

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

THE LEGISLATURE,

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1834.

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE.

NO. 40.

SENATE.

To the Legislature of Maine.

In compliance with an Order of the Legislature of Maine, received through the Secretary of State, the subscriber begs leave to submit the following statement.

In pursuance of an Act of the Legislature, passed June 1820, creating a Medical School, and placing it under the direction of the Trustees and Overseers of Bowdoin College, the aforementioned Trustees and Overseers established a *Faculty of Medicine*, to whom the immediate care of said School is committed, and also enacted certain statutes for its regulation;—a copy of which, marked A, accompanies this.

The annual grant to the Medical School is received from the State by the College Treasurer, and drawn by vote of the Faculty of Medicine from the College Treasury.

The accounts of the Faculty are arranged under *four* distinct heads.

I. MEDICAL ROOMS. This embraces the original expense of fitting up the Medical Rooms, and of all permanent alterations subsequently made; but does not include slight annual repairs.

II. APPARATUS. This embraces only the *original* cost of *Surgical* and *Anatomical* apparatus, including under the latter dry and wet permanent Preparations, used in the Lectures. Little has been paid for Chemical apparatus, because most of the apparatus, employed in the Chemical Lectures, had been previously purchased for the use of the College.

III. LIBRARY. Under this head is placed only the actual value or *original cost* of the Books and Plates. All charges for freight, insurance, premium on exchange, &c. &c. are included under incidental expenses. A Catalogue of the Library, marked **B**, accompanies this.

IV. INCIDENTAL EXPENSES, This embraces every expense not included under the three foregoing heads; among which are the Subjects for Dissections—materials for Chemical Lectures—fuel for the Lecture rooms—transporting Subjects—importing Books and Apparatus—repairs, &c. &c.

The most expensive item under this head is *Subjects for Dissections*. As the Faculty have not felt themselves at liberty to receive, *either directly or indirectly*, any bodies disinterred in the State of Maine, they have been obliged to obtain them in other States, sometimes very distant, and at *very great expense*.

The following account of expenditures extends from 1820 to June 1833, the time at which the last payment of the grant was received.

Expended on <i>Medical Rooms</i> ,	\$1401 10
Paid for <i>Apparatus</i> ,	1117 48
Paid for <i>Library</i> ,	7314 56
Paid for <i>Incidental Expenses</i> ,	4666 86
	<hr/>
	\$14,500 00
Amount received from the State,	\$14,500 00
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Permit me to add a few remarks on the benefits of the annual grant to the Medical School.

The importance to the State of a well educated Medical Profession cannot for a moment be doubted. And it is equally certain, that the Medical School of Maine, which now holds a highly respectable rank among the Medical Schools of our Country, could not have attained its present respectability and usefulness, without the aid, which it has re-

ceived from the State. But *this aid* is still necessary to sustain and enlarge its usefulness. Already has this School, by furnishing well educated physicians, contributed much to raise the standard of the Medical profession in various parts of our State ; and hence the beneficial effects of this aid may yet be felt in most of the towns of Maine.

The science of Medicine is eminently a progressive science. New facts are discovered in rapid succession ; and many new and valuable works are *every year* published, which should be placed within the reach of medical pupils. Many of these works, on account of the plates which they contain, are so *expensive*, that very few physicians can afford to purchase them. Hence the pupil can consult them only at public Institutions. Our School is a subscriber for several very valuable works of this description, *now publishing*.

Dissections and preparations are essential to a thorough knowledge of Anatomy, on which the success of a physician materially depends. But the privilege of dissections cannot be afforded to the student, without incurring very considerable expense.

While the liberality of the State to the Medical School in past years is gratefully acknowledged, it

may with truth be asserted, that the experience of thirteen years has shown, that the aid, annually received from the State, is not more than sufficient to defray the necessary expenses of the Lectures, and furnish those *annual additions to the Library and Apparatus*, which the success and usefulness of the School require.

I have the honor to be

your obedient servant,

PARKER CLEVELAND,

Secretary of the Medical School of Maine.

Brunswick, Feb. 25, 1834.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, February 26, 1834.

ORDERED, That three hundred copies of this Communication
be printed for the use of the Legislature.

[Extract from the Journal.]

Attest, WILLIAM TRAFTON, *Secretary*.