petition is so filed, execution is still valid, if judgment is not reversed on review.

Court may allow entry of appeals at another term. R.S., c. 82, § 6. 45 Me., 306. 46 Me., 499.

Petition to be within a year; attachment or bail not revived. R.S., c. 82, § 7.

## CHAP. 82.

On appeals, original papers shall be sent up, except writ and pleadings. R.S., c. 82, § 8. 39 Me., 136.

Proceedings not abated, &c., for want of form. R.S., c. 82, § 9. 6 Me., 325. 16 Me., 265, 268, 283. 22 Me., 311.

Writs may be amended. 1874, c. 197. 67 Me., 500. 69 Me., 85.

If writ or process is lost after service, new one may be filed.

R.S., c. 82, § 10. 15 Me., 427.

Names of defendants may be struck out on payment of costs, or new ones inserted, and service made. R.S., c. 82, § 11.

Change of venue.

1872, c. 45, § 1.

—attachments unaffected.

1872, c. 45, § 2.

Trespass, and trespass on the case.

R.S., c. 82, § 12.

70 Me., 220.

Treasurers may sue in their own names.

SEC. 9. In cases carried from a trial justice, municipal or police court, to a higher court, all depositions and original papers, except the process by which the suit was commenced, the return of service thereon, and the pleadings, shall be certified by the proper officer, and carried up without leaving copies, unless otherwise ordered by the court having original cognizance.

SEC. 10. No process or proceeding in courts of justice shall be abated, arrested, or reversed, for want of form only, or for circumstantial errors or mistakes which by law are amendable, when the person and case can be rightly understood. Such errors and defects may be amended, on motion of either party, on such terms as the court orders. (a)

SEC. 11. In all civil actions the writ may be amended by inserting additional plaintiffs, or by striking out one or more plaintiffs when there are two or more, and the court may impose reasonable terms.

SEC. 12. When in an action pending, the loss or destruction of a writ or process after service is proved by affidavit or otherwise, the court may allow a new one to be filed, corresponding thereto as nearly as may be, with the same effect as the one lost or destroyed.

SEC. 13. When there are two or more defendants, the writ may be amended by striking out one or more of them, on payment of costs to him to that time. A writ founded on contract, express or implied, may be amended by inserting additional defendants; and the court may order service to be made on them, and their property to be attached as in case of original writs; and on return of due service, they become parties to the suit, but are not liable to costs before service. (b)

SEC. 14. Any judge of the supreme judicial court, while holding a nisi prius term, on motion of either party, shall, for cause shown, order the transfer of any civil action, or criminal case, pending in said court, to the docket thereof in any other county for trial, preserving all attachments.

SEC. 15. The distinction between actions of trespass and trespass on the case is abolished. A declaration in either form is good.

SEC. 16. Treasurers of state, counties, towns, and corporations, may maintain suits in their own names as treasurers on contracts given

(a) 3 Me., 30; 10 Me., 285; 13 Me., 309; 15 Me., 402, 466; 18 Me., 250; 23 Me., 507; 25 Me., 333; 26 Me., 212, 288; 29 Me., 167; 30 Me., 31, 170; 39 Me., 231; 45 Me., 284; 46 Me., 331; 47 Me., 158, 185; 48 Me., 35, 253; 51 Me., 607; 53 Me., 174; 54 Me., 202, 496; 57 Me., 156; 58 Me., 41; 63 Me., 153; 74 Me., 113, 491.

Amendment of declaration; 2 Me., 49; 3 Me., 249; 4 Me., 480; 11 Me., 500; 13 Me., 89, 249, 419; 14 Me., 50; 15 Me., 138; 16 Me., 173, 234, 283, 448; 17 Me., 225, 411; 18 Me., 174, 413; 19 Me., 358; 20 Me., 148; 23 Me., 77; 24 Me., 17, 247; 25 Me., 252, 311; 26 Me., 28, 212; 54 Me., 496; 65 Me., 320; 66 Me., 94, 388; 67 Me., 490, 553; 69 Me., 30, 126; 71 Me., 28; 74 Me., 142;

Ad damnum; 6 Me., 325; 15 Me., 432; 57 Me., 155; 58 Me., 331.

Seal of writ; 3 Me., 30; 12 Me., 196; 19 Me., 208; 30 Me., 170.

Date of writ; 14 Me., 396; 71 Me., 266.

Of changing a writ of original summons, to a writ of attachment; 15 Me., 401, 466; 51 Me., 607; 71 Me., 28.

Teste of writ; 15 Me., 433.

Return day of writ; 16 Me., 267; 17 Me., 417; 35 Me., 123; 54 Me., 202; 63 Me., 409.

(b) 2 Me., 120; 11 Me., 127; 13 Me., 389; 20 Me., 420; 25 Me., 333; 34 Me., 34; 35 Me., 535; 45 Me., 444; 58 Me., 41; 59 Me., 344; 60 Me., 208, 352.

to them or their predecessors, and prosecute suits pending in the name of their predecessors.

SEC. 17. Penalties may be recovered by action of debt, when no other mode of recovery is provided.

SEC. 18. The assignee of a grantee, or his executor or administrator, after eviction by an older and better title, may maintain an action on a covenant of seizin or freedom from encumbrance contained in absolute deeds of the premises between the parties, and recover such damages as the first grantee might have recovered on eviction, upon filing, at the first term, in court, for the use of his grantor, a release of the covenants of his deed and of all causes of action thereon. The prior grantee cannot, in such case, release the covenants of the first grantor to the prejudice of his grantee.

SEC. 19. Grantees may appear and defend in suits against their grantors in which the real estate conveyed is attached.

SEC. 20. In actions on contract in a penal sum for performance of covenants or agreements, and in actions of covenant, several breaches may be assigned, and in defence, performance generally, both in affirmative and negative covenants, may be alleged.

SEC. 21. In an action for breach of covenant against encumbrances contained in a deed of real estate, when the encumbrance is a right of dower, if such dower has been assigned and not released, the value thereof shall be the measure of damages; but if it has been demanded and not assigned, the court, on application of the plaintiff, shall cite the claimant of dower to appear and become a party, by personal service made fourteen days before the term of court to which it is returnable; if she does not appear, or if she appears and refuses to release such right, the court shall appoint three commissioners to assign the same, who shall proceed in the manner provided for commissioners appointed by the probate court; and when their report is made and accepted by the court, it is a legal assignment of dower, and the value thereof is the measure of damages in said action.

SEC. 22. The general issue may be pleaded in all cases, and a brief statement of special matter of defence, or a special plea, or double pleas in bar, may be filed. The plaintiff must join a general issue, and may file a counter brief statement. (a)

SEC. 23. A general demurrer to the declaration may be filed; and in any stage of the pleadings either party may demur, and the demurrer must be joined, and it shall not be withdrawn without leave of court, and of the opposite party; but the justice shall rule on it, and his ruling shall be final unless the party aggrieved excepts; and before exceptions are filed and allowed, he has the same power as the full court to allow the plaintiff to amend, or the defendant to plead anew. If the law court deems such exceptions frivolous, it shall award treble costs against the party excepting from the time the exceptions were filed. If the declaration is adjudged defective and is amendable, the plaintiff may amend

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R.S., c. 82, § 13.  
74 Me., 219.

Penalties

how

recovered.

R.S., c. 82, § 14.

56 Me., 78.

When

assignee of a

grantee may

sue on real

covenants of

first grantor.

R.S., c. 82, § 15.

50 Me., 453.

51 Me., 567.

68 Me., 193.

72 Me., 376.

—prior

grantee can-

not release.

Grantee may

defend suit.

1879, c. 152.

See §§ 46 to 51.

Assignment

of breaches

in covenant;

pleadings.

R.S., c. 82, § 16.

58 Me., 130.

In actions of

covenant, if

encumbrance

is a right of

dower, it may

be assigned

and be the

measure of

damages.

R.S., c. 82, § 17.

See c. 65, § 2.

General issue  
to be pleaded  
with brief  
statement:  
to be joined.  
R.S., c. 82, § 18.

Demurrers,  
when filed,  
shall be join-  
ed, and not be  
withdrawn;  
amendments  
may be made;  
if overruled,  
defendant  
may plead  
again, on pay-  
ment of costs,  
unless judged  
frivolous;  
when judg-  
ment shall be  
entered on  
demurrer.

(a) 10 Me., 260; 11 Me., 166, 215; 13 Me., 38; 16 Me., 86, 425; 29 Me., 472; 47 Me., 350, 489; 49 Me., 333; 53 Me., 134, 429; 55 Me., 159; 65 Me., 496; 71 Me., 401.

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R.S., c. 82, § 19.  
 29 Me., 110.  
 51 Me., 390,  
 416.  
 52 Me., 22.  
 54 Me., 574.  
 58 Me., 129.  
 60 Me., 500.  
 63 Me., 152.  
 65 Me., 94.  
 66 Me., 286,  
 459.  
 67 Me., 27, 38,  
 490, 553.

upon payment of costs from the time when the demurrer was filed. If the demurrer is filed at the first term and overruled, the defendant may plead anew on payment of costs from the time when it was filed, unless it is adjudged frivolous and intended for delay, in which case judgment shall be entered. At the next term of the court in the county where the action is pending, after a decision on the demurrer has been certified by the clerk of the district to the clerk of such county, and not before, judgment shall be entered on the demurrer, unless the costs are paid, and the amendment or new pleadings filed on the second day of the term. (a)

Tender may be made, or money brought into court, in case of trespass on land.  
 R.S., c. 82, § 20.  
 36 Me., 408.  
 71 Me., 287.

**SEC. 24.** In actions of trespass on lands, the defendant may file a brief statement disclaiming all title to the land described, and alleging that the trespass was involuntary, or by negligence or mistake, or in the prosecution of a legal right, and that before action brought he tendered sufficient amends therefor, or that he brings money into court to satisfy the damages with costs to that time; and if on trial he establishes the truth of his allegations, he recovers costs.

Offer to be defaulted, and its effect.  
 R.S., c. 82, § 21.

**SEC. 25.** In any personal action, the defendant may, in writing entered of record with its date, offer to be defaulted for a specified sum. If accepted, interest may be added from that date to date of judgment. If not accepted within such time as the court orders, it shall not be offered in evidence or have any effect upon the rights of the parties, or the judgment to be rendered, except the costs. If the plaintiff fails to recover a sum as due at the time of the offer greater than the sum offered, he recovers such costs only as accrued before the offer, and the defendant recovers costs accrued after that time; and his judgment for costs may be set off against the plaintiff's judgment for debt and costs. (b)

Offer of judgment against plaintiff, proceedings in case of.  
 1875, c. 52.

**SEC. 26.** In any personal action the plaintiff may, in like manner, offer to have judgment rendered against him for a specified sum, and the proceedings thereon and the effect of such offer upon his rights and liabilities shall be the same as is provided in respect to the defendant in the preceding section.

Tender before entry.  
 R.S., c. 82, § 22.  
 9 Me., 112.  
 39 Me., 435.

**SEC. 27.** A tender, with the costs then accrued, may be made after action brought and before its entry, to the plaintiff or his attorney, with the same effect as if made before action brought. In actions against towns for injury to the person or damage to property from defect in ways, a town may make a tender before commencement or entry of the action, or offer to be defaulted for a specified sum, with the same effect as in actions on contract.

—town may tender, or offer to be defaulted.

Property of deceased debtor on joint contract liable.  
 R.S., c. 82, § 23.  
 60 Me., 353.

**SEC. 28.** The goods and estate of a deceased debtor in a joint contract, express or implied, or in a judgment on contract, are liable in the same manner, and the creditor has the same remedy, as in case of a joint and several contract.

Truth justifies in libel;

**SEC. 29.** In a suit for writing and publishing a libel; evidence shall

(a) 68 Me., 147; 71 Me., 287, 490; 72 Me., 103, 222, 428; 74 Me., 101.

(b) 4 Me., 276; 5 Me., 394; 9 Me., 112; 13 Me., 313; 19 Me., 208; 20 Me., 40, 313; 21 Me., 531; 30 Me., 458; 31 Me., 414; 33 Me., 220; 39 Me., 72, 474; 42 Me., 54, 290; 46 Me., 545; 47 Me., 354; 48 Me., 301; 51 Me., 383; 55 Me., 533; 71 Me., 287; 72 Me., 442.

be received to establish the truth of the matter charged as libellous. If its truth is established, it is a justification, unless the publication is found to have originated in corrupt or malicious motives.

SEC. 30. When in a civil action, the declaration contains a good count and bad ones, or a wrong joinder of counts, and no written objection is made until after the cause is committed to the jury, and a general verdict has been recorded, the judgment cannot for such cause be reversed on writ of error.

SEC. 31. No motion in arrest of judgment in a civil action can be entertained. (a)

SEC. 32. In actions on bond or contract in a penal sum, for the performance of covenants or agreements, or on a recognizance to prosecute an appeal, when the jury finds the condition broken, they shall estimate the plaintiff's damages, and judgment shall be entered for the penal sum, and execution shall issue for such damages and costs. (b)

SEC. 33. Sureties upon official bonds may appear and defend in suits against their principal, whenever such sureties may ultimately be liable upon such bonds.

SEC. 34. Interest shall be allowed on the amount found due for damages and costs in actions on judgments of a court of record. (c)

SEC. 35. A justice or judge shall sit in the trial or disposal of an action, in which the county or town where he resides is a party or interested, if the party adverse to such county or town enters on the docket a waiver of all objections.

SEC. 36. When a party to a suit dies, and his death is suggested on the record, and the cause of action survives, his executor or administrator may become a party, or at the request of the other party, be summoned to appear and become a party. Service of the summons shall be made on him fourteen days before the term to which it is returnable. If he neglects to appear, judgment may be entered by nonsuit or default according to chapter eighty-seven. If the suit is in equity, his executor, administrator, or heirs at law, may in like manner appear or be summoned without a bill of revivor.

SEC. 37. When an unmarried woman, party to a pending suit, marries, her husband, on his request, may be admitted as a party, as if originally joined in the suit.

SEC. 38. When a party becomes insane, the suit may be prosecuted or defended by his guardian, who, on application of his friend, or of the other party, may be appointed for that purpose by a justice of the court in term time or in vacation. He is entitled to a reasonable compensation, and is not liable for costs.

SEC. 39. When a motion is made in the supreme judicial court to have a verdict set aside as against law or evidence, a report of the whole evidence shall be signed by the presiding justice. When the

## CHAP. 82.

save in case of malice.  
R.S., c. 82, § 24.  
30 Me., 467.

No reversal for joinder of good and bad counts or wrong joinder.  
R.S., c. 82, § 25.  
55 Me., 417.

No motions in arrest.  
R.S., c. 82, § 26.

On certain bonds and recognizances, jury shall assess damages.  
R.S., c. 82, § 27.

Sureties on official bond may defend suits of principal.  
1880, c. 195.

Interest on judgments.  
R.S., c. 82, § 28.

Judge may sit by consent, although his town or county is a party.  
R.S., c. 82, § 29.

Death of party suggested, executor or administrator may appear, or be summoned.  
R.S., c. 82, § 30.  
See c. 77, § 45;  
c. 87, § 7.

—heirs also, in equity.  
6 Me., 429.  
44 Me., 76.  
59 Me., 343.  
66 Me., 446.

Litigant marrying, her husband may become a party.

R.S., c. 82, § 31.  
Guardian ad litem may be appointed for insane party.  
R.S., c. 82, § 32.  
68 Me., 432.

Motions to set aside verdicts on report to full court,

(a) 44 Me., 42; 53 Me., 109; 54 Me., 357; 69 Me., 456; 70 Me., 253.

(b) 17 Me., 452; 21 Me., 209; 22 Me., 486, 487; 24 Me., 168; 39 Me., 414; 49 Me., 325; 52 Me., 275.

(c) 19 Me., 460; 22 Me., 120; 60 Me., 256, 257; 63 Me., 62.

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—proceed-  
ings.  
R.S., c. 82, § 33.

—costs.

Verdict may  
be set aside  
by presiding  
justice, of su-  
preme or su-  
perior court.  
1881, c. 44.  
—proviso.

In trespass,  
jury shall find  
if it was wil-  
ful.  
R.S., c. 82, § 34.

Damages on  
protests of  
bills.  
R.S., c. 82, § 35.

Ten hours' labor a legal  
day's work;  
exceptions.  
R.S., c. 82, § 36.  
62 Me., 527.

Action by a  
public officer  
is not abated  
by his ceasing  
to act.  
R.S., c. 82, § 37.

No action on  
demands  
discharged  
by a partial  
payment.  
R.S., c. 82, § 38.

Subsequent  
attaching  
creditor may  
petition to  
defend prior  
suits.  
R.S., c. 82, § 39.  
See § 19.

If leave is  
granted, he  
gives bond

motion is founded on any alleged cause not shown by the evidence reported, the testimony respecting the allegations of the motion, shall be heard and reported by the justice, and the case shall then be marked "law." When the law court is of opinion that the motion was frivolous, or intended for delay, it may award double or treble costs. (a)

SEC. 40. Any justice of the supreme judicial or of a superior court may, at the same term at which it is rendered, set aside a verdict and grant a new trial in a case tried before him, when in his opinion the evidence demands it. But such verdict shall not be set aside by a single justice when two verdicts have been rendered against the applicant. (b)

SEC. 41. In actions of trespass on property, the court and jury, or magistrate, shall determine whether the trespass was committed wilfully; if so found, a record thereof shall be made, and a memorandum thereof minuted on the margin of the execution.

SEC. 42. Damages on protest of bills of exchange of a hundred dollars or more, payable by the acceptor, drawer, or indorser of a bill in this state, are, if payable at a place seventy-five miles distant, one per cent.; if payable in the state of New York or in any state northerly of it, and not in this state, three per cent.; if payable in any Atlantic state or territory southerly of New York and northerly of Florida, six per cent.; and in any other state or territory, nine per cent.

SEC. 43. In all contracts for labor, ten hours of actual labor are a legal day's work, unless the contract stipulates for a longer time; but this rule does not apply to monthly labor or to agricultural employments.

SEC. 44. No action, commenced in his official capacity by a public officer, is abated by his ceasing to hold the office; but it may be prosecuted by his successors to the same uses; and the necessary amendments may be made and notices given.

SEC. 45. No action shall be maintained on a demand settled by a creditor, or his attorney intrusted to collect it, in full discharge thereof, by the receipt of money or other valuable consideration, however small. (c)

## WHEN SUBSEQUENT ATTACHING CREDITORS MAY DEFEND SUITS.

SEC. 46. When property has been attached, a plaintiff, who has caused it to be attached in a subsequent suit, may, by himself or attorney, petition the court for leave to defend the prior suit, and set forth therein the facts as he believes them to be, under oath; and the court may grant or refuse such leave. (d)

SEC. 47. If leave is granted, he shall give bond, or enter into recognizance with sufficient surety, in such sum as the court orders, to pay

(a) 15 Me., 73; 16 Me., 204; 19 Me., 30, 405; 20 Me., 199, 352; 40 Me., 245; 43 Me., 468, 538; 45 Me., 284; 48 Me., 242, 439; 53 Me., 172; 54 Me., 260; 56 Me., 233, 250; 58 Me., 351; 70 Me., 334.

(b) 59 Me., 580; 64 Me., 131; 73 Me., 225.

(c) 46 Me., 434; 47 Me., 546; 48 Me., 434; 56 Me., 582; 57 Me., 492; 59 Me., 358; 61 Me., 563; 62 Me., 12; 63 Me., 443.

(d) 64 Me., 319; 74 Me., 580.

the plaintiff in the prior suit all damages and costs occasioned by such defence; and an entry of record shall be made that he is admitted to defend such suit.

SEC. 48. When the petitioner enters into recognizance, and fails in his defence, execution on his recognizance shall be issued against him for the damages found by the court, and costs; and judgment shall be rendered between the original parties as if no such defence had been made.

SEC. 49. When the petitioner prevails, judgment shall be rendered against the plaintiff and in favor of the petitioner, and execution issued thereon for his costs; and costs may or may not be awarded to the original defendant.

SEC. 50. When judgment in such prior suit is rendered, at the first term of the court, the plaintiff in such subsequent suit, within one year thereafter, first giving bonds to each party as provided in section forty-seven, may petition as provided in section forty-six for leave to sue out a writ of review of such action; and such leave may or may not be granted. If it is granted, and on final judgment the sum originally recovered is reduced, judgment shall be entered and execution issued for the difference, not exceeding the amount due from the original defendant to the petitioner, with costs for his sole use; which operates as a payment of his debt to the amount of damages recovered.

SEC. 51. When it appears by the verdict, or otherwise, that such prior attachment was made with intent to delay or defraud creditors, or that there was collusion between the plaintiff and defendant for that purpose, such attachment is void.

#### SUITS BY AND AGAINST BANKRUPTS.

SEC. 52. A person who has been declared a bankrupt, may maintain an action respecting his former property in his own name, unless objection is made by plea in abatement, if before final judgment the assent of his assignee is filed in the office of the clerk of the court in which the action is pending.

SEC. 53. Actions in which an actual attachment of property was made four months prior to the filing of a petition in bankruptcy by any defendant therein, shall be disposed of under the ordinary rules of proceedings in court. (a)

SEC. 54. All other actions, for recovery of a debt provable in bankruptcy, when it appears that any defendant therein has filed his petition in bankruptcy or has been adjudged a bankrupt on petition of his creditors before or after the commencement of the suit, shall be continued, until the bankrupt proceedings are closed, unless the plaintiff strikes such defendant's name from the suit, which he may do without costs; but when such defendant does not use due diligence in the prosecution of his bankrupt proceedings, after one term's notice to him, in writing, from the plaintiff, the court may refuse further delay.

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and may defend.  
R.S., c. 82, § 40.

Judgment, how to be entered when defence fails.  
R.S., c. 82, § 41.

How to be entered, when defence prevails.  
R.S., c. 82, § 42.  
12 Me., 506.

When judgment in such prior suit is rendered at the first term, creditor may have review.  
R.S., c. 82, § 43.  
—proceedings.

Prior attachment to delay or defraud creditors, is void.  
R.S., c. 82, § 44.  
64 Me., 320.

A bankrupt may sue in his own name, unless objected to by plea in abatement.  
R.S., c. 82, § 45.

Attachment made four months before bankruptcy of defendant is valid.

R.S., c. 82, § 46.  
Other actions against bankrupts, shall be continued until bankrupt proceedings are closed, unless their names are struck out without costs.  
R.S., c. 82, § 47.  
67 Me., 19.

(a) 56 Me., 561; 67 Me., 19.



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## SET-OFF.

Defendant must file set-off during the first term, and clerk must enter the same on the docket. 1875, c. 38.

SEC. 55. Demands between plaintiffs and defendants may be set off against each other as follows:—

The defendant, during the term to which the writ is returnable, must file a brief statement of his demand, in substance as certain as in a declaration, which by leave of court may be amended. The clerk shall enter on it and on the docket the date, and on the docket, under the action, notice of the filing. (a)

What demands may be set off. R.S., c. 82, § 49.

SEC. 56. A demand originally payable to the defendant in his own right, founded on a judgment, or contract express or implied, for the price of real or personal estate sold, for money paid, or had and received, for services done, for a liquidated sum, or for one ascertainable by calculation, may be set off. (b)

Due from all plaintiffs to all defendants. R.S., c. 82, § 50. 15 Me., 269. Demands assigned, may be set off by agreement. R.S., c. 82, § 51.

SEC. 57. The demand must be due from all the plaintiffs to all the defendants jointly. When there is a dormant partner, claims due from the ostensible one may be set off as if there were no dormant partner.

SEC. 58. When a plaintiff had received notice that a demand against him had been assigned to the defendant, and had, before his suit was commenced, agreed to pay it to him, or to receive it as payment towards his demand, it may be set off. (c)

Demands acquired after notice. R.S., c. 82, § 52.

SEC. 59. When a defendant had notice of the assignment of a demand, he cannot have any demand set off that accrued or was acquired after such notice. (d)

Suits by one for another. R.S., c. 82, § 53.

SEC. 60. When an action is brought by one person for the use of another, a demand against the latter may be set off. (e)

Equitable dues, set off. R.S., c. 82, § 54.

SEC. 61. When the demand to be set off is a bond or contract with a penalty, only the sum equitably due can be set off. (f)

Demands due from a deceased person, how to be set off. R.S., c. 82, § 55.

SEC. 62. Demands against a person belonging to a defendant at the time of the death of such person, may be set off against claims prosecuted by his executor or administrator; and if a balance is found due to the defendant, judgment shall be in like form and of like effect as if he had commenced a suit therefor; but if the estate is insolvent, it must be presented to the commissioners or added to the list of claims, like other judgments. (g)

What claims may be set off, in actions against persons in a

SEC. 63. In actions against executors, administrators, trustees, or others in a representative capacity, they may set off such demands as those whom they represent might have set off in actions against them;

(a) 6 Me., 240; 10 Me., 139; 15 Me., 269; 19 Me., 26; 20 Me., 423; 25 Me., 129; 31 Me., 133; 32 Me., 285; 35 Me., 81; 38 Me., 117; 47 Me., 369.

What claims may be set off; 29 Me., 426; 31 Me., 161; 32 Me., 285; 33 Me., 231; 34 Me., 510; 35 Me., 81, 535; 37 Me., 75; 39 Me., 421, 447; 53 Me., 176; 57 Me., 166; 69 Me., 381.

How presented and allowed; 35 Me., 180; 36 Me., 224; 41 Me., 264.

Set-off of judgment and executions; 29 Me., 15; 34 Me., 123.

(b) 5 Me., 416; 7 Me., 84; 11 Me., 352; 13 Me., 288; 16 Me., 62; 18 Me., 181; 20 Me., 423; 22 Me., 462; 24 Me., 38, 352; 39 Me., 421, 447.

(c) 19 Me., 72; 26 Me., 118; 56 Me., 168.

(d) 3 Me., 465; 17 Me., 271.

(e, f) 57 Me., 166.

(g) 6 Me., 242; 34 Me., 147; 38 Me., 118; 49 Me., 572.

but no demands, due to or from them in their own right, can be set off in such actions. (a)

SEC. 64. In joint or several actions by the executor or administrator of an estate represented insolvent, against two or more persons having joint or several demands against such estate, the demands may be filed in set-off by either of the defendants, at the first term of the court, or at the first term after such representation of insolvency, if made after the commencement of such actions; and if, on trial, a balance is found due to the defendants jointly, or to either of them, judgment shall be entered for such balance as the jury finds or the court orders, and it shall be treated and disposed of as other judgments against insolvent estates.

SEC. 65. The trial may proceed in cases of set-off on issue joined, without a plea of set-off; and if an issue is not otherwise formed, the defendant may, except in actions of assumpsit, plead that he does not owe the sum demanded; and the plaintiff is entitled to every defence against such set-off, that he might have, by any form of pleading, to an action against him on the same demand. (b)

SEC. 66. When a demand is filed in set-off, the action cannot be discontinued without consent of the defendant. The statute of limitations applies to demands filed in set-off, as if actions had been commenced on them at the date of the plaintiff's action. (c)

SEC. 67. When no balance is found due to either party, no costs are recoverable. If a balance is found due to the plaintiff, he shall have judgment therefor with costs, and if a balance is found due from the plaintiff, judgment shall be rendered therefor in favor of the defendant, with costs; but no such judgment shall be rendered against the plaintiff, when the demand sued, had been assigned before the commencement of the action; nor for any balance due from any other person than the plaintiff.

SEC. 68. Similar proceedings in set-off may take place before municipal and police courts and trial justices, the demand in set-off being filed on the return day of the writ; but judgment cannot be rendered for a defendant for more than twenty dollars, exclusive of costs.

#### AUDITORS.

SEC. 69. When an investigation of accounts, or an examination of vouchers is required, the court may appoint one or more auditors to hear the parties and their testimony, state the accounts, and make a report to the court upon such matters therein as may be ordered by the court, and the report is prima facie evidence upon such matters only, as are expressly embraced in the order. They shall notify the parties of the time and place of hearing, and have power to adjourn; witnesses may be summoned and compelled to attend, and may be sworn by the auditor. (d)

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representative capacity.  
R.S., c. 82, § 56.  
What demands may be set off in actions brought by executors or administrators of insolvent estates, and proceedings therein.  
R.S., c. 82, § 57.

Pleadings and issue, in cases of set-off.  
R.S., c. 82, § 58.

No discontinuance, but by consent.  
R.S., c. 82, § 59.  
—limitations.

Costs, in set-off.  
R.S., c. 82, § 60.  
30 Me., 28.  
68 Me., 132.  
73 Me., 169.

Similar proceedings before inferior tribunals.  
R.S., c. 82, § 61.

Auditors may be appointed in certain cases, and may make report.  
1881, c. 36.

—parties may be notified, and witnesses summoned.

(a) 1 Me., 183; 3 Me., 371; 24 Me., 38; 33 Me., 230.

(b) 37 Me., 75; 54 Me., 498; 56 Me., 141; 67 Me., 571.

(c) 68 Me., 472.

(d) 40 Me., 340; 57 Me., 61; 64 Me., 154; 65 Me., 328; 66 Me., 26; 69 Me., 568; 72 Me., 60.

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All hearing,  
a majority  
may report;  
report may  
be recom-  
mitted.

R.S., c. 82, § 63.

Report is  
prima facie  
evidence.

R.S., c. 82, § 64.

If defendant

in action of

account neg-

lects to ac-

count, audi-

tors shall re-

port it and he

be defaulted.

R.S., c. 82, § 65.

SEC. 70. When there is more than one auditor, all must hear, but a majority may report, stating whether all did hear. Their report may be recommitted. They may be discharged and others appointed. They shall be allowed a reasonable compensation, to be fixed by the court, paid by the plaintiff, and taxed in the costs if he prevails. (a)

SEC. 71. Their report may be used as evidence by either party, and may be disproved by other evidence. (b)

SEC. 72. When in an action of account, judgment has been entered that the defendant account, and he unreasonably neglects to appear, or appearing, neglects to render an account before auditors appointed to take it, they shall certify the fact, and the court may enter a default and judgment thereon, or cause the damages to be assessed by a jury. (c)

## REFEREES.

Court may  
appoint not  
more than  
three

referees.

1879, c. 88.

1883, c. 223.

64 Me., 154.

—fees fixed  
by court, and  
paid by  
county.

SEC. 73. In all cases in the supreme judicial or any superior court in which the parties agree that the same may be tried by one or more persons as referees, the court may appoint the same, not exceeding three, whose fees and necessary expenses shall be paid by the county on presentation of the proper certificate of the clerk of courts for that county, and the amount thereof shall be fixed by the court upon the coming in of the report.

## JURIES.

Jurors, how  
impanelled  
and sworn, or  
drawn by lot.  
R.S., c. 82, § 66.  
5 Me., 334  
49 Me., 575,  
592.  
60 Me., 304.  
74 Me., 153,  
511.

See 1883,  
c. 205, § 4.

—challenges.

SEC. 74. When venires for jurors are returned to court, the clerk shall, at the commencement of each term, prepare separate alphabetical lists of the names of the several persons returned as traverse jurors; and the court in impanelling them, shall cause the names, of the first two persons who attend, to be called, who shall be first sworn and then the others in succession, as they are named on the list, and in such divisions as the court directs, or all at the same time; and the first twelve shall compose the first jury; and the next twelve, on the same list, shall be impanelled and sworn in like manner, and shall compose the second jury; but before proceeding to the trial of any civil or criminal case, other than capital, the clerk may, under direction of court, at the request of either party place the names of all jurors legally summoned and in attendance, and not engaged in the trial of any other cause, separately upon tickets in a box, and the names shall be drawn from the box by the clerk, after having been thoroughly mixed, one at a time, for the purpose of constituting a jury; and each party may peremptorily challenge two jurors; but in such case all peremptory or other challenges and objections to a juror drawn, if then known, shall be made and determined, and the juror sworn or set aside, before another name is drawn, and so on until the panel is completed. A new jury shall be thus drawn for the trial of each cause; and after the panel is thus completed, the presiding justice shall appoint a foreman for the trial of the case.

Supernu-  
meraries,

SEC. 75. Supernumerary jurors may be excused, from time to time,

(a) 57 Me., 61; 65 Me., 328.

(b) 57 Me., 61; 65 Me., 327.

(c) 45 Me., 111; 65 Me. 328.

until wanted, and they may be placed on either jury as occasion requires; jurors may be transferred from one jury to the other when convenience requires it; and for good reason, any juror may be excused.

CHAP. 82.

transfers and  
excuses.  
R.S., c. 82, § 67.

SEC. 76. The following shall be the form of oath, administered to traverse jurors in civil causes:

Form of  
jurors' oath.  
R.S., c. 82, § 68.  
62 Me., 301.

"You, and each of you swear, that in all causes betwixt party and party, committed to you, you will give a true verdict therein according to the law and the evidence given you. So help you God."

When a juror is conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath, the word "affirm," shall be used instead of "swear," and the words "this you do under the pains and penalties of perjury," instead of the words "so help you God."

SEC. 77. Each jury, after being thus impanelled and sworn, shall retire and choose their foreman by ballot, or make the choice upon retiring with the first cause with which they are charged; and when a foreman is absent or excused from service, a new foreman shall be chosen as aforesaid; subject in each case to appointment by the court, as provided in section seventy-four.

Foreman,  
how chosen:  
R.S., c. 82, § 69.

SEC. 78. When, by reason of challenge or other cause, a sufficient number of jurors duly drawn and summoned cannot be obtained for the trial of a cause, the court shall cause jurors to be returned from the bystanders, or from the county at large, to complete the panel; if there are on the jury not less than seven jurors drawn and returned as before provided. Such jurors shall be returned by the sheriff or his deputy, a coroner, or such other disinterested person as the court appoints.

Talesman,  
when and  
how to be  
returned.  
R.S., c. 82, § 70.  
3 Me., 216.  
43 Me., 438.  
51 Me., 396.

SEC. 79. The court may, in term time, issue venire for as many jurors as are wanted; to be drawn, notified, and returned forthwith, or on a day appointed; and when in any county, the business requires a protracted session, the court may, during the term, excuse all or any of the jurors originally returned, and issue venire for new jurors to supply their places; who shall be drawn and notified to attend at such time as the court directs.

New jurors,  
or new juries,  
may be  
summoned  
during term.  
R.S., c. 82, § 71.  
48 Me., 439.

SEC. 80. The court, on motion of either party in a suit, may examine, on oath, any person called as a juror therein, whether he is related to either party, has given or formed an opinion, or is sensible of any bias, prejudice, or particular interest in the cause; and if it appears from his answers or from any competent evidence that he does not stand indifferent in the cause, another juror shall be called and placed in his stead.

Challenge of  
jurors, how  
tried, and  
when they  
are to be  
excluded.  
R.S., c. 82, § 72.  
6 Me., 329.  
30 Me., 485.  
32 Me., 311.  
38 Me., 45.  
43 Me., 109.

SEC. 81. In addition to challenges otherwise provided, either party may, before the trial commences, peremptorily challenge one juror from the panel unless the right of challenge provided in section seventy-four has been exercised; and the court may, by rules, prescribe the manner in which such right shall be exercised. (a)

Each party  
has one  
challenge;  
court may  
regulate  
right by  
general rules.  
R.S., c. 82, § 73.

SEC. 82. In any jury trial the presiding justice may order a view by the jury.

Judge may  
order a view.  
1877, c. 170.

SEC. 83. During a jury trial the presiding justice shall rule and charge the jury, orally or in writing, upon all matters of law arising in

Judge shall  
charge jury  
on matters of

CHAP. 82. law, but shall not express opinion on issues of fact, 1874, c. 212.

Separate verdicts as to joint defendants. 1874, c. 201. 65 Me., 499. 72 Me., 55. —costs.

Juries may find special verdicts for cases of law. R.S., c. 82, § 74.

When jurors do not agree, proceedings. R.S., c. 82, § 75.

When not disqualified by residence. R.S., c. 82, § 76.

Objections not stated before trial, are waived. R.S., c. 82, § 77. When verdict is not affected by irregularities. R.S., c. 82, § 78.

Verdict may be set aside for improper practices with jurors. R.S., c. 82, § 79.

the case, but shall not, during the trial, including the charge, express an opinion upon issues of fact arising in the case, and such expression of opinion is sufficient cause for a new trial, if either party aggrieved thereby and interested desires it; and the same shall be ordered accordingly by the law court upon exceptions. (a)

SEC. 84. In actions of contract against more than one defendant, the jury may return a separate verdict as to each defendant, or as to two or more defendants jointly, and judgments shall be entered accordingly. In case of separate judgment against defendants in the same action, the court shall apportion the costs to be taxed against each defendant.

SEC. 85. The traverse jury may, in all cases, find a special or general verdict, subject to the opinion of the court on a case agreed on by the parties and reserved, or on the facts as reported by the justice presiding at the trial.

SEC. 86. When a jury, not having agreed, return into court stating the fact, the justice may, in his discretion, explain any questions of law, if proposed to him, or re-state any particular testimony, and send them out again for further consideration; but they shall not be sent out a third time in consequence of their disagreement, unless on account of difficulties not stated when they first came into court. (b)

SEC. 87. In prosecutions for recovery of money, or other forfeiture, it is not a cause of challenge to a juror that he is liable to pay taxes in a county, town, or plantation, which may be benefited by the recovery. (c)

SEC. 88. If a party knows any objection to a juror in season to propose it before trial, and omits so to do, he shall not afterwards make it; unless by leave of court for special reasons. (d)

SEC. 89. No irregularity in the venires, or drawing, summoning, returning, or impanelling jurors, is sufficient to set aside a verdict, unless the party objecting was injured by the irregularity; or unless the objection was made before the return of the verdict. (e)

SEC. 90. If either party, in a cause in which a verdict is returned, during the same term of the court, before or after the trial, gives to any of the jurors who try the cause, any treat or gratuity, or purposely introduces among the papers delivered to the jury when they retire with the cause, any papers which have any connection with it, but were not offered in evidence, the court, on motion of the adverse party, may set aside the verdict and order a new trial. (f)

#### WITNESSES AND EVIDENCE.

SEC. 91. The clerks of the several courts, and justices of the peace,

(a) 64 Me., 290; 65 Me., 269, 324; 66 Me., 530; 67 Me., 76; 69 Me., 416; 70 Me., 286, 472; 73 Me., 317.

(b) 22 Me., 458; 24 Me., 509; 31 Me., 157; 33 Me., 492; 36 Me., 476; 73 Me., 465.

(c) 48 Me., 439; 52 Me., 413.

(d) 6 Me., 329; 47 Me., 594; 52 Me., 413, 501; 53 Me., 536; 71 Me., 90.

(e) 3 Me., 216; 8 Me., 50; 46 Me., 413; 48 Me., 439; 65 Me., 469.

(f) Setting aside verdict for misconduct, or errors of any juror; 2 Me., 38; 3 Me., 204; 6 Me., 140, 380; 11 Me., 499; 17 Me., 306; 20 Me., 97; 22 Me., 200; 25 Me., 487; 38 Me., 139; 41 Me., 551; 53 Me., 470; 55 Me., 565; 57 Me., 493; 64 Me., 213; 70 Me., 96.

For excessive damages; 3 Me., 282, 312; 12 Me., 311; 16 Me., 191; 42 Me., 248; 50 Me., 223.

Who may summon

may issue summonses for witnesses to attend before courts to give evidence concerning any matters there pending.

SEC. 92. No person is an incompetent witness on account of his religious belief, but he is subject to the test of credibility; and a person who does not believe in the existence of a Supreme Being, may testify under solemn affirmation, and is subject to the pains and penalties of perjury.

SEC. 93. No person is excused or excluded from testifying in any civil suit or proceeding at law, or in equity, by reason of his interest in the event thereof as party or otherwise, except as hereinafter provided, but such interest may be shown to affect his credibility; and the husband or wife of either party may be a witness. (a)

SEC. 94. No defendant shall be compelled to testify in any suit when the cause of action implies an offence against the criminal law, on his part. If he offers himself as a witness, he waives his privilege of not criminating himself, but his testimony shall not be used in evidence against him in any criminal prosecution involving the same subject matter.

SEC. 95. Nothing in section ninety-three affects the law relating to the attestation of the execution of last wills and testaments, or of any other instrument, which the law requires to be attested.

SEC. 96. When a party to a suit resides without the state, or is absent therefrom during the pendency of the suit, and the opposite party desires his testimony, a commission, under the rules of court, may issue to take his deposition; and such non-resident or absent party, upon such notice to him or his attorney of record in the suit of the time and place appointed for taking his deposition, as the court orders, shall appear and give his deposition. If he refuses or unreasonably delays to do so, he may be non-suited or defaulted by order of court, unless his attorney admits the affidavit of the party desiring his testimony, as to what the absent party would say, if present, to be used as testimony in the case.

SEC. 97. When one of the plaintiffs or defendants is used as a witness by the opposite party, testimony may be introduced by his co-plaintiffs or co-defendants to contradict or discredit him, as if he were not a party to the suit.

SEC. 98. The five preceding sections do not apply to cases, where, at the time of taking testimony, or at the time of trial, the party prosecuting, or the party defending, or any one of them, is an executor or an administrator, or is made a party as heir of a deceased party; except in the following cases: (b)

I.—The deposition of a party, or his testimony given at a former trial, may be used at any trial after his death, if the opposite party is then alive, and in that case the latter may also testify.

II.—In all cases in which an executor, administrator or other legal representative of a deceased person is a party, such party may testify

## CHAP. 82.

witnesses.  
R.S., c. 82, § 80.  
Religious belief affects credibility only; atheists may testify.  
R.S., c. 82, § 81.  
18 Me., 159.

Parties, husbands, wives, and others interested, are witnesses.  
R.S., c. 82, § 82.  
1873, c. 137, § 4.

Exception, when the action implies an offence.  
R.S., c. 82, § 83.  
46 Me., 326.  
48 Me., 425.  
55 Me., 490.

Attestation of wills, and instruments, not affected.  
R.S., c. 82, § 84.  
48 Me., 194.

Testimony of a party out of the state, how to be taken.  
R.S., c. 82, § 85.

How testimony of a party may be contradicted.  
R.S., c. 82, § 86.

Not applicable to executors, administrators or heirs, save in special cases.  
R.S., c. 82, § 87.

Deceased party's testimony.  
1876, c. 128.  
69 Me., 290.

Administrators may testify to facts

(a) 44 Me., 19, 348; 46 Me., 237, 248, 325, 379, 471; 47 Me., 252, 478; 50 Me., 592; 55 Me., 490; 59 Me., 180, 260; 63 Me., 211; 64 Me., 573.

(b) 45 Me., 166; 46 Me., 173, 236, 249, 474; 47 Me., 468; 48 Me., 36; 52 Me., 577; 59 Me., 180, 195, 196, 260; 64 Me., 25, 26, 573; 65 Me., 534; 67 Me., 197; 69 Me., 290, 292; 71 Me., 75, 504; 72 Me., 325; 73 Me., 342; 74 Me., 192.

CHAP. 82,  
SEC. 98.

happening  
before death  
of certain  
persons.  
1873, c. 145.

—adverse  
party not  
excluded.

Nominal  
parties, and  
parties who  
had disposed  
of their  
interests,  
shall testify.  
R.S., c. 82, § 87.  
59 Me., 508.

Account  
books of  
deceased.  
59 Me., 364.  
64 Me., 25.  
69 Me., 290.

Testimony of  
witnesses in  
probate  
cases.  
1876, c. 83.  
73 Me., 342.

Insane party.  
R.S., c. 82, § 88.  
65 Me., 534.

Same rules  
in all civil  
tribunals.  
R.S., c. 82, § 89.  
73 Me., 363.

Witnesses  
summoned,  
neglecting to  
attend, may  
be attached  
and fined,  
and are also  
liable for  
damages.  
R.S., c. 82, § 90.

Penalty for  
refusal to an-  
swer.  
R.S., c. 82, § 91.  
68 Me., 219.

Oaths, how  
to be admin-  
istered to  
witnesses.  
R.S., c. 82, § 92.

Witnesses,  
scrupulous  
of swearing,  
may affirm.  
R.S., c. 82, § 93.

to any facts admissible upon the rules of evidence, happening before the death of such person; and when such person so testifies, the adverse party is neither excluded nor excused from testifying in reference to such facts, and any such representative party or heir of a deceased party may testify to any fact admissible upon general rules of evidence, happening after the decease of the testator, intestate, or ancestor; and in reference to such matters the adverse party may testify. (a)

III.—If the representative party is nominal only, both parties may be witnesses; if the adverse party is nominal only, and had parted with his interest, if any, during the lifetime of the representative party's testator or intestate, he is not excluded from testifying, if called by either party; and in an action against an executor or administrator, if the plaintiff is nominal only, or having had an interest, disposed of it in the lifetime of the defendant's testator or intestate, neither party to the record is excused or excluded from testifying.

IV.—In an action by or against an executor, administrator or other legal representative of a deceased person, in which his account books or other memoranda are used as evidence on either side, the other party may testify in relation thereto.

V.—In actions where an executor, administrator or other legal representative is a party, and the opposite party is an heir of the deceased, said heir may testify when any other heir of the deceased testifies at the instance of such executor, administrator or other legal representative.

SEC. 99. The rules of evidence which apply to actions by or against executors or administrators, apply in actions where a person shown to the court to be insane, is solely interested as a party.

SEC. 100. The rules of evidence in special proceedings of a civil nature, such as before referees, auditors, county commissioners, and courts of probate, are the same as herein provided for civil actions.

SEC. 101. When a person, summoned and obliged to attend before any judicial tribunal, fails to do so without reasonable excuse, he is liable to the party aggrieved for all damages sustained thereby. The judge or justice of such tribunal may issue a *capias* to apprehend and bring such delinquent before him; and he may be fined not exceeding twenty dollars and costs of attachment, and committed until the same and costs of commitment are paid.

SEC. 102. When a witness in court refuses to answer such questions as the court allows to be put, he may be fined not exceeding twenty dollars, and committed until the fine and costs of commitment are paid.

SEC. 103. A person, to whom an oath is administered, shall hold up his hand, unless he believes that an oath administered in that form is not binding, and then it may be administered in a form believed by him to be binding. One believing any other than the Christian religion may be sworn according to the ceremonies of his religion.

SEC. 104. Persons conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath, may affirm as follows: "I affirm under the pains and penalties of perjury," which affirmation is of the same force and effect as an oath.

(a) 59 Me., 260; 64 Me., 25; 65 Me., 424; 67 Me., 197; 68 Me., 417; 69 Me., 290; 74 Me., 195.

SEC. 105. No person is incompetent to testify in any court or legal proceeding, in consequence of having been convicted of an offence; but such conviction may be shown to affect his credibility. (a)

SEC. 106. No person is obliged to attend any court as a witness in a civil suit, or at any place to have his deposition taken, unless his legal fees for travel to and from the place, and for one day's attendance, are first paid or tendered; and his fees for each subsequent day's attendance must be paid at the close of the preceding day, if he requests it.

SEC. 107. The records and proceedings of any court of the United States, or of any state, authenticated by the attestation of the clerk, or officer having charge thereof, and by the seal of such court, are evidence.

SEC. 108. Printed copies of statutes, acts, and resolves of the United States, or of this, or any other state or territory of the United States, purporting to be published under authority of government, may be admitted as evidence; those of this state as sufficient, those of other states as prima facie evidence.

SEC. 109. Foreign laws may be proved by parol evidence, but when such law appears to be existing in a written statute or code, it may be rejected unless accompanied by a copy thereof. The unwritten law of any other state or territory of the United States may be proved by parol evidence, and by books of reports of cases adjudged in their courts.

SEC. 110. In all actions touching the realty, or in which the title to real estate is material to the issue, and where original deeds would be admissible, attested copies of such deeds from the registry may be used in evidence, without proof of their execution, when the party offering such copy is not a grantee in the deed, nor claims as heir, nor justifies as servant of the grantee or his heirs. (b)

SEC. 111. Copies made from any portion of either of the volumes of the early records in the York county registry of deeds published and placed in each registry by authority of chapter one hundred and fifty-four of the resolves of eighteen hundred and eighty-three, may, when attested by any register of deeds having lawful custody of such printed volume; also copies made from records which have been duplicated from originals in the York county registry of deeds and filed in the Cumberland county registry by the commissioners of Cumberland county, under authority of chapter two hundred and seventeen of the public laws of eighteen hundred and eighty-three, may, when attested by the Cumberland county register of deeds, be used in evidence like attested copies of the original records.

SEC. 112. Copies of papers and documents belonging to or filed, or remaining in the office, of any consul, vice-consul, or commercial agent of the United States, and of official entries in the books or records of such office, when certified under the hand and official seal of the proper consul, vice-consul or commercial agent, are evidence. Copies of registers or enrolments of vessels, or of any other custom house records or documents deposited in the office of the collector of customs, attested by him

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Conviction affects credibility only.

R.S., c. 82, § 94.  
See c. 134, § 18.

Not obliged to attend court, unless fees are paid or tendered.

R.S., c. 82, § 95.

Records of other courts are evidence.

R.S., c. 82, § 96.

Printed copy of laws of U. S., or of any state, is evidence.

R.S., c. 82, § 97.  
61 Me., 139.

Foreign laws and unwritten laws of the states, how proved.

R.S., c. 82, § 98.

When office copies are admissible.

R.S., c. 82, § 99.

Copies of York records made from published volumes have force of copies made from original records.

1883, c. 246.

—also copies made from records duplicated from originals in York and filed in Cumberland registry.

1883, c. 217, § 3.

Copies of consular and custom house documents and records, are evidence.

R. S. c. 82, § 100.

(a) 47 Me., 108; 48 Me., 328; 51 Me., 112, 125; 55 Me., 215; 63 Me., 136; 65 Me., 79.

(b) 54 Me., 138; 55 Me., 171; 61 Me., 412; 70 Me., 280; 74 Me., 129.



**CHAP. 82.** or his deputy, under seal of office, may be used in evidence, and shall have the same effect as the production of the records in court, verified by the recording officer in person.

Adjutant  
general's  
certificate is  
evidence.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 101.  
60 Me., 252.  
70 Me., 395.

Testimony of  
a deceased  
subscribing  
witness, or  
magistrate,  
may be given  
in subse-  
quent suit.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 102.

Date of  
writing is not  
proof that  
it was made  
on Sunday.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 103.  
Defendant  
must restore  
considera-  
tion.  
1880, c. 194.  
See c. 81, § 81.

**SEC. 113.** The certificate of the adjutant general relating to the enlistment of any person from this state, in the United States' service, and of all facts pertaining to the situation of such person, to the time of and including his discharge, as found upon the records of his office, are prima facie evidence of the facts so certified, in any suit or proceeding.

**SEC. 114.** When the testimony of a subscribing witness to a deed, or of the magistrate who took the acknowledgment thereof, has been taken in the trial of any civil cause, in relation to the execution, delivery, or registry of such deed, and such witness has since died, proof of such former testimony is admissible in the trial of any other civil cause involving the same question, if the parties are the same, or if one of the parties is the same and the adverse party acted as agent or attorney for the adverse party in the former suit; but such testimony may be impeached like the testimony of a living witness.

**SEC. 115.** No deed, contract, receipt, or other instrument in writing, is void because dated on the Lord's day, without other proof than the date, of its having been made and delivered on that day.

**SEC. 116.** No person who receives a valuable consideration for a contract, express or implied, made on the Lord's day, shall defend any action upon such contract on the ground that it was so made, until he restores such consideration.

#### COSTS.

Costs for  
party  
prevailing.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 104.  
—when other-  
wise, in law  
court.  
1871, c. 206.  
If plaintiff  
appeals from  
judgment in  
his favor.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 105.

Costs in  
actions of  
replevin.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 106.

**SEC. 117.** In all actions, the party prevailing recovers costs, unless otherwise specially provided. (a) If, after a verdict, the party in whose favor the jury found, carries the case into the law court and the decision there is against him, he recovers no costs after the verdict, but the party prevailing in the law court recovers costs accruing after verdict.

**SEC. 118.** When a plaintiff appeals from a judgment of a municipal or police court, or a trial justice in his favor, and does not recover, in the appellate court, a greater sum as damages, he recovers only a quarter of the sum last recovered, for costs. (b)

**SEC. 119.** In actions of replevin, when the jury find that each party owned a part of the property, they shall find and state in their verdict the value of the part owned by the plaintiff when replevied, without regard to the value as estimated in the replevin bond; and if such value does not exceed twenty dollars, the plaintiff recovers for costs only one quarter part of such value. (c)

(a) When parties recover costs: 2 Me., 399; 5 Me., 24, 281; 6 Me., 117; 12 Me., 346, 459; 15 Me., 53; 19 Me., 23; 20 Me., 124; 26 Me., 75; 30 Me., 557; 37 Me., 549; 38 Me., 191; 39 Me., 467; 54 Me., 437; 58 Me., 41; 61 Me., 24; 68 Me., 132.

When parties do not recover costs: 13 Me., 51; 19 Me., 210; 35 Me., 19; 38 Me., 256; 43 Me., 286.

Parties liable for costs: 5 Me., 177; 6 Me., 49; 13 Me., 260; 18 Me., 336; 29 Me., 306, 560; 41 Me., 460.

(b) 1 Me., 16, 17; 4 Me., 67; 7 Me., 361; 10 Me., 69; 54 Me., 437.

(c) 2 Me., 162; 6 Me., 262; 12 Me., 54; 40 Me., 286; 49 Me., 325.

SEC. 120. In actions commenced in the supreme judicial or a superior court, except those by or against towns for the support of paupers, if it appears on the rendition of judgment, that the action should have been commenced before a municipal or police court or a trial justice, the plaintiff recovers for costs only one quarter part of his debt or damages. On reports of referees, full costs may be allowed, unless the report otherwise provides. (a) CHAP. 82.  
If improperly  
sued in judi-  
cial court,  
quarter costs.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 107.  
—full costs  
on report of  
referees.

SEC. 121. When an account is filed in set-off and the plaintiff recovers not exceeding twenty dollars, he is entitled to full costs, if the jury certify in their verdict that the damages were reduced so low as that sum by reason of the amount allowed in set-off. (b) When dam-  
ages are re-  
duced by set-  
off, full costs.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 108.

SEC. 122. When a party recovers double or treble costs, the fees of witnesses, depositions, copies, and other evidence are not doubled or trebled. Costs of evi-  
dence not to  
be doubled.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 109.

SEC. 123. On application of a private person for a writ of review, certiorari, mandamus, or quo warranto, or like process, the court may or may not allow costs to a person appearing on notice as respondent. On petitions  
for review,  
&c.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 110.

SEC. 124. When a plaintiff becomes nonsuit, or discontinues his suit, the defendant recovers costs against him, and in all actions, as well those of qui tam as others, the party prevailing is entitled to his legal costs. When costs have been allowed against a plaintiff on nonsuit or discontinuance, and a second suit is brought for the same cause before the costs of the former suit are paid, further proceedings shall be stayed until such costs are paid, and the suit may be dismissed unless they are paid at such time as the court appoints. (c) 21 Me., 400.  
Plaintiff  
non-suited  
pays cost.  
1879, c. 119.  
  
—second suit  
stayed until  
costs of first  
are paid.  
—when dis-  
missed.

SEC. 125. When a suit is brought in the name of the State for the benefit of a private person, his name and place of residence shall be indorsed on the writ; and if the defendant prevails, judgment for his costs shall be rendered against such person, and execution issued, as if he were plaintiff. A suitor in  
name of State  
is liable for  
costs.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 112.  
55 Me., 455.

SEC. 126. When a defendant prevails against the State in a civil suit, judgment for his costs shall be rendered against it, and the treasurer of the county shall pay the amount on a certified copy of the judgment; and the amount shall be allowed to him in his account with the State. State is liable  
for costs in  
a civil suit.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 113.  
26 Me., 75.

SEC. 127. When the State recovers costs in a civil suit no fees shall be taxed for the travel of an attorney. No attorney  
fee for state.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 114.

SEC. 128. The name and place of residence of an assignee, if known, shall, at any time during the pendency of the suit, be indorsed by request of the defendant on a writ or process commenced in the name of his assignor, or further proceedings thereon shall be stayed; and if the defendant prevails, judgment for his costs shall be rendered against the plaintiff and such assignee, as if both had been originally joined in the In suit in  
name of  
assignor,  
assignee's  
name shall be  
indorsed, or  
defendant  
may sue him  
for costs.

(a) 4 Me., 67; 8 Me., 106, 145; 11 Me., 149; 12 Me., 346; 21 Me., 390; 28 Me., 206; 32 Me., 85, 101; 34 Me., 207; 43 Me., 318; 44 Me., 429; 47 Me., 459; 49 Me., 335; 51 Me., 460; 53 Me., 516; 60 Me., 547; 63 Me., 268; 72 Me., 442.

Report of referees; 1 Me., 66; 14 Me., 398.

(b) 5 Me., 76; 31 Me., 130; 44 Me., 429; 56 Me., 71; 72 Me., 442.

(c) 32 Me., 36; 48 Me., 162; 60 Me., 546; 65 Me., 58, 331.

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R. S., c. 82,  
§ 115.  
See c. 111, § 6.

If assignee is not known, defendant may recover costs against him and offset judgment.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 116.

Assignee of choses not negotiable, may sue in his own name.  
1874, c. 235.  
See c. 111, § 6.

In divers actions against same party at same term, or in case of division of an account, only one bill of cost allowed plaintiff.  
1876, c. 121.

When no cost in action on judgment.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 118.

Travel in actions by a corporation.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 119.

Power of court over costs.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 120.

When bankrupt recovers no costs.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 121.

Costs may be heard by court, with right of exceptions; else clerk's decision is final.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 123.  
60 Me., 547.

action; but if not so indorsed and proceedings are stayed, the defendant may maintain an action on the case against the assignee for his costs. (a)

SEC. 129. If the name of such assignee is not known to the defendant until after he has recovered judgment against the plaintiff for costs, he may maintain an action on the case against such assignee for his costs, within six years from the time of judgment; and such judgment for costs may be set off between such assignee and the defendant, as if the assignee had been plaintiff in the suit.

SEC. 130. Assignees of choses in action, not negotiable, assigned in writing, may bring and maintain actions in their own name, but the assignee shall hold the assignor harmless of costs, and shall file with his writ the assignment or a copy thereof; and all rights of set-off are preserved to the defendant. (b)

SEC. 131. When a plaintiff at the same term of a court brings divers suits which might have been joined in one, against the same party, or divides an account which might all have been sued for in one action, and commences successive suits upon parts of the same, or brings more than one suit on a joint and several contract, he recovers costs in only one of them, and on only one of the judgments shall execution run against the body of the same defendant, unless the court, after notice to the defendant, and hearing, certifies that there was good cause for commencing them. (c)

SEC. 132. A plaintiff shall not be allowed costs in an action on a judgment of any tribunal, on which an execution could issue when such suit was commenced, except in trustee process. (d)

SEC. 133. In actions of a corporation, its travel is computed from the place where it is situated, if local, otherwise from the place where its business is usually transacted, not exceeding forty miles, unless its agent actually travels a greater distance to attend court.

SEC. 134. The power of the court to require payment of costs, or to refuse them as the condition of amendment or continuance, is not affected by this chapter.

SEC. 135. When a defendant pleads a discharge in bankruptcy, obtained after the commencement of the suit, he recovers no costs before the time when the certificate was produced in court.

SEC. 136. When a nonsuit or default is entered, or verdict rendered, or a report of referees is accepted, in an action, either party on application to the court, may have the costs recoverable taxed by the clerk, and passed upon by the court during the term; and any party aggrieved by the decision, may file exceptions thereto; but if no such application is made, the clerk, after adjournment, shall determine the costs, and his decision is final.

(a) 59 Me., 199; 62 Me., 12; 69 Me., 82; 72 Me., 56.

(b) 66 Me., 544; 69 Me., 99, 443; 71 Me., 116; 72 Me., 56, 373.

(c) 34 Me., 284; 55 Me., 454; 70 Me., 272; 72 Me., 265.

(d) 33 Me., 211; 56 Me., 80.

## ACTION FOR DAMAGES AGAINST PERJURED PARTIES AND WITNESSES.

## CHAP. 82.

SEC. 137. When a judgment has been obtained against a party by the perjury of a witness introduced at the trial by the adverse party, the injured party may bring an action on the case within three years after such judgment or after final judgment in any proceedings for a review thereof, against such adverse party, or any perjured witness, or confederate in the perjury, to recover the damages sustained by him, by reason of such perjury; and the judgment in the former action is no bar thereto.

Rights of action against party or perjured witnesses for damages, when a judgment has been obtained by perjury.  
R. S., c. 82, § 124.  
73 Me., 379.

## EXECUTIONS.

SEC. 138. Executions may be issued on a judgment of the supreme judicial court after twenty-four hours from its rendition, returnable within three months. (a)

Issue, and return.  
R. S., c. 82, § 125.

SEC. 139. No first execution can be issued after one year from the time of judgment, except in cases provided for by section four; in which the first execution may be issued within not less than one, nor more than two years from the time of judgment.

Not after one year; exception.  
R. S., c. 82, § 126.  
72 Me., 339.

SEC. 140. An alias or pluries execution may be issued within ten years after the day of the return of the preceding execution, and not afterwards.

May be renewed in ten years.  
1883, c. 152.

SEC. 141. When execution is not issued within the times prescribed by the two preceding sections, a writ of scire facias against the debtor may be issued to show cause why execution on the judgment should not be issued, and if no sufficient cause is shown, execution may be issued thereon.

When execution is not so issued, scire facias on judgment.  
R. S., c. 82, § 128.  
69 Me., 88.

SEC. 142. On executions, issued on judgments or acknowledgments of debt, interest shall be collected from the time of judgment, or payment, and the form of the execution be varied accordingly.

Interest on judgments.  
R. S., c. 82, § 129.  
60 Me., 258.

SEC. 143. A justice of the court in which the judgment was rendered, upon proof by affidavit or otherwise of the loss or destruction of an execution unsatisfied in whole or in part, may order a new execution to be issued for what remains unsatisfied.

New, may be issued on proof of loss.  
R. S., c. 82, § 130.

SEC. 144. When the report of commissioners appointed by the probate court to decide upon exorbitant, unjust or illegal claims against a solvent estate, has been returned and finally accepted in favor of a creditor, and the amount allowed him is not paid within thirty days thereafter, he may file a certified copy of such report in the office of the clerk of the courts, and apply in writing to a justice of the supreme judicial court for an execution; and he shall order a hearing thereon, with or without notice to the adverse party. The application shall be entered on the docket of the court if in session, otherwise on the docket of the preceding term. If no sufficient cause is shown to the contrary, the justice shall direct an execution to be issued for the amount allowed the creditor by such report, with interest from its return to the probate court,

When sum allowed to a creditor by commissioners on a solvent estate is not paid in thirty days, supreme court may order an execution issued for debt, interest and cost.  
R. S., c. 82, § 131.  
61 Me., 239, 243.  
67 Me., 117.

(a) 2 Me., 112; 8 Me., 209; 11 Me., 178; 15 Me., 66; 24 Me., 306; 27 Me., 560; 49 Me., 414.

**CHAP. 82.** and costs allowed by the probate court, if any, three dollars for clerk's fees, and travel and attendance, and expense of copies and service of notices, as in suits at law.

## STENOGRAPHERS.

Stenographers: their appointment, duties and compensation.  
R. S., c. 82,  
§ 132.

**SEC. 145.** At any term of the supreme judicial or superior courts, the presiding justice may appoint a stenographer to report the proceedings thereof, who shall be an officer of the court, and be sworn to a faithful discharge of his duty. Under the direction of the court, he shall take full notes of all oral testimony, and other proceedings in the trial or causes, including the charge of the justice, and furnish for the use of the court, a fair, legible, long-hand copy of so much of his notes as the court directs. He shall receive for his services, from the treasury of the county in which the court is held, the sum allowed by the court, not exceeding five dollars a day for attendance, six cents a mile for actual travel, and ten cents for every one hundred words of the long-hand copy furnished for the use of the court. He shall also furnish a copy of so much of the evidence and other proceedings, taken by him, as either party to the trial requests, on payment therefor by such party, at the rate aforesaid.

Testimony may be proved by certified copy of notes of former testimony.  
1877, c. 187.  
69 Me., 402.

**SEC. 146.** Whenever it becomes necessary, in any court in the state, to prove the testimony of a witness at the trial of any former case in any court in the state, the certified copy of the notes of such testimony, taken by the stenographic reporter at the court where said witness testified, is evidence to prove the same.

Stenographic reports may be taxed in bill of costs.  
1875, c. 43.

**SEC. 147.** Any amount legally chargeable by stenographic court reporters, for writing out their reports for use in law cases, and actually paid by either party whose duty it is to furnish them, may be taxed in the bill of costs and allowed against the losing party, as is now allowed for copies, if furnished by the clerk.

## CRIER.

Sheriff, deputy, or clerk may act as crier.  
1878, c. 60.

**SEC. 148.** The duties of crier in the courts shall be performed by the sheriff, or any deputy, or by the clerk.