

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty - Second Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 48.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE authorizing the Governor and Council to assist in entertaining the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and other distinguished guests.

Resolved, That the Governor and Council are
2 hereby authorized to expend a sum not exceeding
3 ten thousand dollars for the purpose of assisting
4 in entertaining the National Encampment of the
5 Grand Army of the Republic, the President of
6 the United States, the members of the Cabinet,
7 the Governors of other States, officers of the
8 Army and Navy, and other distinguished guests,
9 on the occasion of the visit of the National En-
10 campment of the Grand Army of the Republic in
11 this State the ensuing year; *provided, however*,

12 that all vouchers for such expenditures shall be
13 approved by the Governor and Council, and a re-
14 port thereby rendered to the next Legislature.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The Grand Army of the Republic is composed exclusively of honorably discharged officers, soldiers and sailors of the war of the rebellion, having branches in every State in the Union.

The objects of the organization are to inculcate patriotism, and to aid the needy survivors of the late war, and their widows and orphans.

This organization holds an annual meeting which is attended by delegates from all the States. Portland, in this State, has been designated as the place of meeting for the year 1885, and it is estimated that one thousand delegates will there be present, besides fifteen thousand soldiers who served in the late war on the quota of this State, and twenty thousand soldiers who served upon the quotas of other loyal States during the same war. It is expected that Governors of all the New England States, with their Staffs, as also the President of the United States and his Cabinet, will attend this meeting. It is estimated that \$20,000 will be required to defray the necessary expenses of the meeting. The Committee of the Grand Army of the Republic feel confident of being able to raise one-half of this sum by private subscriptions, and from other sources.

Your Committee are assured that it is not likely that a similar meeting will be held again in this State.

From reliable information, your Committee are satisfied that there will be required, for a sufficient supply of tents, equipage, cooking apparatus, straw, electric lights and water, the sum of \$7,000; for the expenses of the Executive Committee having the matter in charge, \$1,000; and for the entertainment of guests, and incidental expenses, the sum of \$2,000; making a total of \$10,000.

For a similar meeting the State of Colorado appropriated the sum of \$22,000.

Considering the debt of gratitude due from this State to the large number of its old soldiers interested in this meeting, and the great advantages which will accrue from the meeting of such a body of men within our limits, this Committee has unanimously voted to recommend the passage of the accompanying resolve.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January 31, 1885. }

Reported from Committee on Military Affairs by Mr. MOORE; ordered
printed under joint rule.

NICHOLAS FESSENDEN, *Clerk.*