

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1850.

Augusta:

WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1850.

ANNUAL REPORT
ON
INTERNATIONAL
LITERARY EXCHANGES,

MADE TO

HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN HUBBARD,

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MAINE,

BY

ALEXANDRE VATTEMARE,

AGENT OF THE STATE,

JUNE 5, 1850.

Augusta:

WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1850.



REPORT.

NEW YORK, JUNE 3d, 1850.

His Excellency the Governor of the State of Maine.

SIR :

I have the honor of addressing to your excellency two cases containing a collection of useful works relative to legislation, judiciary, sciences, arts, agriculture and commerce of which the list is enclosed. (A) Among them I would respectfully call your attention to the lately published number of *the voyage and scientific exploration of Persia*, published by the French government, considered generally as the most important illustrated work on ancient and modern Persia ever published in Europe ; *Moreris' great Historical dictionary*, Paris 1759, 10 large folio volumes, *Billaret & Garnier's History of France*, 30 volumes 12 mo., *The Universal Dictionary of sciences and arts* 2 folio volumes. *Bulletin des bierels d' invention* containing the drawings and specifications of the inventions patented by the French government, 5 quarto volumes. *La Salerie d' Orleans* containing more than 150 lithographic copies of the most beautiful master pieces of the arts comprising the celebrated picture gallery of the palais royal, 2 large folio volumes. The public documents, journals, etc., of the chamber of deputies, during the session 1847-48 ; these, with those already presented, form a complete series of the proceedings of this legislative body from 1835 to 1848, the last year of its political existence, or a detailed account of the legislative and political events during thirteen years of the administration of Louis Phillippe. All

the above and many other books, are presented by France to Maine, not so much as returns for what, as agent of the state, I presented, as fresh tokens of paternal love towards the Union in general, and towards Maine as one of the states of the Union. These offerings, proceeding as they do, from the National Assembly, and from the several executive departments of the present administration, are the best security we can have of the permanency and growth of the ancient bonds of friendship between America and France whatever be the political form of their governments. And permit me, Sir, to remark that these offerings might, indeed, have been much more important and useful, if I had had a gentleman exclusively connected with the state library, with whom I could have corresponded, whose duty it would be to study the present and future wants of the library, and communicate them to me. At present the unbounded confidence of the legislature in my humble abilities and devotion, perplex me, because I am anxious to be useful while I can, but unfortunately I am not enough acquainted with all the wants of the many ardent minds of this young and vigorous nation. For among the great services the system of exchange is calculated to render, in the rapid diffusion of knowledge and international good will, is the opportunity it offers to colleges and scientific bodies of America, to open intercourse, rapid and uninterrupted correspondence and exchanges with corresponding establishments of Europe, and thus to enjoy the benefits of the law passed in Congress, 1848, which law admits *duty free*, all works of science, arts, etc., that may be transmitted through the central agency for international exchange to the executive of any state in the Union; for were our system confined to providing state libraries only, however important such operations may be, it would be far from reaching the high character of usefulness for which it was founded. I therefore respectfully propose, that, if agreeable to the legislature, the services of our central agency be made available to every incorporated university, college, and scientific establishment of the state, provided their communications to said agency be made through the executive, or through a special standing committee,

which your excellency would, with the authorization of the legislature, appoint; a committee composed of scientific gentlemen disposed to lend their assistance, and whose patriotic services would be honorary and gratuitous. This committee, or board of trustees of the state library, whose permanency would, like those of New York and Massachusetts, be placed beyond the reach of causes which might interrupt it, would keep regular correspondences for international exchanges, stimulate domestic exchanges with all the states of the Union, transmit the documents, etc., destined for foreign nations to the central agency in Paris, whose duty is to distribute them among the legislative and scientific establishments of Europe, to negotiate and to transmit the objects exchanged.

Under the direction of such a committee, established upon the same footing in every state of the Union, the system of exchange would acquire at once all the character of usefulness and importance required, and which cannot be otherwise secured. Then your libraries and scientific collections would soon be provided at no expense with all the intellectual productions of the old world. Soon, America would have nothing to envy in Europe, for the moment opportunity shall be given to the youthful inquisitive genius of her sons, she will place herself without doubt in the field of science and arts on an equal footing with the most privileged nations and obtain in many of their branches that superiority she has already obtained in many other respects. The second annual report (*B*) of the proceedings of the central agency, during the year 1849, will give your excellency an idea of the effect produced upon the mind of the people of France and indeed of all Europe in beholding the exhibition of the specimens of American ingenuity, as well as their scientific and literary productions. From it you will judge of the labors and popularity of our agency, an agency which may in fact be considered as an intellectual exchange office distributing its drafts to all points of the compass without discounts. The annexed account (*C*) of our expenditure during the last three years will give an idea of the sacrifices this self imposed mission has occasioned its humble projector. You

will perceive that the sums received from congress and the several states whose agent I have the honor to be, amounted during that period to \$5,940 00, and the expenses to \$12,113 47, the expenses exceeding the receipts by the sum of \$6,173 47. My means, exhausted by these advances, and still more by considerable losses caused by an absence of more than three years from my home at a critical period when my presence was most imperatively required, would not allow me to support another loss like this. Yet, Sir, the expenses would have been much greater, indeed I never should have been able to go so far as I have, had it not been for the generous hospitality with which I have been treated from the first day of my second visit to the United States in June 1847, almost to this day all over this blessed union; a liberality in which Maine was surpassed by none other, where I was not allowed to spend a single dollar during the time it was my good fortune to be the honored guest of Augusta, Portland, and Bangor. Almost everywhere I have been treated as a cherished friend returning home after a long absence.

The same kindness and liberality awaited me on the part of all the railroad, steamboat and ferry companies, who have always granted me a free passage wheresoever the duties of my mission required my presence. The best evidence of this liberality is in the fact, that for the last three years, my traveling expenses, from one end of the United States to the other, have not exceeded or even reached twenty dollars!! These facts, Sir, speak more eloquently than any expression from my grateful heart. I beg of your excellency to believe that the above remarks on my pecuniary losses are not made for Maine, which was the very first among the states of the Union to tender me a helping hand at the earliest stage of my efforts in America, and which has continued ever since, its support not only for the present, but for the future. The happy experience of past kindness and good faith is my best guaranty for the continuation of the liberal support granted ever since 1844, to our central agency.

I on the contrary beg leave to give utterance, on this occasion,

to this expression of the ardent and lasting gratitude which fills my heart towards Maine ; for were the noble example of her courtesy and perseverance in liberality and kindness to be followed by other states who have enlisted themselves in this benevolent confederacy of nations, my mind would be relieved from all anxiety, and I could return home to consummate the offering I have made of myself to this cause by devoting the years that may be spared to me to aid it, to watch its progress and then carry with me to the grave the conviction that my humble life has not been entirely useless to the success of this cause of knowledge and good will among my fellow men.

I have the honor to be very respectfully,

Your Excellency's very humble and obedient servant,

ALEXANDRE VATTEMARE.



APPENDIX.

(A)

LIST OF BOOKS

PRESENTED TO THE STATE OF MAINE, IN THE NAME OF FRANCE.

By the National Assembly.

Documents and Journals of the Chamber of Deputies, Sessions 1847-48, completing the series from 1845—14 volumes in 8vo.

From the Minister of Justice.

Report of the Administration of the Civil and Commercial Justice of France, during the years 1845-46—published 1847-48—2 vols., 4to.

Report of the Administration of the Criminal Justice of France, during the years 1845-46—published 1847-48—2 vols., 4to.

From the Minister of War.

Reports of the Expenditures of the Department of War, during 1846-47-48.

From the Minister of the Navy.

Reports of the Expenditures of the Departments of Maine and Colonies, during the years 1847-48—8 vols., 4to.

From the Minister of the Interior.

The Constitutions of France, from 1789 to 1848, inclusive—
one vol., 12mo.

Voyage in Persia, by Messrs. Eugène Flanding, painter and Pascal Coste, Architect, undertaken by order of the government, composed of collections of ancient architecture, Bas-relief, Cuneiform and Pehlvis, inscriptions, &c., and picturesque views, numbers from 31 to 38—1847-48-49—large folio, to be continued.

The Panopticon, relative to prisons, &c., by Jeremy Bentham—
London—1791—2 volumes, 8vo.

From the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

The French Agriculture, by the Inspectors of Agriculture, the State of Agriculture in the Department of the Aude,—1847—1 vol., 8vo., with map, the 7th volume; La Normandie an Agricultural and Horticultural Monthly Journal—all the numbers from March 1847, to 1849—2 vols.

Annals of Horse Breeding and of Agriculture, with plates, the 3d vol.

Courses of Agriculture, by Count Gasporin—the fourth volumes 8vo., with plates. [Please to inform whether the third edition, first vol. are there?]

Treatise on Improvements and Manners, by Jorgnaux.

Studies on Horses, by M. Gayet—1846-47.

The German Agriculture, by Rayer—1847-48, large 8vo., with plates—its most recent organization, practice, manners.

History of the Disease of Potatoes, 1845—by Decairus.

The Cultivation of the Mulberry tree, by Boyer—2 vols.

Concurrence of Cattle for market, with a number of plates—1 vol., 8vo.—Paris: 1849.

A Complete Treatise on the Cultivation of Grapes—by Marchord.

A Manual for persons raising horned cattle—by Villery.

Practice of the theoretic courses of Agriculture by Jouet.

Treatise on the Silk Worms, with plates—by —————

Horticultural Courses—by Portraux.

The Little Agriculturist or Elementary Botany.

Moral Right—by L. De Nalserus.

General Report on questions relative to the Domestication and Naturalization of useful animals.

From the Minister of Public Works.

The second volume Descriptive of the Great Geological Map of France—4to vol., 1845.

From the Minister of the Interior.

Report of the Central Jury, on Arts and Science, concerning the rewards awarded to the most meritorious inventors as well as the merit and importance of the objects exhibited at the great yearly exhibition of the National Industry of France, at Paris, 1844—3 vols. 8vo.

From the Minister of Public Instruction.

History of France from the establishment of monarchical government to Louis the XIV—1786—30 volumes—12mo.

The Great Historical and Universal Dictionary, by Mouel, Paris, 1759—10 large folio vols., procured in exchange for works from this department for the University of Virginia.

From the Directors General of the Custom House of France.

General tables of the Commerce and Navigation of France, with the colonies and the foreign nations, during the year 1848, being the continuation of this important publication—folio vol., 1849.

The Interior Coasting Trade of France, during the year 1848—folio vols., 1849.

From the City of Paris.

Proceedings and deliberations of the Common Councils of Paris, and Councils General of the Departments of the Seine, from 1847 to 1849, inclusive—7 vols., 8vo.

The Gallery of the Duke of Orleans—two large folio volumes, containing more than one hundred and fifty highly prized lithographs, by the best Artists of the metropolis, having copies of the best pictures in the celebrated Gallery of the "Palace" Royal in Paris.

From the Central Agricultural Society, of Paris.

Bulletin of the proceedings of the Society, during 1847-48—2 vols. Memorials of the Royal and Central Agricultural Society—a continuation of the series already presented—1847-48—3 vols.

120 volumes.

As the packing up of these books was made in great hurry, some may have been left out ; if so, I beg of the state librarian to let me know whether the collection is complete ; if not, what are the books wanted ?

ALEX. VATTEMARE.

(C)

Receipts for the Agency, viz :

From the State of	Maine, for the years 1848-49, \$300,	\$600 00
"	" Vermont, " 160,	320 00
"	" New York, " "	850 00
"	" Virginia, " "	500 00
"	" North Carolina, 1849,	300 00
"	" South Carolina, " "	300 00
"	" Massachusetts, 1848-49,	600 00
"	" Rhode Island, 1848,	200 00
"	" Connecticut, 1849,	200 00
"	" New Hampshire, " "	200 00
"	" New Jersey, 1848,	300 00
	New Hampshire also paid hotel expenses at Concord,	50 00
"	" Delaware, \$20 for traveling expenses, (and an appropriation annually of \$100, not yet received.)	.
From Congress,	.	1,500 00
		<u>\$5,940 00</u>

N. B. From the above statement, it will be seen that *eight* States have paid their entire appropriation ; *three* a part only, and *two* nothing yet. And of the \$2,000 voted by Congress, only \$1,500 have been given the agency.

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Account of Expenditures of M. Vattemare's Agency since 8th June, 1847 to 14th March, 1850, rendered chiefly from memory, viz :

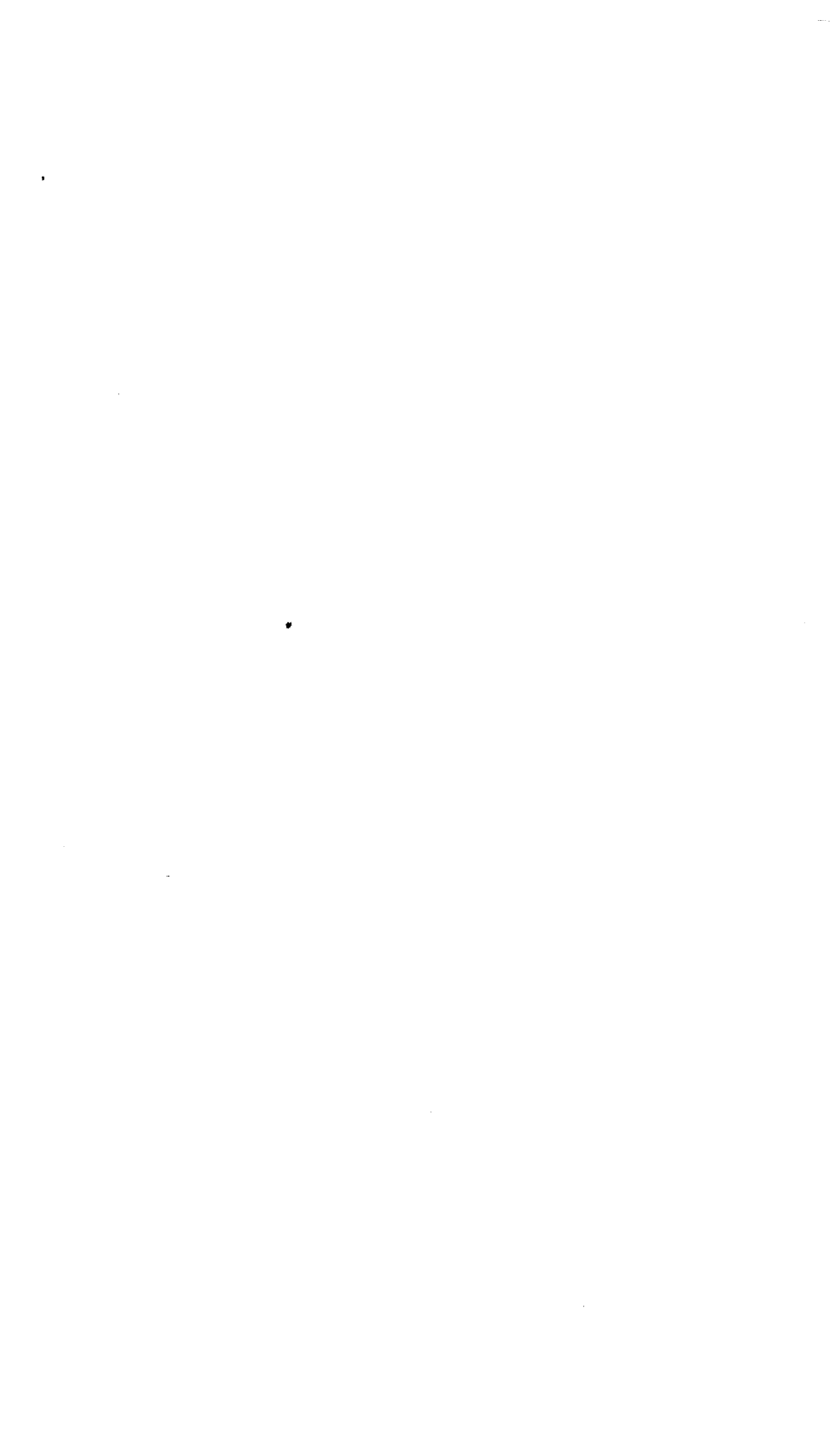
1847.		
June 8.	Paid Fox & Livingston, for passage on board the packet ship Admiral, from Havre to New York, including freight for 52 large cases of books, &c.,	\$276 00
	Hotel expenses for two days, the city kindly defraying all expenses afterwards,	4 50
	Mr. Gadsby and Mrs. Payton, for one year's residence at Washington,	393 76

Account of Expenditures of M. Vattemare's Agency—(Continued.)

1847.		
June 8.	Hotel expenses for 35 days at Harrisburg, Pa.,	47 62
	Paid traveling expenses twice to Harrisburg, and thence to Philadelphia,	2 00
	To waiters at the Columbia House, Philadelphia, during a stay of three weeks, (the landlords refusing to render any bill,)	50
	Eight days' residence at the City Hotel, Providence, Rhode Island,	16 00
	Visits and two days' residence at West Point,	6 00
	Partition in U. S. Store, Brooklyn,	18 00
	Ferriage from New York to Brooklyn, for five months,	6 18
	Postage, stationery, &c., for three years,	157 00
	Clothing, washing, omnibus hire, &c.,	208 00
	Storage, commission, freight from different parts of the Union to New York, and from Havre to New York, and vice versa, (Messrs. Boyd & Hinkins, agents of the Havre and New York packets, having constantly refused to charge for freight from New York to Havre,)	548 91
	Dining at ordinary, Brooklyn, about 50 days, at 12½ cents,	6 00
	To Mr. Moreau, sub-agent, for regular annual expenses of the central agency, from 1st May, 1847, to 1st May, 1849, (see my first printed report of 1848,)*	10,500 00
		<u>\$12,113 47</u>

It will be perceived that the expenses have exceeded the receipts, by the sum of \$6,173 47.

* Viz:—For Mr. Moreau, sub-director, per year,	1,000 00
Clerk,	450 00
Two messengers,	400 00
Rent of office,	400 00
Traveling expenses,	1,500 00
Sundry expenses for printing reports, boxing, &c.,	1,500 00
	<u>5,250 00</u>
Second year the same,	5,250 00
Amounting as above, to	<u>\$10,500 00</u>



STATE OF MAINE.

IN COUNCIL, June 12, 1850.

ORDERED, That 250 copies of the foregoing Report be printed for the use of the Legislature.

Attest :

JOHN G. SAWYER, *Secretary of State.*