

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



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

# DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

# THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

# STATE OF MAINE,

A. D. 1859.



AUGUSTA:

STEVENS & SAYWARD, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1859.

---

# THIRTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE.

---

HOUSE.]

[No. 41.

---

## REPORT.

---

The Committee on the Library to whom was referred an order "to inquire into the expediency of purchasing such interesting and important histories relating to the discovery and early settlement of Maine, as are not found in the State Library," have attended to that duty, and ask leave to

### REPORT:

That they consider the subject highly worthy of the attention of those who have charge of the library, and of deep interest to the people of this State. On examination of the library, your Committee are impressed with the fact that large sums of money have been spent in the purchase of works, which, however valuable they may be, are not adapted to promote the purposes for which a State library has been founded and maintained. It seems to your Committee that the money appropriated for the increase of the library, should be spent in the purchase of the most rare and valuable works upon History, Jurisprudence, the Law of Nations, the Science of Government, Politics, the Natural Sciences, and cognate branches of learning, and especially such as relate to the discovery and early settlement of this State, so that it should be a collection of highly valuable works on all these and kindred subjects, to which not only the members of the government might have access, but to which the people of the State might resort for information which could not be found in general libraries. The Committee think that fictitious works, except those of permanent interest, are inappropriate to our State Library, and should not be admitted into it.

## LIBRARY.

While your Committee are favorably impressed with the general management of the library under its present organization, and especially with the great fidelity, industry and urbanity of the gentleman who has the chief care of it, the conviction is forced upon them that its great value will soon require an organization separate from the office of Secretary of State, to which it has hitherto been attached.

E. WELLS, *Per Order.*

---

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 25, 1859.

Laid on the table, and on motion of Mr. BUTLER of Portland, 350 copies ordered to be printed for the use of the Legislature.

GEO. W. WILCOX, *Clerk.*