

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1853.

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**Augusta:**  
WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1853.

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# THIRTY - SECOND LEGISLATURE.

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HOUSE.]

[No. 10.

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## M E S S A G E .

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*To the Senate and House of Representatives :*

I herewith transmit a Report from the Board of Commissioners, appointed under the resolve of August 20, 1850, for the establishment and erection of a State Reform School. A further appropriation has become necessary for the discharge of indebtedness already incurred and the completion of the undertaking. The amount required, however, does not exceed, with what has already been appropriated, the estimate of the Commissioners heretofore submitted to the Legislature.

As the buildings will be so far completed within a few weeks, as to be in readiness for the reception of inmates, I invite your early attention to the enactment of such laws as may be necessary to carry out the object of the institution and provide for its government.

WM. G. CROSBY.

FEBRUARY 7, 1853.

# REPORT.

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*To His Excellency, JOHN HUBBARD,*

*Governor of Maine :*

SIR:—The undersigned, Commissioners for erecting the State Reform School buildings, provided for by a resolve of the Legislature, passed August 20, 1850, respectfully Report:—That immediately after the adjournment of the last Legislature, the work of construction, commenced the preceding year, was resumed, and has since been prosecuted with as much rapidity as was considered desirable.

The appropriation of last year being insufficient to finish the building and fit it for occupation, the completion of the structure was not urged at so early a period as might otherwise have been required. The whole work upon the exterior, however, has been performed, and the interior finish so far advanced as to admit of its occupancy at any time, which may be designated by the Legislature, after the first of March next. The work thus far has been substantially and thoroughly done, and all the stipulations undertaken by the contractors faithfully performed. The edifice is capacious in its dimensions, and well adapted to the purpose for which it is intended. All the wants of such an institution are amply provided for, and the work rooms, school rooms, chapel, bathing room, kitchen, dormitories, &c., are conveniently and economically arranged, and of sufficient capacity to accommodate the number named in the first report.

The dwelling provided for the Superintendent is contiguous to and connected with the apartments of the inmates, and affords such

ready access to all parts of the building as to render the supervision convenient and easy. A large space has been excavated from the hill in rear of the building and the earth used for filling and grading in front. This space it is proposed to surround with a substantial wall, and a contract has been made and partly executed to that effect. Water of excellent quality and in abundant quantity has been found near the building, and may be brought into the basement story, where it will be chiefly wanted, at a small expense.

It is believed by the undersigned, that the location, the building and the farm attached to it, are well fitted for such an institution as was designed by the Legislature, and that when in successful operation, the benefit it will confer upon society and the State will amply compensate for the outlay it has cost.

The estimate submitted last year was intended to provide for everything required to put the institution into full operation, and they would reiterate the opinion expressed in their former report, that with the large and productive farm belonging to it, the institution, when properly under way, will require but little aid from the State.

The balance remaining unappropriated from that estimate is \$18,000, a portion of which was required for improvements upon the farm, the purchase of stock, tools, &c., and the repair of the buildings on the farm when conveyed to the State. With the exception of the last named items, these were the estimates originally submitted to the Legislature, and are now regarded as sufficient to put the institution into successful operation.

The undersigned were required "to prepare a system for the government of the school," a draft of which will be found annexed to their report of last year. To that report and the report of the preceding year they beg leave to refer your Excellency for further and full information in reference to their former proceedings.

H. J. ANDERSON, }  
JOHN W. DANA, } *Commissioners.*  
H. CARTER, }

JANUARY 4, 1853.

## STATE OF MAINE.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }  
February 9, 1853. }

ORDERED, That 350 copies of the foregoing Message, with accompanying document, be printed for the use of the Legislature.

A. B. FARWELL, *Clerk.*