

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTH REVISION.

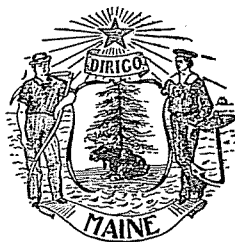
THE
REVISED STATUTES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

PASSED SEPTEMBER 1, 1903, AND TAKING EFFECT JANUARY 1, 1904.

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE LEGISLATURE.



AUGUSTA :
KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT,
1904.

CHAP. 24.

SEC. 105. The word "town" in the six preceding sections shall be construed as meaning cities, towns or organized plantations. Nothing therein contained shall be construed as changing the existing control of highways by counties or towns or as limiting or changing their liabilities therefor.

Note. Ditches and drains may be constructed by municipal officers when necessary for care of highways, c. 21, § 26.

Municipal officers to grant permits for opening streets, c. 55, § 6, for erection of poles and wires therein, c. 55, § 17; as to damages occasioned thereby, c. 55, §§ 7 and 10.

Owners of unincorporated tracts of lands may raise money for roads, c. 58, § 14.

Protection of ways from overflow, c. 94, §§ 37-42.

Penalty for advertising upon rocks or other natural objects in highway, c. 128, § 13.

Penalty for injuring guide-boards, c. 128, § 19.

The word "town" construed.

See c. 1, § 6,

§ xix.

—existing control of highways not changed.

1901, c. 285,

§§ 7, 8.

CHAPTER 24.

LAW OF THE ROAD.

SEC. 1. As used in this chapter, the word "way" includes all kinds of public ways. And the word "team" all kinds of conveyances on such ways for persons and for property.

SEC. 2. When persons traveling with a team are approaching to meet on a way, they shall seasonably turn to the right of the middle of the traveled part of it, so far that they can pass each other without interference. When it is unsafe, or difficult on account of weight of load to do so, a person about to be met or overtaken, if requested, shall stop a reasonable time, at a convenient place, to enable the other to pass. (a)

SEC. 3. When a person with a team is stationary, or traveling slowly on a way at a place unsafe or inconvenient for passing him with a team, he shall, if requested, drive to the right or left, or stop a reasonable time at a convenient place, to allow the other to pass.

SEC. 4. No person shall leave his team stationary on a way so as to obstruct the free passage of other teams; or allow his team to be on a way without a driver.

SEC. 5. Three or more bells must be fastened to one of the foremost horses drawing teams on snow without wheels.

SEC. 6. Any person injured by violation of either of the previous sections, may recover damages in an action on the case, commenced within one year. Such violator forfeits not less than one, nor more than twenty dollars, to be recovered on complaint made within sixty days.

SEC. 7. No automobile or motor vehicle shall be driven or operated upon any highway, town way, public street, avenue, driveway, park or parkway, at a greater rate of speed than fifteen miles an hour, or upon any highway, townway, public street, avenue, driveway, park or parkway, within the compact or built up portions of any city, town or village, the limits of which shall be fixed by the municipal officers thereof, at a greater rate of speed than eight miles an hour, except where such city or town may by ordinance or by-law permit a greater rate of speed.

SEC. 8. No person driving or in charge of an automobile or motor vehicle on any highway, townway, public street, avenue, driveway, park or parkway, shall drive the same at any speed greater than is reasonable and proper; having regard to the traffic and use of the way by others, or so as to endanger the life or limb of any person; and racing any such vehicle on any such ways or parks is hereby forbidden.

(a) 11 Me., 339; 25 Me., 46; 66 Me., 376; 71 Me., 347.

Definitions.

R. S., c. 19, § 1.

See c. 1, § 6,

§ 6; c. 23, § 83.

Travelers to turn to

right; if un-

able to turn,

must stop.

R. S., c. 19, § 2.

If stationary, or moving slowly, must allow others to pass.

R. S., c. 19, § 3.

25 Me., 46,

71 Me., 347.

Teams must not obstruct

passage, etc.

R. S., c. 19, § 4.

Bells.

R. S., c. 19, § 5.

Damage to party injured; penalty.

R. S., c. 19, § 6.

Rate of speed of automobiles regulated.

1903, c. 237, § 1.

Rate of speed of automobiles shall be reasonable and proper.

1903, c. 237, § 2.

CHAP. 24.

Shall stop on request of drivers of horses.
1903, c. 237, § 3.

Automobile shall have bell.
1903, c. 237, § 4.

Municipal officers may designate places where meeting with horses would be attained with unusual danger.
1902, c. 237, § 5.

—sign-boards to be displayed.

Penalty.
1903, c. 237, § 6.

Teams must walk on bridges, if boards prohibiting faster driving are exposed.
R. S., c. 19, § 7.

Forfeiture for fast driving on bridge.
R. S., c. 19, § 8.

—exception.

Driver not to leave team without fastening.
R. S., c. 19, § 9.

Certain teams, to have wide rimmed wheels, on Jackson Brook road, in Washington county, and road in Willimantic, Piscataquis county.
R. S. c. 19, § 10.
1891, c. 137.

SEC. 9. Every person driving or operating an automobile or motor vehicle shall at request and signal by putting up the hand, or by other visible signal, from a person riding or driving a horse or horses or other domestic animals, cause such vehicle to come to a stop as soon as possible and to remain stationary so long as may be necessary to allow such animal or animals to pass.

SEC. 10. Every such automobile or motor vehicle shall have attached thereto a suitable bell or other appliance for giving notice of its approach, which, when rung or otherwise operated, may be heard at a distance of three hundred feet; and shall also carry a lighted lamp between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise.

SEC. 11. Municipal officers of any city or town may designate places on any streets or ways therein, where, in their judgment, by reason of cliffs, embankments or other exceptional natural conditions, the meeting of automobiles or motor vehicles and horses would be attended with unusual danger. Such designation shall be made by causing the words "automobiles—go slow" to be conspicuously displayed on sign-boards at the right hand side of each approach to the place to be designated, and not more than one hundred and fifty feet distant therefrom; and an automobile or motor vehicle, before meeting any horse between such limits, shall be brought to a standstill, and shall not proceed, unless by request of the rider or driver of the horse, until such horse shall have passed; and no such vehicle shall pass any place so designated at a greater speed than four miles an hour.

SEC. 12. Whoever violates any provision of the five preceding sections shall be punished by fine not exceeding fifty dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding ten days.

SEC. 13. No team shall travel faster than a walk on a bridge erected wholly or partly by the state, or on any bridge covered with plank and fifty feet long composing part of a way, or on any bridge owned by a corporation, if a board with the words "three dollars fine for riding or driving on this bridge faster than a walk," legibly painted in black letters on a white ground, is kept exposed in some conspicuous place at each end thereof.

SEC. 14. Whoever wilfully violates the preceding section, forfeits three dollars, to be recovered on complaint made by any owner of said bridge, or by any municipal officer of the town in which it is located, to the owners of the bridge, or to the town required to keep it in repair; but no person passing after sunset and before sunrise is so liable without proof that he previously had knowledge of such prohibition.

SEC. 15. If the driver of a team having passengers therein conveyed for hire, leaves it without any person in charge and without fastening it securely, he may be fined not exceeding thirty dollars or imprisoned not exceeding one month.

SEC. 16. Teams with wheels, if drawn by more than two horses, oxen or mules, must have the rims of their wheels at least four inches wide; and if drawn by more than four horses, oxen or mules, at least five inches wide, when traveling on the road from Jackson Brook, in Washington county, to Forest City, and when traveling on the highway from the spool mill of the Willimantic Linen Company, in Willimantic, in Piscataquis county, by the residences of Irvine Floyd or Jabez Hathaway, to Francis' siding on the Bangor and Aroostook railroad in Abbot; and no team drawn by more than six horses, oxen or mules, shall travel thereon. This section is not applicable to stage or pleasure carriages, or to those owned

by the state or the United States, or to any cart or wagon owned by the settlers in the vicinity and used for farming purposes. The owner or driver of a team violating this section, forfeits twenty dollars and one dollar more for each mile of road passed, to be recovered by complaint before a municipal or police court or trial justice in the county where the offense was committed, and on a libel or complaint, he may issue his warrant to seize and detain such team to respond to such fine and cost.

—penalty, for violation.

CHAPTER 25.

FERRIES.

SEC. 1. County commissioners may license persons to keep ferries at such places and for such times as are necessary, except where they are otherwise legally established; may establish tolls for the passage of persons and property; revoke such licenses at pleasure; and shall take from the person licensed, a bond to the treasurer of state, with sureties, for the faithful performance of his duties. Whenever said commissioners remove a ferryman, they shall appraise the boat and other personal property used in running the ferry, at its fair value, and the person appointed shall purchase the same at said appraisal, if the person removed assents thereto.

County commissioners may license ferries, establish tolls, take bond.
R. S., c. 20, § 1.
8 Me., 368.
42 Me., 20.

—property to be appraised on removal of ferryman.

SEC. 2. They may establish ferries at such times and places as are necessary, and fix their tolls, and shall discontinue such ferries when, in their judgment, it may be expedient. When no person is found to keep them for the tolls, the towns in which they are established shall provide a person to be licensed to keep them, and shall pay the expenses, beyond the amount of tolls received, for maintaining them. When established between towns, they shall be maintained by them in such proportions as the commissioners order. For each month's neglect to maintain such ferry or its proportion thereof, a town forfeits forty dollars.

They may establish ferries to be supported by towns; penalty for neglect.
R. S., c. 20, § 2.
1903, c. 105.

SEC. 3. Every keeper of a ferry shall keep a suitable and safe boat or boats, for use on the waters to be passed, and give prompt attendance for passage, according to the regulations established for the ferry. For neglecting to keep such boat, he forfeits twenty dollars, and for neglect of attendance, one dollar, to the prosecutor in an action of debt; and is liable in an action on the case to the party injured for his damages.

Penalty for neglect to keep safe boat, and for neglect of attendance.
R. S., c. 20, § 3.

SEC. 4. Any one injured in person or property by the negligence or default of a ferryman may commence a suit on his bond, in which the proceedings shall be similar to those in actions on the bonds of sheriffs.

Who may sue ferryman's bond.
R. S., c. 20, § 4.
See c. 82, § 14.

SEC. 5. When a ferry is established by the legislature to be passed by a steam or horse boat, no other ferry shall be established on the same river within one mile above or below it.

Steam or horse ferry.
R. S., c. 20, § 5.

SEC. 6. A person, who keeps a ferry contrary to the provisions of sections one or two, or without authority transports passengers or property across any licensed or established ferry for hire, or furnishes for hire, a boat or other craft for such purpose, forfeits four dollars for each day such ferry is kept, or for each time of transportation, and is also liable to the party injured and keeping the ferry at or near the place, for damages sustained by him, in an action on the case.

Penalty for keeping a ferry, or conveying passengers or property, contrary to law.
R. S., c. 20, § 6.

SEC. 7. When tidal waters, over which ferries are established, become so frozen that travelers may pass on the ice, the keepers of them shall

Ice to be leveled and way kept in