

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1860.

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1860.

THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 35.

REPORT

*Of the Committee on the Judiciary relative to rendering some aid to
the Monument in Memory of the Forefathers at Plymouth.*

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the order relating to rendering some aid to the monument in memory of the Forefathers at Plymouth, have attended to that duty, and respectfully Report, as follows :

The erection of a suitable monument in commemoration of our Pilgrim Fathers, is an enterprise in which every New England man should and does feel a deep interest—then should not every New England State in response to the sentiment of the people, aid and countenance the effort, not only by our sympathy and advice, but also by that material aid so indispensable in carrying forward to a successful termination this great work of erecting a shrine up to which every descendant of the Pilgrim Fathers may go and worship—where they may look back through the past of more than two centuries and discover virtues now almost obsolete, religion undefiled, patriotism unadulterated, and democracy in its purity.

An effort is now being made to secure the construction of a monument in Plymouth, which promises to reflect great credit upon its projectors, to direct attention to the history of our Pilgrim Sires, their principles and their virtues, and induce an honorable emulation thereof on the part of their sons.

An appeal is made to the State of Maine to contribute towards

the erection of the Monument, and your Committee trust that in due time such contribution may be made; and with a view to a more thorough investigation of the subject than they have been able to give it, and a hope that such investigation may result in a generous contribution by the State, we recommend that the order be referred to the next Legislature.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, *Chairman.*

IN SENATE, March 17, 1860.

Read and accepted.

Sent down for concurrence.

(Signed) JAMES M. LINCOLN, *Secretary.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 19, 1860.

Read and accepted in concurrence.

(Signed) CHARLES A. MILLER, *Clerk.*

BOSTON, February 27, 1860.

*To the Honorable the Senate and House
of Representatives of Maine, in Legislature assembled :*

At the laying of the corner stone of the Monument at Plymouth, in August last, it was suggested that a subscription might be arranged, based upon the progress of the work, which would secure its completion, assure subscribers of the proper appropriation of their money, and relieve the enterprise of the expense of canvassing agents.

After much deliberation the plan developed from the suggestion is the following :

“ We, the undersigned, desiring to secure the early completion of the *National Monument to the Forefathers*, now in process of erection at Plymouth by the Pilgrim Society, hereby agree to pay to the authorized agent of said Society, the sums severally affixed to our respective names for each foot in height of the entire structure, on the following conditions :

First—No payment shall be due until at least *one thousand dollars* for each foot in height shall have been subscribed to this list, and responsible parties shall have contracted to complete the monument within five years from the first of August, A. D. 1860.

Second—The structure shall be divided into fifteen sections, and each section be equivalent to ten feet in height, and the payment for each section shall be made when said section is completed.”

This plan has received the approval and aid of gentlemen of acknowledged experience in such matters, and it is to be presented to those who are supposed to favor the enterprise, to be abundantly able to aid, and who, it is believed, will be readily disposed to aid, on the above conditions, to the extent of one dollar, or more, per foot. Subscriptions already obtained run from one to ten dollars per foot.

It is extremely desirable, as will be obvious, that the amount named in the first *condition* of the terms of subscription should be secured as early as possible, that the contracts may be made and the work be carried forward without delay.

Very respectfully,

For the Pilgrim Society, Plymouth,

Your obedient servants,

W. M. HARDING, *Financial Agent.*

CHARLES COLBURN, *Collecting Agent.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
Feb. 27, 1860. }

On motion of Mr. STONE of Kennebunk, it was

Ordered, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire as to the expediency of rendering some aid towards erecting the monument in memory of the Forefathers at Plymouth.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
March 20, 1860. }

Reported by the Judiciary Committee, and on motion of Mr. McCRILLIS of Bangor, laid on the table, and 350 copies ordered to be printed for the use of the Legislature.

CHARLES A. MILLER, *Clerk.*