

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:

STEVENS & BLAINE, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1855.

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 6.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED
AND FIFTY-FIVE.

AN ACT for the establishment of Normal Schools.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :

SECTION 1. There shall be established in different parts of the State, in the manner herein provided, three Normal Schools or Seminaries, for the training of teachers of Common Schools, in the science and art of teaching.

SECT. 2. There shall be appointed by the Governor and Council eight Trustees, two of whom shall, in the first instance, hold their office for one year, two for two years, two for three years, and two for four years, the term of office to be by them determined by lot or otherwise, the vacancies to be filled by ap-

7 pointment by the Governor and Council for the resi-
8 due of the term which shall become vacant; and the
9 Superintendent of Common Schools shall, ex-officio,
10 be a member of said board, and President thereof.

SECT. 3. The expenses necessarily incurred by the
2 Trustees in the discharge of their duties, shall be
3 defrayed out of the funds herein appropriated for
4 the support of said schools; but they shall receive
5 no compensation for their services.

SECT. 4. To the Board of Trustees shall be com-
2 mitted the location of said schools; the application
3 of the funds for the support thereof; the appointment
4 of Teachers, and the power of removing the same;
5 the power to prescribe the studies and exercises of the
6 schools, and the rules for their management; and they
7 shall report annually to the Legislature, their own
8 do'ings, and the progress and condition of the schools.

SECT. 5. Whenever any person or persons, shall
2 offer to the Board of Trustees, the necessary buildings
3 and apparatus for the accommodation of not less than
4 two hundred pupils, in accordance with plans and
5 specifications furnished by the Trustees, and shall
6 place the said buildings and apparatus at the disposal

7 of the Trustees, for the use of the State, then the
8 Trustees accept the same, and establish in the build-
9 ings thus provided, a State Normal School, and shall
10 appropriate for the expenses thereof, one-third part of
11 the sum herein provided for the support of Normal
12 Schools; and the location of each of the other schools
13 shall be determined in the same manner.

SECT. 6. In determining the location of the schools
2 contemplated in this act, due regard shall be had to
3 the wants of the different parts of the State, to the
4 eligibility of the site, and to the quality of the build-
5 ings offered to the Trustees.

SECT. 7. Each of the Normal Schools shall be
2 open for the admission of youth of both sexes; and
3 all applicants for admission to the same, shall present
4 a written declaration, signed with their own hand, that
5 their object in seeking to enjoy the privileges of the
6 school, is to qualify themselves for the office of Teach-
7 ers, and that it is their intention to engage in that
8 employment in this State.

SECT. 8. To all the pupils admitted to these
2 schools, the tuition and all the privileges of the school
3 shall be gratuitous.

SECT. 9. The Trustees shall make provision for the
 2 model schools, under permanent teachers appointed
 3 by them, to be connected respectively with the three
 4 Normal Schools, and in which the pupils of the Normal
 5 Schools shall have opportunity to practice the methods
 6 of instruction and discipline inculcated in said schools.

SECT. 10. For the support of said Normal Schools,
 2 there is hereby appropriated, from the proceeds of the
 3 State tax on banks, the annual sum of \$12,000; and the
 4 Governor, with the consent of the Council, is hereby
 5 authorized to draw his warrants on the Treasurer ac-
 6 cordingly.

SECT. 11. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent
 2 with this act, are hereby repealed.

SECT. 12. This act shall be in force from and after
 2 its approval by the Governor.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
 January 31, 1855. }

Ordered, The Senate concurring, That 1000 copies of the accompa-
 nying Bill, entitled "An Act for the establishment of Normal Schools,"
 be printed for the use of the Legislature.

Read and passed. Sent up for concurrence.

H. K. BAKER, *Clerk*.

IN SENATE, February 3, 1855.

Concurred.

J. W. KNOWLTON, *Secretary Protem*.