

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1849.



Augusta:

WM. T. JOHNSON;.....PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1850.

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE.

No. 36.]

[SENATE.

STATE OF MAINE.

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The joint select committee appointed to visit the State Prison to make an examination into the affairs of the prison, agreeable to the recommendation of the governor, in his annual message, and also the recommendation of the officers of the prison, have attended to the duty assigned them, and ask leave to submit the following

### REPORT.

Your committee waited on the officers of the prison on the morning of the thirty-first ult., who received them cordially and extended to them every facility for prosecuting the object of their visit. Your committee are of the opinion that a classification of the convicts would be of great benefit to that unfortunate class of beings, and would be a deed of humanity; but owing to our short stay at the prison, and believing the officers of the prison are better qualified to suggest a mode of classification, we therefore recommend that the warden, or the officers of the prison be requested to forward to the governor and council some mode of classification, as soon as convenient. Your committee spent the entire day in and about the prison, propounding questions to the convicts in regard to their treatment by the officers, and by observation and enquiry, your

committee are of the unanimous opinion that their treatment is such as would meet the approbation of the entire community. Every thing about the cells and convicts were in good condition. Your committee are happy to report that the proposed hospital and solitary cells are in rapid progress, and when completed will be of great service to the prisoners and credit to the State ; we therefore recommend an appropriation of two thousand seven hundred dollars for the completion of the same, and for the slating the warden's house, and the guard house. The shops connected with the prison are commodious and convenient, with the exception of the shop for storage of goods ready for sale, which is very inconvenient and entirely too small ; we would recommend an appropriation of six hundred dollars for the erection of a shop for that purpose. Your committee would further report that the officers of the prison reiterated the statements made by them under oath, and published in the *Lime Rock Gazette*, in the months of June and July last, on the subject of the commitment and death of V. P. Coolidge, which statements we believe are correct and true ; we therefore recommend that the statements referred to above be printed in connection with this report.

JOSEPH MERRILL, *Chairman.*

# STATE OF MAINE.

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## RESOLVES in favor of the State Prison.

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*Resolved,* That there be appropriated and paid out  
2 of the state treasury to the warden of the state prison,  
3 a sum not exceeding two thousand seven hundred  
4 dollars, for the completion of the hospital now under  
5 construction, and for the repair of the Warden's  
6 house and guard house.

*Resolved,* That there be appropriated and paid out  
2 of the state treasury to the warden of the state prison,  
3 a sum not exceeding six hundred dollars, for the pur-  
4 pose of erecting a suitable building for the storage of  
5 articles ready for sale; and the governor is hereby  
6 authorized to draw his warrant for the whole or any  
7 part of said sums, as in the opinion of the warden  
8 and inspectors may be required.

## STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, August 6, 1849.

ORDERED, That 350 copies of the foregoing Report and accompanying Resolves, be printed for the use of the Legislature.

DANIEL T. PIKE, *Secretary.*