

No. 523, S.]

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CHAPTER 492.

AN ACT to create section 3186m of the statutes, relating to title to real estate.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. There is added to the statutes a new section to read: Section 3186m. 1. Any person who in connection with his predecessor in title, or otherwise, has been in the uninterrupted adverse possession of any real estate for the period of ten years or more under a conveyance in writing recorded in the office of the register of deeds of the county where the land lies, or who has been in such possession for twenty years or more, otherwise than under such conveyance, may commence and maintain an action in rem in the circuit court of such county to establish his title as to any defects deemed to exist in his title to such land. He may make all persons deemed to be connected with or involved in such defects defendants by name if known, and otherwise generally all persons whom it may concern, by that specification. The summons shall be in the ordinary form, except that it shall describe the land affected by the action. It shall be served on all persons specially named as defendants as in other cases, and on all others by publication, an order for such publication being obtained after the manner provided by the statutes in other cases, so far as practicable.

2. As to all persons not appearing and contesting, judgment may be rendered on application to the court without other proof than the complaint, duly verified, proof of service of the summons and the facts as to possession as alleged, and as to other defendants the same as in other cases. The judgment shall adjudicate all matters within the scope of the complaint affecting the title and establish the title according to the facts as the same shall be made to appear in the manner aforesaid, which judgment, or a certified copy thereof, may be recorded in the office of the register of deeds in the county where the land lies, and, when so recorded, it or such record shall be conclusive evidence of the status of the title to the lands according to the facts therein adjudged.

3. No costs shall be taxes against any defendant who shall not appear and contest in some way the claim of the plaintiff.

Approved June 16, 1909.