

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty - Second Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 18.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of the Temporary Home for
Women and Children.

Resolved, That the sum of one thousand dollars
2 be, and hereby is, appropriated for the use of the
3 Temporary Home for Women and Children, at
4 Deering, of which five hundred dollars shall be
5 paid during the year eighteen hundred and eighty-
6 five, and five hundred dollars during the year
7 eighteen hundred and eighty-six.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The temporary home for women and children is under the control of a corporation organized in eighteen hundred and eighty-two. A lot was presented to the corporation, and it has erected a building thereon and fitted up for the purpose of a home at a cost of \$5,000, obtained by donations throughout the State. Its revenue is derived entirely by subscriptions by individuals, from which, with considerable effort, it has obtained about \$1,500 a year.

One of its objects is to provide for homeless children under seven years of age, who otherwise would be liable to fall into vice and crime. It has already obtained homes for quite a number of such by securing their adoption, or otherwise providing for them in such manner as to secure for them the privilege of attending school and being under good influences, instead of going to the poor-house.

Another object is the reformation of women over fifteen years of age, who cannot be sent to the Industrial School, by keeping them temporarily under the good influences at the Home and securing them homes or an opportunity to obtain an honest living.

The object, in short, is to prevent vice, pauperism and crime, by taking those who are liable to become vicious and criminal and turn them in the right direction, so that they shall be under *good* influences instead of under *bad* influences.

It has been abundantly successful so far, as was shown by cases, the history of which were given the committee.

While the Home is located near Portland, more than two-thirds of the inmates have come from outside of Cumberland

County; the design and practical operation of the Home are not of a local character, but for the benefit of the State at large.

The expenses of the Institution will be \$2,000 a year for the next two years, and it will be very difficult to obtain the \$1,500 from private sources.

The character of the Managers is such as to guarantee] the faithful and economical expenditure of the money.

It appearing to the committee that this Institution is well managed, of great service in lessening and reforming the criminal class, and that its work extends to every part of the State, and can be greatly aided and extended by the appropriation asked for, the committee have voted to recommend the passage of the accompanying resolve.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January 23, 1885. }

Reported from Committee on Legal Affairs by Mr. DYER; ordered
printed under joint rule.

NICHOLAS FESSENDEN, *Clerk.*