

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

## THE LEGISLATURE,

OF THE

## STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1837.

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*AUGUSTA:*  
SMITH & ROBINSON,.....PRINTERS.

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1837.

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# SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE.

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**No. 3.**

**SENATE.**

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## COMMUNICATION

FROM THE

### AGENT FOR BUILDING THE INSANE HOSPITAL.



ACCOMPANYING THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

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*To the Governor and Council.*

GENTLEMEN:—Soon after my appointment as Agent for building the Insane Hospital, I agreed with Mr. John D. Lord to superintend the work as it shall progress, and I have pleasure in saying that he appears competent, energetic, and faithful.

Soon after securing the services of Mr. Lord, he was despatched to see, examine and become acquainted with the establishments for the Insane at Charlestown, Worcester and Hartford, and particularly with the construction and interior arrangement of those institutions.

After you had determined upon the plan of the Hospital for Maine, Mr. Lord made a model of the building, which you have seen, and which embraces some improvements upon all the plans that we have yet seen.

As early as was practicable we proceeded to ex-

amine the ground upon which the Hospital should be placed, and found that by some extra digging, the foundation of the whole building might be made to rest upon a ledge, which was regarded to be so important, that it has been so done, and the stone walls in their whole extent are placed upon a solid ledge.

The cellar is completed ready to receive the Ashler courses; the drains to conduct the water and filth, through and from the buildings in culverts made of brick and laid in cement, are finished, and the grounds about the building and lot are graduated, and nearly levelled.

The right to take water for the use of the Hospital, from the springs upon Mr. Lord's land, has been secured and conveyed to the State, and two large cisterns constructed in them, from which the water is conducted in lead pipes to a point near to the building to be continued into and throughout the Hospital when finished.

A spring affording considerable water, near the front of the building, has been stoned up, and a lead pipe placed in and from it, to conduct the water into the basement story of the principal building.

Contracts have been made for supplying all the brick and stone for the building, and for preparing and hammering the stones to lay in the work—part of the bricks and stone have been delivered on the lot, and the contractors are at work upon the stone.

A portion of the lumber wanted has been obtained and stuck up, and more is agreed for—proposals for building a workshop, and for furnishing the timber for the Hospital have been issued, and contracts will be made as soon as satisfactory offers shall be made.

What has been done is well done, and although the progress made may be less than was anticipated, yet considering the high prices for labor and materials during the past season, it may be and probably is true, that as much has been done as the interest of the State would warrant.

The purchase of land adjoining the original lot, from Mr. Toby, as authorized by you, has been made, and the deed placed in the hands of the Treasurer.

The growing interest for the establishment of Institutions for the relief of the Insane in our country, may be regarded as indicating to Maine the importance of making her's such as shall not only meet the wants of the present generation, but abide and be a blessing to those who may succeed us,—and when it is considered, that so many advantages of situation, prospect, water, &c. have been secured, it may well be hoped, that the State will make the establishment for her Insane all that it should be.

I have the honor to be,

Most respectfully,

Your ob't Sev't,

**REUEL WILLIAMS.**

Augusta, Dec. 1836.

## STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, JANUARY 9, 1837.

*Ordered*, That 1000 copies of the Documents accompanying the Governor's Message, be printed for the use of the Legislature.

Sent down for concurrence.

J. C. TALBOT, *President*.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }  
JANUARY 9, 1837. }

Read, and 1000 copies ordered to be printed in concurrence.

H. HAMLIN, *Speaker*.