

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1856.

PART FIRST.

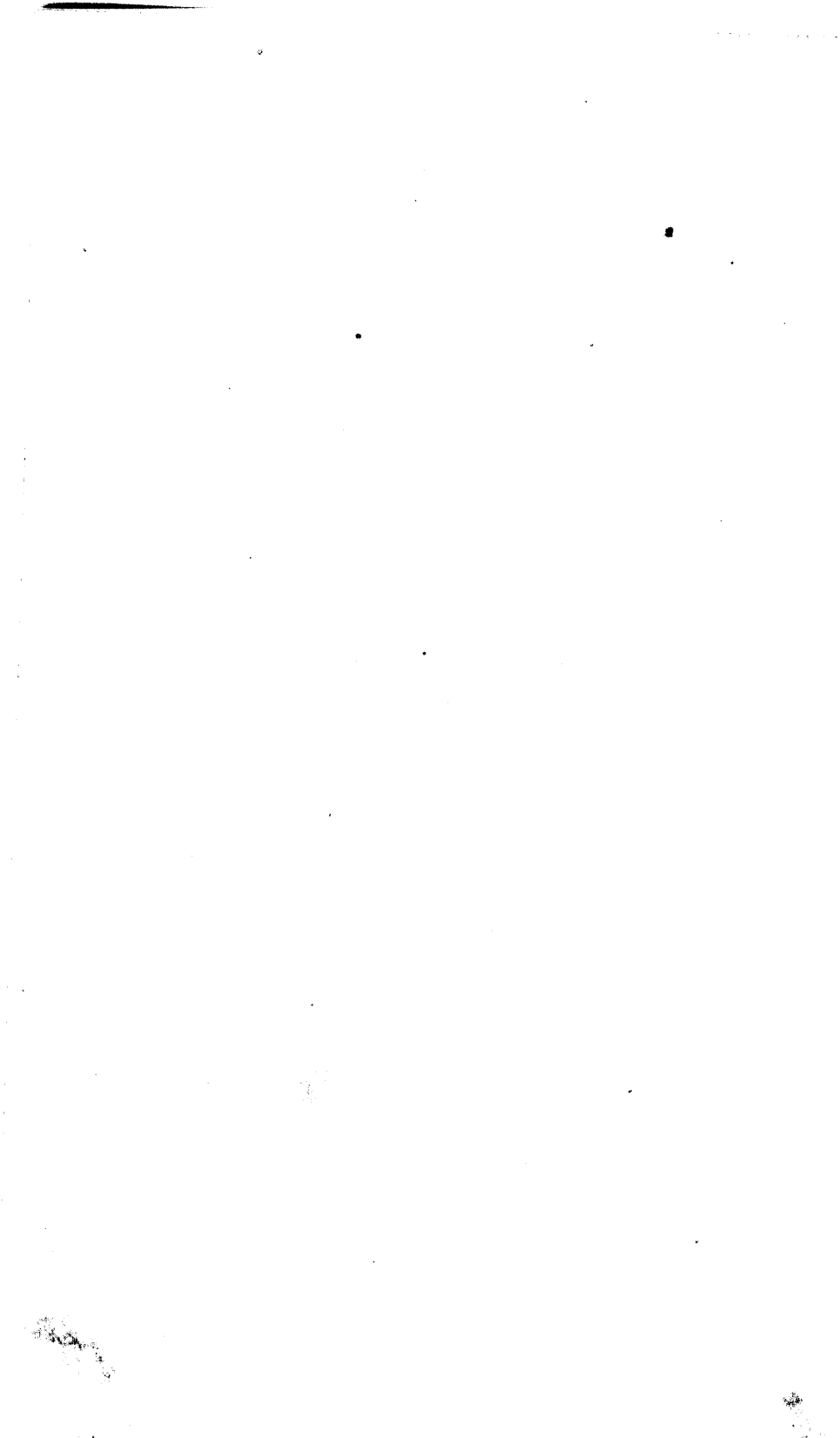
Augusta:

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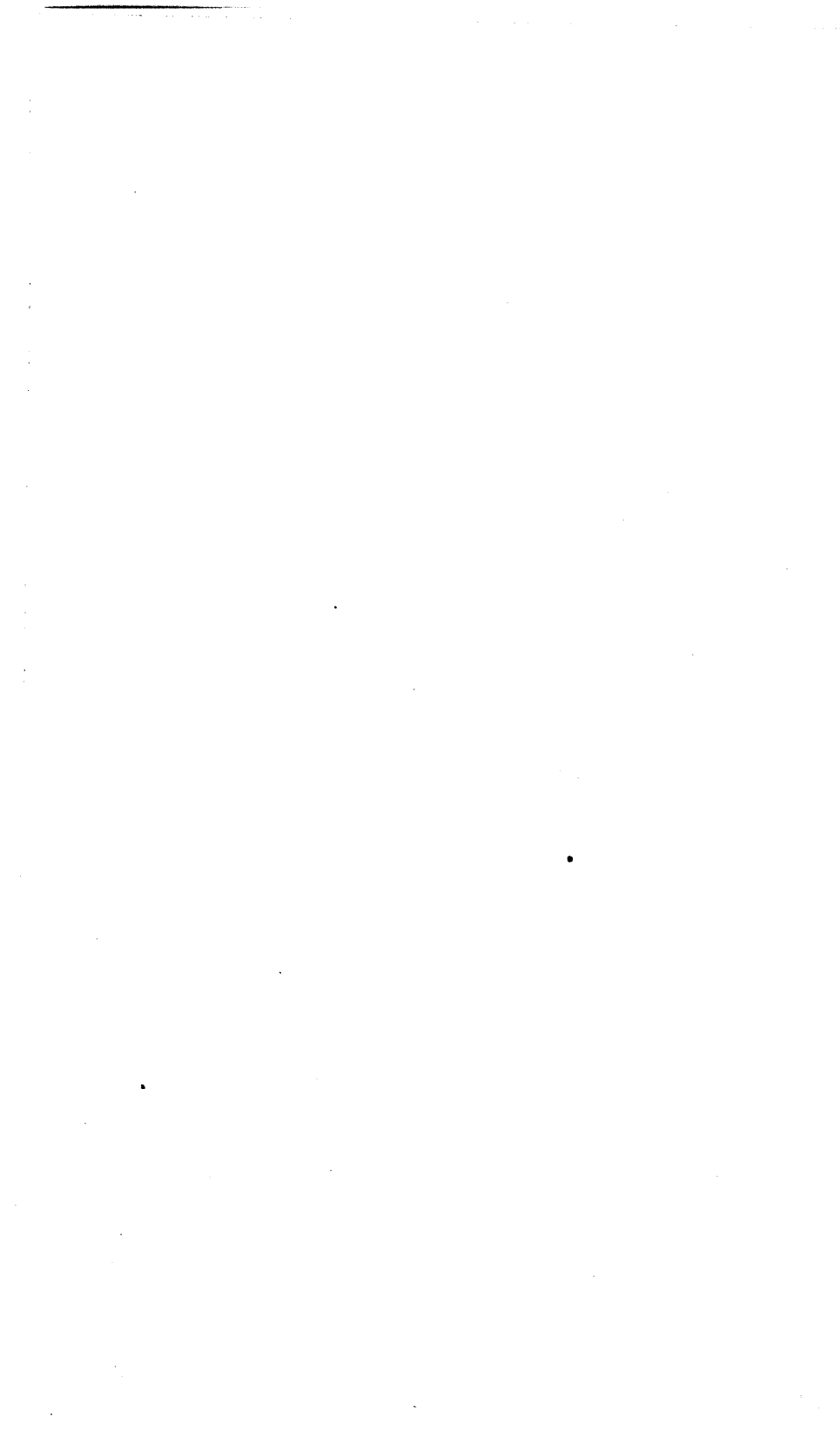
1856.

SECOND
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Trustees of the State Reform School
AT
CAPE ELIZABETH,
TOGETHER WITH
THE ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

AUGUSTA:
STEVENS & BLAINE, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.
1856.



TRUSTEES' REPORT.



REPORT.

IN presenting their second annual report to the Governor and Council for the information of the Legislature, the Trustees of the State Reform School are much gratified in being able to state that the institution is in a prosperous condition, and gives much promise of accomplishing, in a good degree, the benevolent object for which it was founded—the reformation of juvenile offenders.

As a knowledge of the character and objects of the institution becomes more generally diffused among the people of the State, it is believed that the principles on which it is founded, and the mode of conducting its operations, will receive the public approval.

The monthly and quarterly visits of the Trustees, have been regularly made during the year, and the School has been uniformly found in good condition, giving evidence of fidelity on the part of all the officers and teachers of the institution. The results of their labors are regarded as entirely satisfactory. The general health of the inmates has been remarkably good, and but one death has occurred during the year.

The employment of the boys, during the hours devoted to work in the various departments of labor, is regarded of the greatest importance, not only on account of the pecuniary advantage to be derived from their labor, but also on account of the benefit resulting to them, individually, from habits of industry.

The various works of building, grading, road making and other improvements, besides the ordinary farming, carried on the past season, have afforded abundant means of employment.

Besides carrying on the farm, about three-fourths of a mile of farm road, which was much needed, in some places requiring

considerable cutting and filling, and in others the removal of ledge, has been constructed the past season by the labor of the boys. The boys have also hauled all the stones for the cellar and foundations of the new barn, from the ledge quarry where they were blown out, to the place of use. The work of framing, boarding and finishing the new barn, including the making of all the doors, has been done principally by the boys, assisted by one master workman, and sometimes more than one, to lay out and oversee their work.

All the grading and wharfing around the new barn has been also done by the boys.

The report of the Superintendent, herewith transmitted, is full and explicit, and contains reliable information on the subjects it embraces.

We concur with him in the suggestion that the maximum age of boys sent to the School, should be sixteen, instead of eighteen years. We, therefore, recommend an amendment of the law in that respect. It is quite obvious that no boy more than sixteen years of age should be committed to the Reform School.

The design of the institution being the reformation of *juvenile* offenders, it is believed to be inconsistent with that object to send to the school boys of seventeen or eighteen; and even older boys, as it appears, have in some cases smuggled themselves in, to avoid severer punishments for their crimes.

Such young men can hardly be considered susceptible of receiving much essential benefit from the School, until they have been a long time under its influence; so that we are essentially increasing the number of permanent inmates unsuitable to apprentice, or otherwise discharge, and thus greatly increasing the expenses of the institution.

But this is not the principal reason for excluding them. The bad influence of such boys upon the general prosperity of the institution, is most to be dreaded. It is hardly necessary to add, that their presence among younger boys in a Reform School, would be likely to produce unfavorable results. Careful attention to the remarks of the Superintendent on this subject is earnestly solicited.

We also recommend an amendment of the sixth section of the act approved March 23, 1853, establishing the Reform School, so as to provide that, instead of a majority of the Trustees, the Superintendent, under their general direction, may be authorized to make and sign the required certificate on the mittimus mentioned in said section, rejecting the convict when it shall be deemed inexpedient to receive him.

At the date of our first annual report, one hundred and seventeen boys had been received into the institution.

It was then estimated that, at the close of the year ending November 30, 1855, that number would be increased to two hundred.

It now appears that that estimate was much too low. The number actually received during the year, was one hundred and forty eight. These added to the number previously received, we have the aggregate of two hundred and sixty-five boys in all received into the School since it was opened. Deducting thirty-one discharged during the same period, there remain two hundred and thirty-four, being nearly as many as can be accommodated. This unexpected excess of inmates above the estimate, together with the greatly increased price of most kinds of provisions, has had the effect to increase the expenses of the institution greatly above the sum appropriated for its support. The report of the Superintendent fully explains the causes of this result, to which we refer for information on that subject. By it, it appears that the excess of expenses above the resources, at the close of the present fiscal year, will be about seven thousand dollars.

The School, being nearly or quite full, it will be the policy of the Trustees to discharge the boys just as soon as their conduct shall afford reasonable ground to believe that, if set at liberty, they will avoid their former evil habits, and to use every reasonable effort to discharge as many during the year as may be committed.

The annexed report of the Treasurer shows the financial condition of the institution on the first of April last, when the present fiscal year commenced.

The report of the Superintendent shows that, on the thirtieth of November last, there was a balance on hand of two thousand two hundred and twenty-two dollars and sixty-nine cents, but that there were, at the same time, outstanding bills unpaid more than sufficient to absorb it; so that, in our opinion, to defray the current expenses of the institution to the first of April, eighteen hundred and fifty-six, the sum of seven thousand dollars will be required.

To meet the expenses of the institution for the year ending March 31, 1857, it is estimated that the sum of twenty-four thousand three hundred and fifty-one dollars will be required, to wit:—

For books and stationery,	\$170 00
“ clothing,	4,800 00
“ furniture and bedding,	1,000 00
“ fuel and lights,	1,000 00
“ implements and repairs,	900 00
“ salaries and wages,	5,000 00
“ provisions and groceries,	12,000 00
“ farm,	1,000 00
“ miscellaneous expenses,	400 00
“ postage,	31 00
“ fruit trees,	150 00
“ Trustees' expenses,	400 00
	<hr/>
	\$26,851 00
Deduct for labor of boys,	2,500 00
	<hr/>
	\$24,351 00

All which is respectfully submitted.

OLIVER L. CURRIER,
HENRY CARTER,
JAMES T. McCOBB,
WM. A. RUST,
JOSEPH H. WILLIAMS,

} *Trustees*
State Reform School.

CAPE ELIZABETH, Dec. 12, 1855.

TREASURER'S REPORT.



REPORT.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School:

THE Treasurer respectfully presents his second

REPORT:

The Treasurer charges himself from Dec. 1, 1854, to March 31, 1855, inclusive, as follows:

For amount received from State Treasurer,	\$5,600 00	
For amount received from W. R. Lincoln, Superintendent, being the amount received for work, &c.,	364 69	
	364 69	\$5,964 69

He credits himself for the following payments:

For books and stationery,	\$27 67	
“ clothing for boys,	428 02	
“ furniture and bedding,	811 14	
“ fuel and lights,	170 10	
“ general improvement and repairs,	781 72	
“ salaries of officers,	795 06	
“ provisions and groceries,	1828 53	
“ postage,	8 59	
“ wages and labor,	381 93	
“ farming tools, stock and improvements on farm	580 09	
“ new barn,	5 00	
“ hospital expense,	13 61	
“ miscellaneous expenses,	51 66	
“ balance carried to new account,	81 57	
	81 57	\$5,964 69

JAMES T. McCOBB, *Treas'r State Reform School.*

CAPE ELIZABETH, April 1, 1855.



SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT



REPORT.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the State Reform School:

GENTLEMEN:—In obedience to the requirements of the by-laws for the government of this institution, I herewith respectfully present my second annual report.

In order to compare the results of one year with another, the same arrangement of tables observed in my last annual report is submitted.

TABLE 1.

Shows the number received, and the general state of the School from December 1, 1854, to November 30, 1855, inclusive.

Boys in the School December 1, 1854,	113
Committed since,	148
<hr/>	
Whole number in the School during the year,	261
Discharged,	27
<hr/>	
Remaining, November 30, 1855,	234

TABLE 2.

Showing the Admissions, Discharges and Number at the close of each month.

	Admissions.	Discharges.	No. at close each Mo.
December, 1854,	6	2	117
January, 1855,	22	1	138
February, "	3	0	141
March, "	15	1	155
April, "	14	4	165
May, "	21	6	180
June, "	18	4	194
July, "	10	2	202
August, "	11	1	212
September, "	12	3	231
October, "	8	1	228
November, "	8	2	234
<hr/>			
Total,	148	27	

TABLE 3.*Showing by what Authority Committed.*

	1855.	Previously.	Total.
By Supreme Judicial Court,	14	14	28
“ Portland Municipal “	19	26	45
“ “ Police “	16		16
“ Bangor “ “	17	22	39
“ “ Municipal “	6		6
“ Gardiner Police “	4	12	16
“ Augusta Municipal “	4	6	10
“ Hallowell “ “	1	5	6
“ Bath, “ “	8	7	15
“ Belfast Police “		1	1
“ Rockland Municipal “	7		7
“ Calais “ “	2		2
“ Biddeford “ “	9		9
“ Justices of the Peace	41	24	65
Total,	148	117	265

TABLE 4.*Showing the disposal of those Discharged from December 1, 1854, to November 30, 1855.*

Discharged on expiration of sentence,	10
“ by order of Board of Trustees,	2
Indented to farmers,	9
“ “ carpenters,	1
“ “ shoemakers,	1
	—
Remanded as an improper subject,	1
Escaped,	2
Died,	1
Total,	27

TABLE 5.

Showing the Term of Sentence in all cases of Commitment, since the School was opened.

	1855.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	48	45	93
Twelve years,	1		1
Ten "	1		1
Nine "	1		1
Eight "	4		4
Seven "	4	3	7
Six "	7		7
Five "	17	10	27
Four "	16	17	33
Three "	15	15	30
Two years and six months,	1		1
Two "	20	15	35
One "	13	12	25
Total,	148	117	265

TABLE 6.

Showing the Offenses for which Committed.

	1855.	Previously.	Total.
For Larceny,	68	78	146
" breaking and entering with intent to commit a felony,	0	3	3
" being a common runaway,	25	21	46
" truancy,	5	4	9
" assault,	6	3	9
" malicious mischief,	2	5	7
" malicious trespass,	2	1	3
" riot,	0	1	1
" cheating by false pretenses,	2	1	3
" vagrancy,	33	0	33
" setting fire to a school-house,	1	0	1
" being a common drunkard,	1	0	1
" shop breaking,	3	0	3
Total,	148	117	265

TABLE 7.

Showing the Alternative Sentence of all Committed.

	1855.	Previously.	Total.
Five years in State Prison,	0	2	2
Four " " "	0	2	2
Three " " "	0	2	2
Two " " "	3	0	3
One " " "	2	7	9
Two years in Jail,	3	0	3
One year in Jail,	2	0	2
Nine months in Jail,	1	0	1
Six months in House of Correction, or Jail,	2	1	3
Three " " " "	6	2	8
Two " " " "	8	17	25
One " " " "	3	1	4
Sixty days " " " "	9	4	13
Fifty days " " " "	0	2	2
Thirty days " " " "	89	58	147
Twenty days " " " "	5	8	13
Fifteen days " " " "	2	1	3
Ten days " " " "	8	4	12
One hour " " " "	0	1	1
Fine and cost,	1	3	4
Two months and fine and costs,	3	0	3
Not sentenced alternatively,	0	2	2
Total,	148	117	265

TABLE 8.

Showing the Number of Admissions from each County, and the Last Residence.

County.	Town.	1855.	Previously.	Total.
<i>Androscoggin.</i>	{ Auburn,	2	0	2
	{ Poland,	1	0	1
	{ Lewiston,	2	0	2
<i>Cumberland.</i>	{ Bridgton,	0	1	1
	{ Cumberland,	1	0	1
	{ Cape Elizabeth,	2	0	2
	{ Gorham,	1	0	1
	{ Portland,	27	27	54
	{ Westbrook,	0	1	1
	{ Scarborough,	2	0	2
{ Yarmouth,	1	0	1	
<i>Franklin.</i>	{ Kingfield,	1	2	3
	{ Phillips,	3	0	3
	{ Rangely Plant'n,	0	1	1
<i>Hancock.</i>	Sedgwick,	0	1	1
				83
				7
				1

TABLE 8---Continued.

County.	Town.	1855.	Previously.	Total.
<i>Kennebec.</i>	Augusta, . . .	5	8	13
	Gardiner, . . .	3	10	13
	Hallowell, . . .	1	6	7
	Litchfield, . . .	2	0	2
	Monmouth, . . .	0	1	1
	Manchester, . . .	1	1	2
	Pittston, . . .	0	1	1
	Waterville, . . .	2	0	2
	Winslow, . . .	1	0	1
				—
				42
<i>Lincoln.</i>	Muscle Ridge Isl'd,	1	0	1
	Rockland, . . .	7	0	7
	Thomaston, . . .	1	0	1
	Wiscasset, . . .	1	0	1
	Whitefield, . . .	2	0	1
				—
				11
<i>Oxford.</i>	Greenwood, . . .	1	0	1
	Hiram, . . .	0	1	1
	Waterford, . . .	0	1	1
				—
				3
<i>Penobscot.</i>	Bangor, . . .	20	25	45
	Brewer, . . .	1	0	1
	Dexter, . . .	1	0	1
	Exeter, . . .	1	0	1
	Glenburn, . . .	2	0	2
	Oldtown, . . .	1	1	2
	Veazie, . . .	1	2	3
				—
				55
<i>Piscataquis.</i>	Dover, . . .	1	0	1
				—
				1
<i>Somerset.</i>	Bloomfield, . . .	3	0	3
	Cambridge, . . .	1	0	1
	Fairfield, . . .	1	0	1
	Hartland, . . .	0	1	1
	Mercer, . . .	0	1	1
	St. Albans, . . .	1	0	1
	Skowhegan, . . .	1	0	1
	Smithfield, . . .	2	0	2
				—
				11
<i>Sagadahoc.</i>	Richmond, . . .	0	1	1
	Bath, . . .	8	7	15
				—
				16
<i>Waldo.</i>	Belfast, . . .	0	1	1
	Camden, . . .	1	0	1
	Frankfort, . . .	1	0	1
	Munroe, . . .	2	0	2
	Jackson, . . .	1	0	1
				—
				6
<i>Washington.</i>	Alexander, . . .	1	0	1
	Calais, . . .	4	1	5
	Eastport, . . .	3	2	5
	Pembroke, . . .	1	0	1
				—
				12

TABLE 8---Continued.

County.	Town.	1855.	Previously.	Total.
York.	Biddeford,	9	5	12
	Cornish,	1	0	1
	Elliot,	1	0	1
	Kennebunkport,	2	1	3
	Saco,	5	8	13
Total,				265

TABLE 9.

Showing Nativity of all Committed.

	1855.	Previously.	Total.
Born in Ireland,	9	7	16
“ England,	0	2	2
“ Scotland,	1	0	1
“ New Brunswick,	7	5	12
“ Nova Scotia,	3	1	4
“ Canada,	1	1	2
“ on the Atlantic Ocean,	0	1	1
Foreigners,			— 34
Born in Maine,	115	77	192
“ New Hampshire,	1	7	8
“ Massachusetts,	6	8	14
“ Vermont,	1	2	3
“ Rhode Island,	0	1	1
“ New York,	3	3	6
“ Maryland,	1	0	1
“ Virginia,	0	1	1
“ Florida,	0	1	1
Total,			— 231
Total,			265

Of the two hundred and sixty-five committed, thirty-four were born in foreign countries.

Of the two hundred and thirty-one reported born in the United States, one hundred and ninety-three are of American parentage, and thirty-eight of foreign.

TABLE 10.

Ages of Boys when Committed.

	1855.	Previously.	Total.
Seven years of age,	1	1	2
Eight " "	2	1	3
Nine " "	0	3	3
Ten " "	15	13	28
Eleven " "	14	11	25
Twelve " "	16	10	26
Thirteen " "	20	17	37
Fourteen " "	16	26	42
Fifteen " "	23	18	41
Sixteen " "	25	12	37
Seventeen " "	14	4	18
Eighteen " "	1	1	2
Nineteen " "	1	0	1
Total,	148	117	265

TABLE 11.

This Table is introduced to show some facts connected with the Moral condition of Boys when received, and the home influences under which they have lived.

	1855.	Previously.	Total.
Whole number received,	148	117	265
Have parents, one or both of whom are, or have been, intemperate,	64	56	120
Have lost their father,	56	41	97
" " " mother,	30	32	62
Have fathers, mothers, brothers or sisters, who are, or have been, in prison,	47	31	78
Have step-fathers or mothers,	31	32	63
Who were idle, or had no steady employment,	104	96	200
Who have been much indulged,	54	21	75
" " " neglected,	58	46	104
" " " truants from school,	101	95	196
" " " Sabbath-breakers,	96	90	186
" " " untruthful,	110	106	226
" " " profane,	121	96	217
Who have slept away from home in carts, sheds, boxes, &c.,	57	67	124
Who have drank ardent spirits, most of them to intoxication,	35	49	84
Have been previously arrested,	29	56	85
" " imprisoned for crime,	15	39	54
Have never regularly attended Sabbath School,	57	56	113
Have never regularly attended day school three months in succession,	12	20	32
Have been in the habit of using tobacco,	82	75	157

The information contained in the foregoing table, has been gathered from officers in whose charge the boys were brought, from parents and other reliable sources, and from the acknowledgment of the boys themselves.

When *habits* of boys are referred to—such as profanity, lying, &c.—only those are included that have been of long continuance. “Previous arrests” include all arrests for criminal offenses.

TABLE 12.

Inventory of Stock on hand, April 1, 1855.

8 bbls. flour,	a \$11 00	\$88 00
31 bushels potatoes,	90	27 90
20 bushels beans,	2 50	50 00
95 lbs. chocolate,	10	9 50
125 lbs. sugar,	7 1-2	9 38
10 lbs. coffee,	12	1 20
30 lbs. tea,	42	12 60
2 bbls. pork,	20 00	40 00
150 lbs. corned beef,	6	9 00
40 lbs. soap,	7	2 80
150 gallons molasses,	24	36 00
20 gallons vinegar,	11	2 20
40 gallons oil,	80	32 00
9 tons coal,	9 00	81 00
60 yards prints,	7	4 20
175 yards sheeting,	12	21 00
203 yards cotton cloth,	7 1-2	15 22
120 yards blue satinnet,	57 1-2	69 00
30 yards mixed satinnet,	37 1-2	11 25
612 yards denims,	12 1-2	76 50
400 yards ticking,	11	44 00
20 pairs shoes,	1 00	20 00
Needles, buttons and thread,		45 00
177 iron bedsteads,	3 87	684 89
83 wooden berths,	2 00	166 00
300 single beds and bedding,	7 25	2,175 00
13 double beds and bedding,	38 00	874 00
All other furniture,		1,600 00
240 suits boys' thick clothes,	3 00	720 00

TABLE 12---Continued.

300 suits boys' thin clothes,	1 50	360 00
Books in the school and chapel,		150 00
10 tons English hay,	20 00	200 00
8 cows, 2 yoke of oxen, 5 swine, 3 horses,		1,065 00
Wagons, carts, harnesses and farming utensils,		496 30
Stock and tools in carpenter's shop,		49 00
Stock and tools in shoe shop,		65 00
		\$10,312 94

The whole number committed since the opening of the school is two hundred and sixty-five; thirty-one of whom have been discharged; leaving two hundred and thirty-four still under our care.

The building is capable of accommodating two hundred and forty boys. We have now, therefore, nearly as many as we can well provide for, with our present conveniencies.

By table three, showing by what authority committed, it appears that of the two hundred and sixty-five received, two hundred were committed by the Supreme, District, Municipal and Police Courts of the State, (twenty-eight of whom were committed by the Supreme Judicial Court,) and sixty-five by Justices of the Peace.

It will be seen by table five, that of one hundred and forty-eight received the past year, forty-eight were sentenced for their minority, and forty-nine for a term of three years or less.

By the above statement it will be seen that we still receive boys on short terms of sentence.

We are confident that short terms of commitment are not for the good of the boy, or the prosperity of the Institution. For more extended remarks upon this subject I beg leave to refer you to my last annual report.

By table six showing causes of commitment, it will be seen that one hundred and fifty-two of the whole number received were committed for larceny and kindred crimes.

This shows a much greater proportion for this offense than is

found in any other similar institution. By the last reports of the Massachusetts and Rhode Island Reform Schools, I find the following per cent. of the whole number committed for the year covered by those reports, in those schools and our own, for this crime.

Massachusetts Reform School,	36 1-2 per cent.
Rhode Island, " "	40 " "
Maine, " "	59 1-2 " "

By table eight it will be seen that boys have been received from every county in the State but one, and from sixty-five different towns.

Table ten, showing the ages of boys when committed, is not strictly correct, owing to the fact, that boys of *nineteen or twenty*, often call themselves under eighteen, to escape the alternative and more severe punishment for their crimes.

Boys of this class have been committed the past year who measured *five feet eleven inches in height*. It needs no argument to prove that such *young men* are improper subjects to associate with younger boys in a Reform School.

In this connection I would respectfully recommend an amendment of the statute, so that *no boy* over sixteen years of age can be committed. This is the only Reform School that receives boys over sixteen years of age.

The above amendment is necessary to prevent the admission of such as have arrived at maturity of years, and have formed fixed habits of wickedness and crime.

While there is comparatively little hope of benefitting *them*, their influence tends greatly to *hinder*, if not *destroy* the good we might do to others. Another consideration in favor of such an amendment is, that the school is now *nearly full*, and the time will soon come, when, if such are received, *younger and more hopeful* subjects of reform must be excluded.

I would propose in addition to the above, a change in the statute so that any *two* (instead of a majority) of the Trustees have power to reject or remand a boy to his alternative sentence.

Under the present arrangement much delay and trouble is often occasioned in these cases, (when usually prompt action is

required) by the distance from the Institution at which a majority of the Board reside.

By recurring to table four, it will be seen that eleven have been indentured, all of whom are with the persons with whom they have been placed and in every case doing very well. There has not been the slightest complaint in regard to any one of them. Most of them when committed were very vicious boys and had lived criminal lives for some time previous to being sent to the Institution.

I will remark in this connection that we now have a number of good boys suitable for apprentices, who desire to learn some *trade*; and some who prefer farming. It is our intention to procure situations for boys in accordance with their tastes and wishes, when of sufficient age to be able to properly decide for themselves.

It is with pleasure we are able to report the present prosperous condition of the Institution. Nothing has occurred during the year just closed to particularly discourage us. Much improvement is seen in most of the boys, and a great majority of them manifest a gratifying desire to aid in the duties of the Institution, and a lively interest in its prosperity and usefulness.

Many striking incidents might be particularly mentioned, known only to those immediately connected with the Institution, showing great improvement and marked changes in the character of the boys.

E X P E N S E S .

On the first day of April, 1855, there was a balance on hand of	\$81,57
Appropriation by the Legislature,	19,042,00
Received for articles sold from farm, and boys labor,	1,742,42
	\$20,865,99
Total amount of resources,	\$20,865,99
We have paid out since April 1st, 1855,	18,643,30
	\$2,222,69
Leaving a balance on hand of	\$2,222,69
There are outstanding bills, unpaid, amounting to about	

\$2500. To defray the expenses of the Institution to April 1, 1856, we think will require an additional sum of \$7000.

Our expenses have somewhat exceeded the estimate in our last annual report. The well known fact that the necessaries of life, particularly food and fuel, have borne exceedingly high prices through the whole year, will in part account for this.

Another cause is, that we estimated for only one hundred and fifty boys. The result shows the present number to be *two hundred and thirty-four*—eighty-four more than provided for in our estimate. Besides the ordinary support of this extra number we have been obliged to provide for them school and dining-room furniture, clothing, beds and bedding.

In addition to the above, by some over-sight we did not receive from the Legislature the sum asked for by eight hundred dollars. The amount of expenditure not foreseen when the estimate was made last year, is as follows :

Fitting up school-rooms and furniture for eighty-four boys more than estimated,	\$1,470 00
Clothing for the same,	840 00
Provisions and groceries for do.,	3,864 00
Appropriation asked for and not received,	800 00
	\$6,974 00

The above statement shows an amount of expenses not foreseen nearly equal to the sum required for the remainder of the year.

It should be considered that in an institution of this kind, we not only *board* and *instruct*, but *clothe* the inmates.

H E A L T H .

The same remarkable state of health reported last year, has continued during the present. No epidemic or contagious disease has occurred. We have had but one death since the School was opened, which was from congestion of the lungs. With this exception, there has been no case of serious illness.

A hospital has been fitted up for the sick, in the fourth story of the center building;—we have had no occasion as yet, however, to use it. The whole of that portion of the building was originally

designed for a chapel, but has been found sufficiently capacious to enable us to appropriate a part of it to this important and necessary object. At the present time every member of our youthful family is in good health.

We are in the habit of taking the weight of every boy when he enters the School, and of recording it for reference, and now find there is no boy in the School who has not increased in weight since he came among us—a circumstance we deem proper to be noticed, as showing the actual state of the physical condition of the subjects of our charge.

DISCIPLINE.

It is our constant endeavor to render the institution as much as possible a judiciously regulated, Christian family, and to make each inmate feel that he has a personal interest in the welfare and good order of the whole.

We endeavor to awake in their minds sentiments of self-respect, and to teach them the importance of exertion, that we may lead them to put forth sufficient moral force to overcome their evil habits. We find also that they need much encouragement, or they soon become disheartened and cease to make effort. We aim to make their *home* pleasant, by introducing as much variety as possible into the daily routine of their life.

To this end we frequently take parties of boys beyond their accustomed limits for play and amusement, where they can have greater freedom to enjoy their sports. We have, also, to a much greater extent than ever before, allowed boys to go unattended to visit their friends, relying upon their *word of honor* that they will return at a specified time. These privileges have never been abused, and it has generally had a very good effect upon the boy himself. Nothing seems to affect a boy so much as to lead him to feel that confidence is placed in his word.

Our system of discipline is the same as that described in my first annual report. As it was there fully stated, I deem it unnecessary to repeat it here.

The division of time for school, labor, &c., is nearly as follows, though it is changed somewhat with the season :

Rise at five o'clock, dress, wash, put rooms in order and attend morning prayers during the hour following; breakfast and recreation till seven; work from seven to ten; school from ten to twelve; dinner and recreation till one; school from one to three; after school work again until six; supper and recreation till seven; from seven to eight is for the settlement of the discipline of the day and evening prayers; after which retire for the night.

By the above arrangement, four hours are devoted to school; six to labor, eight and one-half to sleep, and four and one-half to moral instruction, meals and amusement.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

This department has been in active operation throughout the year. Commendable progress has been made in most cases.

The extreme ignorance of nearly all when they enter the School, with the constant changing of the pupils which is made during the year, renders the teacher's task more trying and unsatisfactory than in the public schools of the State.

We have many boys who scarcely knew the alphabet when received, who are now able to read more or less readily in books generally, and have made some progress in writing, cyphering, and geography.

We have been favored with faithful and competent teachers who have kindly and with commendable perseverance attended to their, often, trying duties.

One of the schools has been under the instruction of one or more of the pupils nearly the whole year. Many of them display tact and energy, and the exercise has been very beneficial to themselves, not only by the amount of instruction received by this means, but by leading them to place a higher estimate upon character. They have generally succeeded in gaining the respect and good wishes of their companions placed under their instruction. We have seen no evil but much good arise under this system of placing the best boys in charge of some department, either in the school, workshop or on the farm.

L A B O R .

We have three departments of labor : farming, mechanical and domestic.

Farming not only includes the ordinary work of the farm, but all out-door employment—such as grading the grounds around the institution, making roads, &c.

Domestic includes washing, cooking, baking, scrubbing and miscellaneous work about the house. *

Mechanical labor embraces all the labor in the shoemakers', tailors' and carpenters' shops.

All the washing, ironing, cooking, baking, making and repairing clothes and repairing shoes is done by the boys, under competent instructors in the various departments.

Nothing is more desirable for youth than regular habits of industry and steady employment.

Probably one of the chief causes of crime among boys is idleness. The idle boy is sure to be in mischief, so that in giving him stated and regular employment, we take the first step in his moral reformation. We regard a lad as having made little progress towards permanent reform, until he has acquired regular and systematic habits of industry. Throwing aside, therefore, all motives of economy, we should still urge the importance of regular employment for every boy, in health, as in the highest degree desirable. The labor of many may be for a long time unproductive, yet we require all to perform some labor, though it should cost many times what a boy may earn to employ him.

We find farming the most agreeable employment for the boys; they always regard it as a great favor to be allowed to labor on the farm. Its tendency is to make them contented and happy : as a boy feels far less restraint in the open fields than in any workshop, however pleasant.

The boys that have been in the institution during the year have been employed as follows :

In the shoemakers' shop,	.	.	.	.	.	78
“ “ tailors' shop,	.	.	.	.	.	50
“ “ carpenters' shop,	.	.	.	.	.	19

On the farm and out-door work,	65
Washing and ironing,	15
Cooking and baking,	14
Scrubbing and miscellaneous work,	20
	<hr/>
	261

Those in the shoemakers' shop have been employed in making light shoes for Jonathan Brown & Son.

Those in the carpenters' shop have been mostly employed in building the new barn.

We have permitted some of our most reliable boys to labor on the farms of our neighbors. In such cases they are allowed, by giving their pledge to return as directed, to go unattended by any officer of the institution.

We have realized no inconvenience from this practice, except the opportunity it affords for the occasional introduction of tobacco.

F A R M .

Most of the labor of cultivating the farm has been done by the boys. Much of the expense charged to the farm more properly belongs to the new barn and permanent improvements about the farm. Owing to the labor of drawing the stones for the barn cellar, carting the lumber for the new barn, and grading the grounds around it, we have found it necessary to keep nearly double the teams we otherwise should have done. All the expenses of digging the barn cellar, grading the grounds around the new barn, building the new farm road, and drawing all the provisions, coal, &c., for the institution, is charged to farm account.

A minute debt and credit account is kept between the farm and institution, in which the farm is charged with all expenses and credited with all the labor of men and teams for the institution and all work on permanent improvements on the farm.

The following condensed statement will explain what we have stated.

Whole number of days work of boys performed on the farm and out door work, since the last report is 14,896 1-2, of which 467 have been done on grounds around the institution; 146 in

drawing water and sand for the institution; 177 in digging and stoning well for the new barn; 4,711 1-2 digging barn cellar and grading around new barn; 411 1-2 in clearing ledge and blasting rocks; 2,610 in making farm road; the balance, 6,373 1-2 days, have been occupied in ordinary farming work.

The result of our farming operations is as follows, viz:

50 tons English hay,	a \$20 00	\$1000 00
8 1-2 tons salt "	10 00	85 00
5 tons corn fodder,	8 00	40 00
446 bushels potatoes,	50	223 00
127 bushels corn,	1 20	152 40
1120 bushels carrots,	25	280 00
172 bushels beets,	30	51 60
462 bushels Swedish turnips,	25	115 50
315 bushels yellowstone "	25	78 75
101 bushels English "	25	25 25
4 bushels beans,	2 50	10 00
1649 lbs. pork,	11 1-2	189 64
766 lbs. veal,	8	61 28
1144 lbs. beef,	6 1-2	74 36
12 lbs. poultry,	14	1 68
975 cabbages,	5	48 75
2855 1-2 galls. milk,	1 shilling,	475 87
506 lbs. summer savory,	10	50 60
160 cords wood prepared for the stove,		800 00
Fruit, squashes and garden vegetables for the season,		50 00

Total, \$3813 68

The farm has been credited for labor of men and teams on new barn and permanent improvements, \$953 20

For carting coal, provisions, &c., for institution, 210 17

Total, \$1163 37

A new barn has been erected in accordance with the plan presented at your last annual meeting. It is a plain substantial building, thoroughly built, and believed to contain many improvements upon ordinary barns. So far as our means have enabled us to do so, we have endeavored to make it a model

barn. It is 130 feet long by 46 feet wide, with wings projecting from each side of one end 32 by 30 feet. Besides a barn proper it contains a granary, store-house, piggery, carpenter's shop, tool house, a large room to dry clothes in the winter, and a large cellar for vegetables and manure. Nearly all of the carpenter's work upon it has been done by the boys.

TAILORS' SHOP.

In this department all the boys' clothing and bedding is made and repaired.

The following is the amount of labor performed since the last report.

Articles Made.

437 jackets,	701 pairs pants,
483 shirts,	15 vests,
7 sack coats,	22 frocks,
137 caps,	200 hats lined,
403 pairs suspenders,	34 handkerchiefs,
57 " mittens,	333 sheets,
436 " socks, heeled,	124 bedticks,
58 pillows,	175 bed spreads,
146 pillow cases,	54 comforters,
135 pillow ticks,	59 blankets,
226 aprons,	23 holders,
134 towels,	9 curtains.
15 bags,	

Total number of articles made, 4,423.

Repaired 2764 jackets,	Repaired 2474 shirts,
" 4525 pairs pants,	" 2045 pairs socks,
" 21 " mittens,	" 336 aprons,
" 165 caps,	" 57 hats,
" 14 towels,	" 71 comforters,
" 21 frocks,	" 24 articles of va-
rious kinds.	

Total number of articles repaired, 12,519.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION AND SABBATH SCHOOL.

Our daily religious exercises continue the same as last reported.

Since our last report the chapel has been finished and furnished, and we have occupied it about three months. We now have preaching in the morning of each Sabbath, and Sabbath School in the afternoon.

Many thanks are due those kind and disinterested friends, who, regardless of summer's heat, or winter's cold, have so regularly visited us, to pour into willing ears and grateful hearts lessons of divine wisdom and heavenly love.

The Sabbath School has been in operation for about six months. It has been conducted by twenty-two ladies and gentlemen from various churches in Portland, who have visited us every Sabbath afternoon.

Their kind interest will be seen in the fact, that in order to continue the school during the winter, they relinquish the afternoon service at their own churches. All the expenses, thus far, of conducting it, have been paid by the religious societies with which the teachers are connected, including five dollars a Sabbath for carriages to convey the teachers from Portland to the School. I would respectfully suggest the propriety of an appropriation of two hundred and seventy-five dollars per annum, for defraying the expenses of the Sabbath School.

The Sabbath School is not only a valuable source of instruction, but the weekly visit of a kind, intelligent person, who shall converse personally with each pupil, is in itself, not only the means of greatly benefitting them, but a source of much pleasure and happiness.

We have been particularly gratified the past year in the general moral improvement of many of the boys.

One case perhaps requires more particular notice. Soon after the school was opened, a very reckless, vicious lad of about sixteen, was committed. He had little self-respect or moral character. For the first six months he gave us much trouble, after which he began to improve—had more self-respect—made great efforts to overcome his evil habits. He was encouraged to persevere—his rapid moral improvement was the gratifying result.

In a few months he was employed in the school-room as an assistant teacher, where he was very successful, and retained it until his discharge.

He returned to his friends, where the same pleasing change was apparent. But we grieve to add, disease and death came and removed him to another world, where we have every reason to believe he enjoys the rest of the redeemed.

Interesting extracts from letters in relation to him will be found in the appendix annexed to this report.

LIBRARY AND PERIODICALS.

The library has been increased to some extent by the income (forty-two dollars) of the donation of the late Mr. Sanford, which was appropriated for this object by the last Legislature.

If not improper for me to do so, I would recommend that the income of that fund, be annually expended for the library. To make it available I suppose will require legislative enactment.

A well selected library under judicious management, unlike many reformatory instruments, would perform the double purpose of instructing the understanding, while it reforms the heart.

We take pleasure in recording our indebtedness to those friends who have kindly and gratuitously sent us papers and periodicals. They have been a source of great pleasure to the members of our youthful family. Those published in the vicinity of the former residence of the boys, have been sought with great avidity by those from the vicinity of the places of their publication—recalling as they do home scenes and friends.

We have regularly received from the publishers the following journals, viz: Courier, Jeffersonian, Mercury and Democrat, from Bangor; Christian Mirror from Portland; Drew's Rural Intelligencer from Augusta; Greenwood Valley Times from Vienna; and Rockland Gazette, Ellsworth American, and Bath Mirror.

We are also under frequent obligations to the Sabbath School teachers for packages of books and papers.

Eben Steele, Esq., and Mrs. Geo. Brooks, of Portland, and

John Ball, Esq., of Salem, Mass., will please accept our thanks for packages of interesting books.

Last winter we were indebted to Nathan Winslow, Esq., of Portland, for a dozen hermetically sealed cans of green corn, sufficient for a dinner for our whole family.

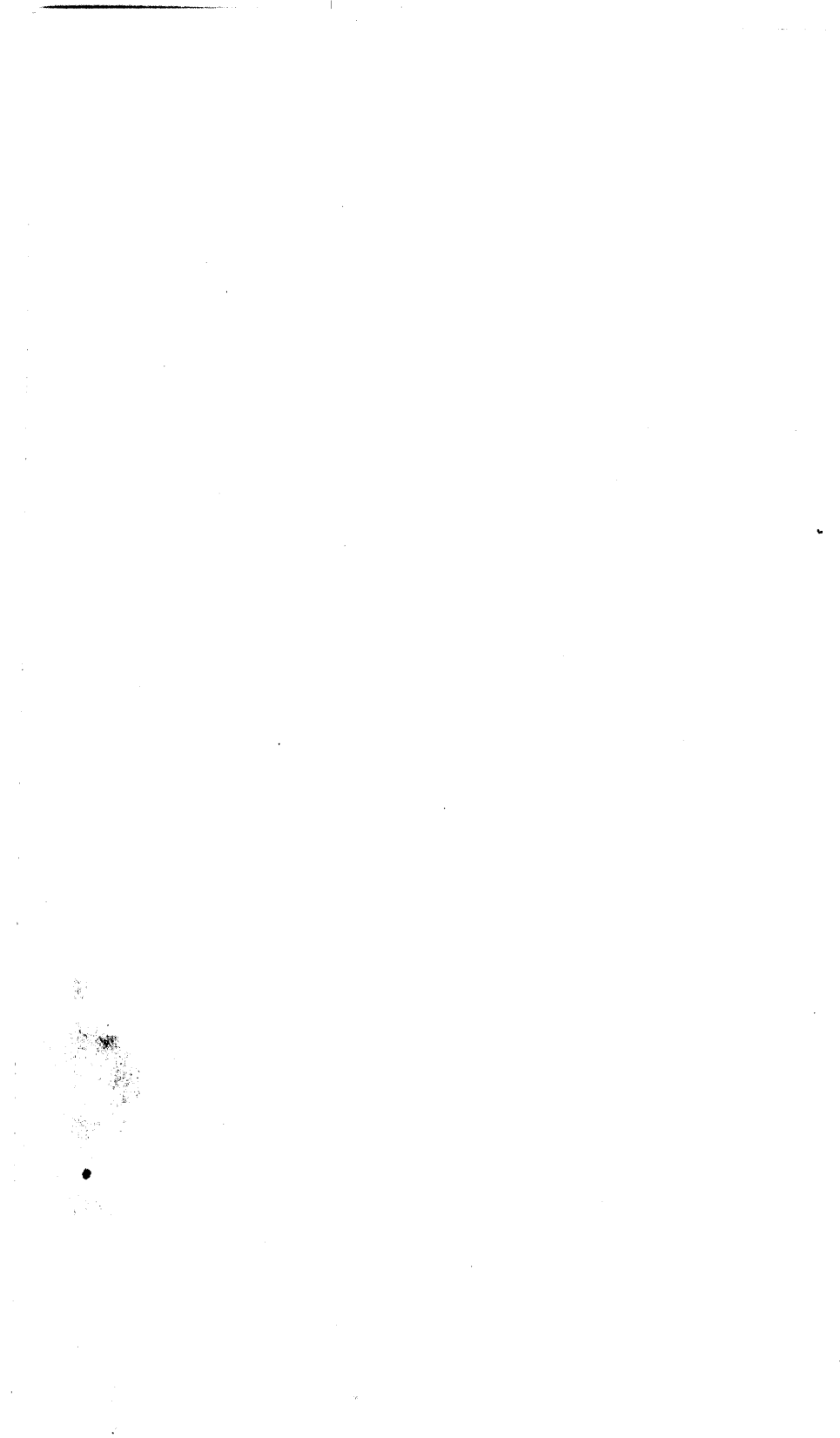
Before closing this report I desire to renew the expression of my thanks to you, gentlemen, for your constant kindness and sympathy, and for the valuable aid you have so freely bestowed.

In conclusion I am happy to bear testimony to the fidelity of all associated with me in conducting the affairs of the Institution.

Respectfully submitted,

W. R. LINCOLN, *Superintendent.*

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, }
Cape Elizabeth, November 30, 1855. }



A P P E N D I X .

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED IN RELATION TO BOYS WHO HAVE LEFT THE INSTITUTION.

SEPTEMBER 3, 1855.

MR. LINCOLN—

Dear Sir:—I am pleased to answer your inquiries respecting C—, feeling as I do that such answers will meet with your kind approval. Since C— returned among us, the most vigilant watch can detect no failure from the good character which we now feel established. His deportment has given us much pleasure and satisfaction. I am happy thus to write of him to you, that you may feel the reward of your labors.

AUGUST 29, 1855.

Dear Sir:—James has proved to be a very good, obedient boy, thus far, and I hope it will continue. I like him very well. He attends meeting regularly and Sabbath School.

JUNE, 25, 1855.

MR. LINCOLN—

Dear Sir:—George says he likes to live here, and I like him very much, and shall endeavor to make him contented and happy. He has manifested a very good disposition and a willingness to obey.

AUGUST 13, 1855.

Dear Sir:—I find Morris quite a good boy, trusty as we would ask for, but slow. We think he may do well and a mutual benefit be secured by his stay with us. He felt very much unreconciled to his situation at first, and

wanted to go back to the school, but he begins to forget his troubles, and seems sociable and happy. He seems to think very much of you and what you say.

MAY 29, 1855.

MR. LINCOLN—

Dear Sir:—Agreeable to your request, I embrace this opportunity to inform you that Michael is well and well contented. I find in him all that I expected; he is kind, faithful and is trusty thus far. My wife and daughters have become very much interested in him. He wishes me to say to you that he is well contented.

[The lad above alluded to had been twice imprisoned for crime before his commitment to the school. He visited us a few days since, and appears well.]

The following was received from a father on the return of his son :

MR. LINCOLN—

Dear Sir:—I, with all the family, tender to you and your family our most sincere thanks for your kindness to Charles, and to all the officers of the institution. Please give them our best wishes for their prosperity in life, and that succeeding years shall still add to their increasing reputation, shall be the prayer of your humble servant.

The following two letters are from the friends of the lad to whom allusion is made in the report, copied entire :

NOVEMBER 2, 1855.

MR. LINCOLN—

Dear Sir:—Knowing that you feel a deep interest in Charles and as it is his request, I sit down to write you the sad news of his fast-failing health. Until Sunday last he has been able every pleasant day to walk or ride out, but since that time he has failed so rapidly that he does not even sit up. Our physicians say they can do nothing more for him, and that his death may be expected at any moment. He is fully conscious of his situation, and appears in a calm and resigned state of mind. He talks very freely upon death and the future world, and expresses the hope of its happiness. Dear as he has always been to us, he seems doubly so now from his gentleness and patience, and all this will, while rendering us deeply bereaved in his death, yet mitigate our sorrow.

He sends his love and expressions of gratitude and warm wishes to you, and

to his Sabbath School teacher, Mr. Cahoon; also his kind regards and wishes to the teachers, &c. To the boys he says, "Give them my love, and tell them to be good and to prepare for death."

He would like to receive a letter from you, also from Mr. Cahoon, whom he often speaks of with expressions of regard.

Accept the kind regards of our family, and believe me,

Yours truly,

The following in relation to the same boy after his death :

NOVEMBER 19, 1855.

MR. LINCOLN—

Dear Sir :—Brother Charles has left us for another world—another *home*. It is two weeks since he was first confined to his chamber. For the first two or three days he could be dressed and sit up some time during the day. Since then he has failed very rapidly, and suffered much pain. Last night about sunset we perceived a great change in him, and thought him dying. After that he suffered from paroxysms of pain, which were distressing to those who stood around him: but about half-past twelve he grew easier, and at two o'clock he sunk peacefully to his dreamless rest.

He had during all his sickness expressed the utmost resignation to the will of God, and bore his sufferings with fortitude and patience. He has left us the comfort of believing he is happier. Last Sabbath night, as I watched beside his bed, he said to me, "When I die I wish you to write to Mr. Lincoln, and ask him to come to my funeral." I promised to do this. I need not say to you that your presence would be gratifying to his friends in the extreme.

He is to be buried to-morrow afternoon at three o'clock.

Yours truly,

The following letter was written to one of the Sabbath School teachers while at home, on a visit to his friends :

AUGUST 27, 1855.

MR. CAHOON—

Dear Sir : Being away from home when you wrote to me, I did not receive your letter till the last of the week. I have been down to the sea-shore a week, and enjoyed it very much.

My friends are all very kind to me, indeed, and do every thing they can, to make my visit agreeable and pleasant.

Myself, and all my friends, are much obliged to you for the interest you

have manifested for me in writing. I shall always keep your letter and read it often, and try to profit by your kind advice.

I expect I shall meet you again in the Sunday School class. I shall be glad to come back again. My friends all send their best respects to you.

From your affectionate scholar.

The following was addressed to the boys, by one of the boys, when leaving the Institution. It is copied verbatim.

MY SCHOOLFELLOWS AND CLASSMATES :

This is the last time I shall address you ; for time which steadily rolls on, has brought me to the end of my stay here. When, months ago, I first entered these walls, the time which I was to stay, seemed very long ; but how soon are the events of these months numbered with the things of the irrecoverably past.

I hope those of you who remain, will make good use of your time, and leave with honor.

Remember, all of you, that you came here to reform, and get an education ; and time is money. Therefore be careful not to get in the bad habit of frittering it away ; (to use a familiar phrase) "take care of the minutes, and the hours will take care of themselves."

Those of you who are soon to go forth from this Institution, to plow your way through the troubled sea of life, have my best wishes for your success and prosperity. I desire that you may become useful and respectable citizens, and an honor to our State. May Heaven's choicest blessings descend upon you, and make pleasant your way through life ; and when we meet again before the judgment seat of God, may we all stand a happy, loving company, on his right hand.

I now have said all I wish to say. My schoolfellows, classmates, and friends, I now say my last word, and it is farewell !