

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1864.

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1864.

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# FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE.

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SENATE.

No. 24.

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## REPORT.

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The Joint Standing Committee on the Insane Hospital, to which were referred the reports of the Trustees and Superintendent of that institution, have in accordance with the usual custom of said Committee visited said hospital, to ascertain what legislation in relation thereto is necessary to the best interest of the State, and the good of the institution, and ask leave to report.

The Committee have visited the institution several times during the session, twice by giving previous notice of their visit, and at several other times without such notice, and have invariably found the different halls of the building neat, clean and in good order; the patients comfortable as persons with disordered reason could be expected to be; their food wholesome, nutritious, abundant, and well prepared; the attendants diligent and attentive in the discharge of their various duties; and every effort being made by the Superintendent and his assistant, by careful watching, constant attention and kind treatment, to relieve those under their care from their sad, unfortunate condition, and to assist nature in winning back the shattered fragments of reason.

The operations of the institution seem highly prosperous and successful. The number of patients in the institution at the present time is 267. The average number during the past year has been 254. The original design of the building was for the accommodation of 250 patients, but by making some charges and suffering some inconveniences they have been able to receive and accommodate a larger number, although not all who have applied for admittance. In some instances the Superintendent has been under

the necessity of sending home to their friends those who have but partially recovered, in order to make room for others who were more dangerous and troublesome.

Your Committee would therefore recommend that the Trustees be authorized and directed to employ a suitable artificer to make a survey and plan for an addition to the end of the north wing, which addition is to run north and south, and to be similar in its general features to the wings already erected, with suitable accommodations for fifty more patients; together with the estimate of the probable expense, and that the same accompany their next annual report.

Such an addition might be made without interfering with the convenience of other parts of the building, and would be the most economical arrangement for securing the additional accommodations needed, and would incur but a small additional expense for water, heating, and for gas, other than for the extension of the same apparatus through the new part, as we learn that but two of the present three boilers have ever been used for warming the building as it now is.

The attention of your Committee was called to the very small salary received by the chaplain of this institution, Rev. J. H. Ingraham. Mr. Ingraham, who is known as one of the oldest and most worthy divines of the State, has officiated in the capacity of chaplain for the hospital for the past ———— years, and considering his advanced age, and the amount of labor he performs for the institution, your Committee would recommend that his salary be increased one hundred dollars, making his pay two hundred dollars per year.

Respectfully submitted.

J. B. WALKER, *Chairman.*

## STATE OF MAINE.

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### RESOLVES in favor of the Insane Hospital.

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*Resolved*, That the trustees of the insane hospital be  
2 and are hereby authorized to cause a survey and plan  
3 to be made by a suitable architect, for an addition to  
4 the eastern end of the north wing of the hospital, sim-  
5 ilar in its general structure to the wings already built,  
6 and with suitable accommodations for fifty patients,  
7 with an estimate of the probable cost of the building,  
8 and that the same accompany their next annual report.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the treasury to  
2 the trustees, the sum of one hundred dollars, for the  
3 purpose of framing certain engravings now in the  
4 hands of the superintendent, for the use of the insane  
5 hospital.

*Resolved*, That the sum of one hundred dollars be and  
2 hereby is added to the salary of the chaplain of the  
3 insane hospital, Rev. J. H. Ingraham.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, March 16, 1864.

Reported by Mr. WALKER of KROX, from the Committee on the Insane Hospital, and on motion of Mr. BRADBURY, laid on the table, and 350 copies ordered to be printed for the use of the Legislature.

EZRA C. BRETT, *Secretary.*