

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1865.

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1865.

FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 49.

REPORT.

The Somerset Delegation, to which was referred the bill, entitled an act to change the shire town of Somerset county, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report the same in a new draft, that the same ought to pass.

Per Order.

O. R. BACHELLER.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIVE.

AN ACT to change the place of holding the supreme judicial court in the county of Somerset and to change the shire town of Somerset county.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :

SECTION 1. The several terms of the supreme judicial court which are now required to be holden at Norridgewock, in and for the county of Somerset, shall, after the first day of August, in the present year, be holden at Skowhegan, in said county ; and all writs, process of any kind, and all proceedings, shall, after that time, be made returnable accordingly ; and all writs, processes, and proceedings commenced prior to that time, and which would otherwise be returnable to the September term of said court at Norridgewock, shall be entered and have day in said court at Skowhegan.

SECT. 2. After the expiration of seven years from
2 the passage of this act, the county commissioners of
3 the county of Somerset, or a majority of them, are
4 hereby authorized and empowered to cause a court
5 house to be erected at Skowhegan, suitable for the ac-
6 commodation of the courts of said county, and to pro-
7 cure a loan of money for that purpose, and assess taxes
8 for the payment of the same in such amounts, and at
9 such times, as in their judgment shall best accord with
10 the interests and wishes of the citizens of said county.
11 And said commissioners or a majority of them, shall
12 determine, after said seven years have expired and
13 not before, at what time according to the interests and
14 wishes of said citizens, the construction of said court
15 house shall be commenced, not, however, to exceed
16 twenty years.

SECT. 3. The previous sections of this act shall be
2 wholly void and of no effect, unless the town of Skow-
3 hegan aforesaid shall on or before the first day of
4 August, in the present year, without expense to said
5 county of Somerset, provide a suitable court room and
6 other accommodations for the said court and officers,
7 and also a safe and convenient place in said town of
8 Skowhegan, wherein to secure persons charged with
9 crimes or offences during each session of said court to

10 be held as aforesaid, to the acceptance of a majority of
11 said county commissioners, and shall execute and deliver
12 to them a good and sufficient lease, or other instrument
13 to secure the use thereof to said county for the purpose
14 aforesaid, during such time as said court shall be held
15 at said Skowhegan, and until suitable buildings for the
16 accommodation of the courts are erected as before
17 provided.

SECT. 4. Before the expiration of the seven years
2 aforesaid, the town of Skowhegan shall convey to said
3 county of Somerset, a convenient and commodious lot
4 of land, situate in the village of Skowhegan, and suit-
5 able for the erection thereon of the buildings aforesaid,
6 and satisfactory to a majority of the county commis-
7 sioners, which shall remain the property of said county
8 so long as said buildings shall be occupied for the pur-
9 poses aforesaid ; and if they neglect so to do, this act
10 shall become null and void.

SECT. 5. The county commissioners aforesaid, shall
2 on or before the tenth day of August next, cause no-
3 tice of the fact that the town of Skowhegan has pro-
4 vided a suitable court room and all other things re-
5 quired by the third section of this act, to be published
6 in all the public newspapers printed in said county,
7 and also in the Lewiston Daily Journal, and in the

8 Kennebec Journal or other state paper, printed at Au-
9 gusta, the first publication to be made between the
10 first and tenth days of August aforesaid, and to be
11 continued in all the daily and weekly issues of each of
12 said papers for three weeks successively thereafter.

SECT. 6. The inhabitants of Skowhegan are hereby
2 authorized to raise money for the purposes named in
3 this act. Taxes therefor, may be assessed at such
4 times, and in such amounts, as they may vote.

SECT. 7. If the inhabitants of Skowhegan shall, at
2 any time before the erection and completion of suitable
3 county buildings, neglect or refuse to provide a suitable
4 court room and all other things required by section
5 three, then this act shall be void, and wholly
6 cease to be of any further effect.

SECT. 8. Whenever suitable buildings shall have
2 been erected as authorized by section two of this act,
3 the county commissioners, or a majority of them, shall
4 make known the fact by publishing notice thereof in
5 the same newspapers and for the same length of time
6 as above required ; and said commissioners shall cause
7 the records in all the county offices, including the registry
8 of deeds, registry of probate, the records of the
9 court of county commissioners, and all the records and
10 files of the former court of common pleas, of the late

11 district court, and of the supreme judicial court, to be
12 removed to the places prepared for them in the county
13 buildings at Skowhegan; and all of said courts shall
14 thereafter be held at Skowhegan, which shall from
15 that time forward be the shire town of the county.

SECT. 9. Until such removal, the office of the clerk
2 of the courts, except during term time, and the regis-
3 try of deeds, and of probate, shall be and remain at
4 Norridgewock as now by law provided.

SECT. 10. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent
2 with this act are hereby repealed.

SECT. 11. This act shall take effect when approved
2 by the governor.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 18, 1865. }

Reported by Mr. BACHELLER of Solon, from the Somerset
Delegation.

HORACE STILSON, *Clerk.*