

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1855.

AUGUSTA:

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1855.

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 3.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MERCANTILE AFFAIRS AND INSURANCE. ON PETITION OF JAMES B. CAHOON AND OTHERS.

The Committee on Mercantile Affairs and Insurance to whom was referred the Memorial of James B. Cahoon, Mayor of Portland, and others, inviting attention to the Paris Exhibition of 1855, with the Report of proceedings of citizens of Portland on that subject, ask leave to

REPORT:

That the Exposition of Arts and Industry of all Nations, to be held at Paris, France, during the present year, will afford an advantageous opportunity to make more widely known and increase the commercial demand for the works of Art and Industry of the citizens of this State; that it is desirable that means should be provided by the Legislature for securing a worthy and useful representation on that occasion of the skill and labor of our citizens, their principal branches of Industry, particularly in the "*useful arts*," and of the chief resources and products of Maine valuable in a commercial point of view, and in comparison with those to be exhibited from other States of this Union, and other countries;—and recommend the printing of said Memorial and Report, and the adoption of the accompanying Resolution.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. K. HOBART, *Chairman.*

STATE OF MAINE.

A RESOLVE for the representation of Maine at the
Paris Exposition in 1855.

Resolved, That the Governor be and hereby is
2 authorized, with the advice of the Council, to appoint
3 one or more Commissioners who shall have power, in
4 behalf of the State, to prepare, transmit, present and
5 have full charge of, a suitable representation of the
6 industrial products, resources, and occupations of
7 Maine, at the Exposition of Arts and Industry to be
8 held at Paris in France, during this year; and that
9 the Governor may draw his warrants from time to
10 time on the Treasury for sums not exceeding in all
11 five thousand dollars, hereby appropriated, to be
12 applied under his direction, with the advice of the
13 Council, for defraying the expenses of such represen-
14 tation.

PARIS EXHIBITION.

The following is an extract from the memorial of the Committee of the citizens of Portland:

The Executive Committee, appointed at a public meeting of the citizens of Portland and vicinity, to take measures to ensure a representation of the Industry, Art and Products of Maine, at the World's Exhibition, to be held in Paris, in the year 1855, have thought it advisable to enter at once upon the duties assigned them, and to invite the co-operation of their fellow citizens.

The inconvenience to which we were formerly subjected, in the transaction of business with Europe, led the people of Maine to depend almost exclusively upon other States, in their intercourse with foreign countries; and this fact, probably, more than any other, may be assigned as the reason why they so generally omitted to avail themselves of the advantages to have been derived from a fitting representation of the products of her industry at the World's Fair of 1851. The neighboring Province of Canada, with apparently no greater opportunities, and not superior to Maine in manufacturing skill and industry, from her greater familiarity with the subject, and closer intimacy with its management, obtained a most creditable position in that great display of the world's industry.

Exhibitions of the productions, whether in nature or art, of any country, where they have been attempted, have contributed important aids to the cause of science, and given a new impetus to the exertions of industry and of mechanical skill. Such expositions have, beyond any other methods yet devised, brought the results of scientific skill within the reach of all classes of people, and stimulated thereby the inventive faculties of the entire population.

In France, England, and the United States, exhibitions of this

sort, to a greater or less extent, are annually witnessed, but they have been of a local or sectional character, with few exceptions, till the plan was proposed of inviting all nations to bring to one place the results of their industry and skill, and specimens of their physical resources, to a World's Fair, to be held in London, in the summer of 1851.

The results of that exposition are justly reckoned as among the proudest triumphs of genius and art, and the inauguration and the close of that great Exhibition, are thought alike worthy of being regarded as epochs in the world's history. Its pecuniary success is one of the marvels of our age, and shows that the genius of labor and of mechanic art, has no rival in the number and fidelity of her votaries.

At the outset, we recollect that the greatest apprehension was felt that it would fail for the want of adequate pecuniary support; particularly as the building itself, designed for the Exhibition, exceeded all former structures in the vastness of its proportions and in the cost of its erection, which reached the sum of £170,743 sterling, or \$928,103. Between the first day of May and the 11th of October, 1851, however, no less than 6,201,856 persons visited the great Temple of Art and Industry, in Hyde Park, and the receipts of the Exhibition reached the enormous sum of £469,115 sterling, or \$2,275,207, leaving a large sum in the hands of the commissioners, which has been most wisely expended in reproducing it, in a more permanent form, but in all its original proportions, with vastly increased attractions, at Sydenham, where it has been converted into a great permanent Museum of Art, Antiquities and Science.

In the Crystal Palace, at Hyde Park, abundant space was assigned for the productions of the United States. This space was not seasonably or adequately filled. In this Exhibition, however, were many articles from the United States, that did credit to the inventive genius of our people, and contributed to the extension of our reputation, in certain departments of industry. But it is due

to truth to say, that nothing like an adequate representation of the products and industry of the United States, was contained in the London Exhibition of 1851.

England's great rival, across the channel, from whom her people took their idea of their Exhibition of 1851, has undertaken a similar work, on the same enlarged and comprehensive plan. A Palace of Industry, of greater extent and more enduring structure, has been erected in Paris, to which are invited specimens of the productions of all lands, under circumstances eminently favorable to complete success.

The French Crystal Palace covers—the ground floor—27,068 square yards; the surface of the gallery of the circumference counts 18,072; total, 45,140 yards. The large room numbers two hundred and sixteen windows; the pavilions one hundred and ninety-two. On the ground floor there are three hundred and eighty-eight columns, in cast iron; and eight hundred and sixteen on the second floor. The central nave has a length of one hundred and ninety-two yards, with a breadth of forty-eight yards, and its height at the entablature is eighteen yards. The building has consumed 822,000 square yards of cut stone, without counting the filling stone and the mortar; forty-five hundred tons of castings, thirty-six hundred tons of iron, and thirty-three thousand square yards of unpolished glass.

In addition to this permanent building, there is a supplement to this Palace, three-fourths of a mile in length, taking in an entire street, with its sidewalks and shade trees, in close neighborhood to the main palace, intended for the exhibition of machinery. In this department, the people of the United States can take a prominent, if not the leading part. We should be quite satisfied to have such a representation in this part of the Paris Exhibition, as that recently witnessed at the Fair of the Maine Charitable Mechanic Association, in Portland.

What we desire, however, is such a display of the products and

resources of Maine as will truly and fittingly represent its industry, and the pursuits of its population.

The question then, arises, can such a representation be made? In speaking upon this subject, we need only use the language of the Executive Committee of the Provincial Commission of Canada, who say: "That the success of the present effort to procure a creditable exhibition of our industry at the Paris Exhibition, must depend in a great degree *on the cordial co-operation of the public at large*, through the several local committees." It is for the purpose of ascertaining the extent of interest awakened on this subject, among the citizens of Maine, that this circular is addressed to them.

As the city of Portland is the port from which the products of Canada are to be shipped for the Paris Exhibition, it was deemed proper for the people of this city to take the initiatory steps in the matter, and in view of the short period of time that would elapse before the period of sending these contributions forward, after the meeting of the Legislature of our State, that some general plan of proceeding should be matured in advance, to insure a seasonable and fitting representation of its industry. And while we feel entire confidence in the ready concurrence of the Legislature, in any measure that shall secure so desirable an end, we deem it right that private enterprise should perform the principal labor for its accomplishment.

We see it stated in the English papers, that the Parliament of Canada is to appropriate £10,000 to this object, and it has established a commission embracing the leading names in the Province. We are assured that the government of Canada would feel warranted in making this expenditure, from the flattering results of their display at the London Exhibition of 1851. The knowledge thus imparted, had the effect to invite emigrants into Canada, and to largely augment its population and its trade, realizing in tenfold measure all the expenses incurred therefor.

Such, we doubt not, will be the result of a similar display on the part of Maine, at the Paris Exhibition of 1855. We have now the means of direct communication with Europe, and have only to make known to the people of Scotland, Switzerland, France, Germany, and northern Europe generally, the peculiarities of our soil and climate, the physical resources of our territory, and its advantages for commerce and manufactures, to attract to our State, at once, the better class of European emigrants who seek in the new world a soil and climate like that of the country of their birth. The result of this Exhibition, with a list of its contributions, and the name and residence of the contributors, will be published throughout Europe, with such illustrations as will make both familiar, to all who have knowledge of America, or any tendency to embark their capital or their fortunes in the new world.

The Report of the Commissioners of the London Exhibition, in six large folio volumes, which has been recently issued, contains drawings and illustrations of every article of mechanical skill which was contained in the Exhibition. As a repository of art and a text book of mechanics, it is, as we believe, by far the most valuable and the most complete of any work of this character yet published.

The results of the Paris Exhibition will undoubtedly be given to the world in a similar form, but in a style of art, and a completeness of illustration, far surpassing the work of the Commissioners of the London Exhibition.

To make our State well understood abroad, we must send out to this Exhibition specimens of our natural products and of our own mechanical and manufacturing skill. To show more readily how this can be accomplished, we propose to classify or divide our products under certain leading heads.

The arrangement of the London Exhibition in 1851, was so comprehensive, accurate and successful, that its classification, as far as given below, may be the most convenient guide in studying what articles can be sent from Maine to Paris. We propose to divide these articles into three sections.

1. Raw Materials.
2. Machinery and Mechanical Inventions.
3. Manufactures.

The sections are divided into classes. The classes, somewhat abridged, are as below stated. A few suggestions are made, in parenthesis, of specimens which it is presumed might be well represented by us.

Section I—Raw Materials.

Class 1—Mining, quarrying, metallurgical operations, and mineral products. (Granite, marble, iron, limestone, dressed and rough.)

Class 2—Chemical processes and products used in manufactures, in medicine, or for science. (Salts, potash, oxides.)

Class 3—Substances used as food. *Vegetable*—Agricultural products, cereals, pulses, oils, &c., hermetically sealed provisions, dried fruits and seeds, starch, sugar of the cane and of maple, honey.

Animal—Hermetically sealed meats, dried meats, smoked meats, dried fish, salmon, butter, cheese.

Class 4—Vegetable and animal substances used chiefly in manufactures, as implements, or for ornaments. Woods, flax, resins, ash fibres for basketing, wool, deer-horns, wood and bark for dyeing, or for tanning.

Section II—Machinery.

Class 5—Machines for direct use, carriages, railway and marine mechanism—railway and marine engines, pumps, cars, waggons, chaises, sleighs, carts not agricultural, sleds, hydraulic presses and ram, weighing machines, capstans, windlasses, &c.

Class 6—Manufacturing machines and tools—Cotton machinery, woolen machinery, for working wood or iron, for grinding, sawing, planing, &c., making bags, cards, tying knots, cider mills.

Class 7—Civil Engineering, Architectural and Building Con-

trivances—Specimens of wooden bridge, of wharf, of frame house, of scaffolding.

Class 8—Naval Architecture, guns, weapons, &c.—Models of small and large vessels, nets, hooks, &c., for sea fishing, guns, rifles, &c., blocks and tackle.

Class 9—Agricultural and Horticultural Machines and Implements—Cultivators, &c., yokes, churns, cheese-presses, garden tools.

Class 10—Philosophical Instruments and their dependent processes—Daguerreotype apparatus, measuring instruments, musical instruments, clocks, &c.

Section III—Manufactures.

Class 11—Cotton—Cotton yarn and thread, calico, ticking, duck for sails, tidies for chairs, &c.

Class 12—Woolen and Worsted—Flannels, blankets, worsted stuff goods, &c.

Class 13—Silk and Woolen.

Class 14—Manufactures from Flax and Hemp—Cordage of all kinds, canvass.

Class 15—Mixed Fabrics, including shawls, excluding worsted.

Class 16—Leather, including saddlery, harness, skins, furs, feathers and hair.

Class 17—Paper and stationery, printing and book-binding.

Class 18—Miscellaneous Fabrics, as specimens of printing or dyeing.

Class 19—Tapestry, carpets, floor-cloths, lace and embroidery, oil-carpetings, &c.

Class 20—Articles of clothing for immediate, personal or domestic use—Woolen mittens, leggins, stockings, clothes and boots, hats and caps, fur caps, and fur coats, leather gloves.

Class 21—Cutlery and Edge Tools—Scythes, hoes, axes, drawing knives, cooper tools, planes, files, &c.

Class 22—Iron and general Hardware—Tin ware, wire-bells.

gas regulators, grates, stoves, coffee-mills, zinc for roofs, lightning rods, &c.

Class 23—Work in precious metals, jewelry, &c.

Class 24—Glass—Bottles, &c.

Class 25—Ceramic Manufacture—stone ware, earthen ware, &c., bean pots, milk pans, stone jugs, beer jugs, &c.

Class 26—Furniture, Upholstery, &c.—All furniture of black walnut and bird's eye maple, polished, white pine table sanded and rubbed, basket-bottomed chairs, wicker cradles, bedsteads.

Class 27—Manufactures in Mineral Substances used for building or decoration—Cements, artificial stone, iron fire-frames, in imitation of marble, &c., soap stone work, bricks.

Class 28—Manufactures from animal and vegetable substance, not woven or felted, or included in other sections, water pails, barrels, brooms, veneering, brushes.

Class 29—Miscellaneous Manufactures and Small Ware—Soaps, candles, shaker pipes, essences, candy, "notions."

Class 30—Sculpture, models and plastic art.

In order to secure the more efficient carrying out of these plans, various matters have been referred to sub-committees as follows :

1. Finance and Printing to Messrs. Holden, Sweat, Webb, Stone and Adams.
2. Statistics of General Information, to Messrs. Pierce, Illsley, E. Carter, Jewett and Roberts.
3. Raw Materials, to Messrs. Thompson, LeProhon, McCobb, P. Barnes and Brown.
4. Machinery and Mechanical Inventions, to Messrs. Sparrow, H. C. Barnes, Gerrish, Leavitt and Senter.
5. Manufactures, to Messrs. Bancroft, Lowell, Andrews, Furbish and Fox.

The Chairman of the several sub-committees, together with the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of the general committee, are made a Board of Management.

An examination of the above catalogue will enable any one to

see at a glance, the character of the articles which are within the intentions of the committee, and any one to whom this circular is addressed, will readily determine how far he can successfully aid in carrying out the work. The sub-committees appointed will take in charge the various articles that may be forwarded. In addition to specimens of Industry and Natural Products, we would also propose the preparation of an Essay, on the resources and statistics of Maine, made up from the returns of the census of 1850, and of such additional information as can be obtained through local committees or otherwise. A circular containing specific inquiries as to the present condition of our mining, manufacturing and agricultural industry, sent into each city and town, would naturally draw forth valuable information, showing the rapid progress of Maine, during the last four years, accompanying which we could send out copies of such maps of our State as we possess or can readily obtain.

A summary showing the capital invested, the hands employed, and annual product, in value, of our leading branches of industry, would be calculated to give increased confidence and courage to our own people in the resources and capacity of the State, and add somewhat to our reputation abroad.

The Executive committee in Canada, have offered for public competition three prizes of £160, £60 and £40 for the three best essays on Canada and its resources, its Geological structure, Geographical features, Natural Products, Manufactures, Commerce, Social, Educational, and Political Institutions, and general statistics, with especial reference to the facilities for transport both of goods and passengers between the mouth of the St. Lawrence, and the regions of the West, and to a comparison of these facilities as to cost and distance, with those offered by other routes.

It is proposed by the Canada commission to distribute this work in various languages throughout Europe, as a method of inviting emigration to their Province.

From the manner in which the people of Maine responded to the recent call for the Portland Exhibition, no doubt is entertained that

they will cheerfully respond to this invitation, with the assurance now felt, that the State authorities will second the present effort.

Parties engaging in this matter, must be expected to send their contributions to Portland, from which place it is expected they will be shipped to Havre, at the expense of the State. The internal and external transports through France, is already provided for by the French Government, and the duties waived on all articles not sent out for sale.

The committee beg leave to suggest the immediate action of parties interested, and the appointment by election of suitable committees in the different cities and towns in the State, and that notice of such proceedings be made known to the undersigned through their Secretary.

Parties desirous of contributing to this Exhibition should make known their purposes to the local committee, and also immediately report to the committee at Portland. All articles intended for the Exhibition, must be sent in on or before March 15, 1855.

The articles will then be arranged and assorted, so as to avoid as far as possible an undue multiplication of articles of the same character. Any articles not sent forward will be safely kept for the disposal of the contributors.

In submitting these views, the undersigned may be allowed to congratulate the citizens of Maine, on the prosperous condition of all branches of business and of industry, contrasting favorably with the experience of former years, and to counsel all who seek to advance individual and public prosperity among us, to second every method that can be devised, to invite the introduction of capital and business into the State, the first and chiefest of which, as we believe, is to make known abroad the advantages of our position for the successful employment of capital and labor in the various branches of manufacturing industry. A general co-operation of all classes of our people, in the objects herein suggested, will as we believe, contribute towards such a result.

We cannot more appropriately express our convictions in this

matter, than by adopting the language made use of by the Maine Charitable Mechanic Association in a sentiment put forth at the close of their recent and most successful exhibition in the following words :

“*The State of Maine.* Great in its natural resources ; fortunate in its natural position—the open hand of the new world held out in reconciliation to the old—the front portal of the nation, through which must pass the social intercourse of great continents ; her future greatness is assured, if her citizens are true to her own interests.”

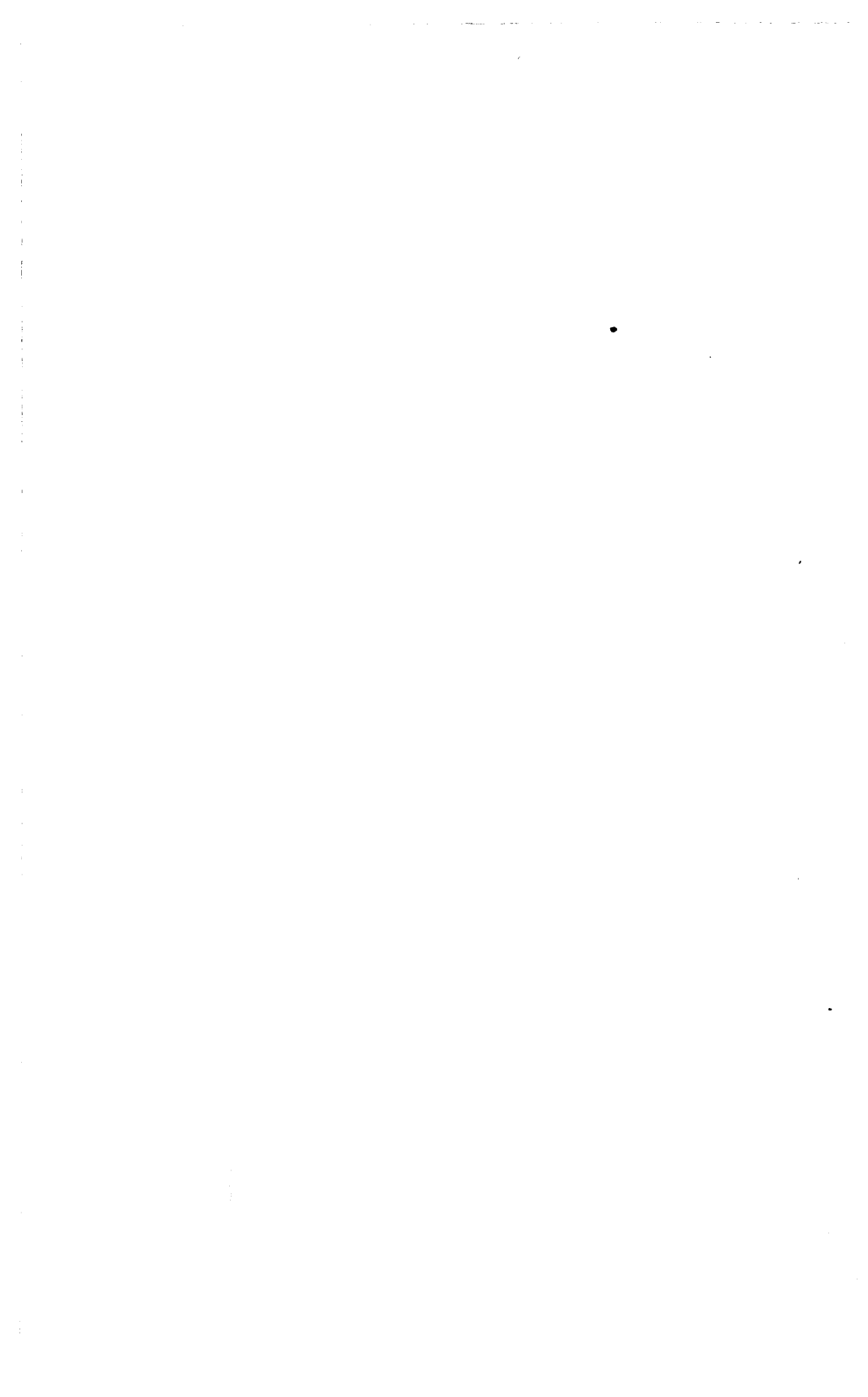
Nov. 30th., 1854.

James B. Cahoon,	James T. McCobb,	John Sparrow,
George F. Shepley,	Josiah Pierce, Jr.,	John M. Adams,
Ezra Carter, Jr.	John Rhynas,	Henry Fox,
N. L. Woodbury,	George R. Davis,	Benjamin D. Peck,
J. B. Brown,	J. S. Palmer,	E. P. Le Prohon,
H. C. Barnes,	Charles B. Merrill,	Wm. Senter,
C. H. Haskell,	Jedediah Jewett,	J. R. Thompson,
Samuel R. Leavitt,	Phinehas Barnes,	J. O. Bancroft,
Charles G. Came,	Nathan Cummings,	Charles P. Illsley,
Wm. B. Franklin,	John Roberts,	Henry Carter,
John A. Poor,	James Furbish,	L. De M. Sweat,
Charles Q. Clapp,	Asa Cummings,	Henry Stone,
John Appleton,	Abner Lowell,	Nathan Webb,
A. W. H. Clapp,	Oliver Gerrish,	Benj. Larrabee, 2d,
Charles Holden,	Wm. D. Little,	Wm. Andrews.

JAMES B. CAHOON, *Chairman.*

CHARLES B. MERRILL, *Treasurer.*

JOHN A. POOR, *Secretary.*



STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January 27, 1855. }

Ordered, That 1000 copies of the Report of the Committee on Mercantile Affairs and Insurance, on the petition of James B. Cahoon, Mayor of Portland, and others, together with the accompanying Resolve, and also an extract from the Memorial, be printed for the use of the Legislature.

H. K. BAKER, *Clerk.*