

act, and prescribe such mode as may be necessary for the settlement of its affairs. powers of corporation.

SEC. 27. Chapter 51 of the revised statutes of this state, and all other laws conflicting with the provisions as herein established for the organization and government of joint stock companies, are hereby repealed.

Approved, April 2, 1853.

An Act to prohibit the circulation of unauthorized Bank paper.

Chap. 69

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. No person or persons, shall issue, pay out or pass, and no body corporate, shall issue, pay out or pass, or receive in this state as money, or as an equivalent for money, any promissory note, draft, order, bill of exchange, certificate of deposit, or other paper of any form whatever, in the similitude of bank paper, circulating or inteded to circulate as money or banking currency, that is not at the time of such issuing, paying out-passing, or receiving, expressly authorized by some positive law of the United States, or one of the United States or of Canada, and redeemable in current gold and silver coin, at the place where it purports to have been issued. And the burden of proving the existence of such law, and the redemption of the promissory note, bill of exchange, draft, order, certificate of deposit, as aforesaid, at the place of issue, shall rest upon the person or body corporate, paying out, passing, receiving or issuing the same. Circulation of unauthorized bank paper prohibited.

SEC. 2. From and after the first day of January, A. D. 1854, no person or persons, or body corporate shall pay, give or receive in payment, or in any way, circulate as money, any bank bill, promissory note, check, draft, or other evidence of debt, which shall purport to be for the payment of a less sum than five dollars, and which may have been issued by any banking association or corporation out of this state, and any person or persons, or body corporate offending against any of the provisions of this section, shall forfeit and pay for every such offence not less than five, nor more than one hundred dollars, to be recovered by any person, sueing therefor, as debts of the like amount are by law recoverable, one half for his own use and the other half to be paid into the county treasurer. Of a sum less than five dollars.

Penalty on person violating.

SEC. 3. Any person who shall knowingly violate the provisions of the first section of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall upon conviction be punished by fine of not less than ten; nor more than one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail for a term of not less than one, nor more than six months, or by such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

Body corporate violating.

SEC. 4. Any body corporate that shall violate the provisions contained in the first section of this act, shall forfeit all the rights privileges and franchises conferred by the charter or act of incorporation of such body corporate, and shall also forfeit and pay for every such violation, for the use of the school fund of this state, the sum of five hundred dollars, to be recovered by an action of debt in any court of competent jurisdiction in the name of the state of Wisconsin, on the relation of any person who may see fit to prosecute the same. And any officer, director, stockholder or agent, of such body corporate, who shall in the name of such corporation or otherwise, violate any of the provisions of said first section, shall be subject to all the pains and penalties prescribed in the second section of this act, the same as if said violation had been committed in his individual capacity; and any such offence committed by any person named in this section, may be prosecuted in any county of this state where any of said paper may be found circulating.

Person informing.

SEC. 5. Any person who shall inform against, and cause to be prosecuted to conviction any person, or who shall on his own relation cause to be prosecuted to judgment any body corporate for violating the provisions contained in the first section of this act, shall be entitled to receive one half of the fine or forfeiture imposed for such violation when collected.

Justice of the peace to have jurisdiction.

SEC. 6. Justices of the peace shall have full power and concurrent jurisdiction to try and determine all misdemeanors, arising under the provisions of this act, upon complaint on oath being made for that purpose, by any person, in the same manner, and with same privilege of trial by jury to the accused, as provided in chapter eighty-nine of the revised statutes of Wisconsin.

Effect on contracts.

SEC. 7. All contracts that shall be made or entered into of any kind whatever, the consideration of which, in whole or in part, shall consist of any such circulating paper as is prohibited by the first and second sections of this

act, and all payments made in any such unauthorized paper shall be null and void for any purpose whatever.

SEC. 8. The certificate of the secretary of state of any of the several states of the United States, and his hand and seal, shall be legal evidence of the corporate existence of any and all banking corporations within such state.

SEC. 9. This act shall be immediately published by the secretary of state, and take effect and be in full force from and after the first day of July, 1853: The secretary of state, shall cause this act to be published in every newspaper in this state.

Approved, April 2, 1853.

An Act for the encouragement of Agriculture, and its kindred arts, in this State. **Chap. 70.**

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. There is hereby annually appropriated, until the legislature shall by law otherwise direct, to the Wisconsin state agricultural society, the sum of one thousand dollars, to be expended by said society, in such manner as it may deem best calculated to promote and improve the condition of agriculture, horticulture, and the mechanical, manufacturing and household arts in this state, either for the payment of premiums, at the annual cattle shows and fairs of the society, or in the purchase and distribution of choice seeds, cuttings, plants or tubers, which have been tested and found adapted to the soil and climate of this state, or to the prosecution of scientific investigations and experiments, and the collection and diffusion of information tending to develop the natural and agricultural resources of Wisconsin. Sum appropriated.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the executive committee, of the said Wisconsin state agricultural society, to keep an accurate account of the manner of expenditure of the said sum of money hereby appropriated, and transmit the same, together with the vouchers therefor, to the governor of this state, in the month of January, in each year, to be by him laid before the legislature. Duty of executive committee.

SEC. 3. It shall also be the duty of the said executive committee of the Wisconsin state agricultural society, to collect, arrange, and collate all the information in their power in relation to the nature, origin and preparation of