

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Public Documents of Maine:

BEING THE

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE VARIOUS

PUBLIC OFFICERS AND INSTITUTIONS

FOR THE YEAR

1882.

VOLUME I.

AUGUSTA:

SPRAGUE & SON, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1882.

REPORT
OF THE
VISITING COMMITTEE
OF THE
MAINE INSANE HOSPITAL,
UPON
Statements made in the Bangor Commercial
OF
Alleged Abuses in that Institution.

AUGUSTA:
SPRAGUE & SON, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.
1882.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN COUNCIL, March 10, 1881.

Read and accepted by the Council, by the Governor approved, and one thousand copies ordered printed.

Attest:

JOSEPH O. SMITH, *Secretary of State.*

REPORT.

The Visiting Committee to the Insane Hospital, to which was referred the communication of the Trustees of the Maine Insane Hospital, have attended to the duty assigned them, and beg leave to make the following report :

In order that the public may fully understand the whole matter, and the causes which contributed and made necessary an investigation, we give a transcript of an article which appeared in the Bangor Commercial on the 28th of January, 1882.

“MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN.

The Cruel Treatment which Patients are subjected to at the Maine State Asylum for the Insane—The case of Norris M. Tewksbury of this City—And the ill treatment to which he was subjected—The Story as told by himself.

For some time past rumors have been in circulation, to the effect that Mr. Norris M. Tewksbury of this city, who was for a time last summer at the Insane Asylum in Augusta, was horribly ill-treated there by the attendants. To establish the truth or untruth of these rumors, a representative of this paper called upon Mr. Tewksbury at his house on Lincoln Street. Mr. Tewksbury was at home and received his visitor very kindly, and in the conversation that followed, freely gave the facts relating to his stay at the Asylum and the mode of treatment there. In response to questions as to when he left Bangor for Augusta, etc., Mr. T. replied: “I left this city on Monday, July 18th, 1881, and arrived in Augusta the same day. I went for treatment for a mild case of insanity. Upon arrival at the Asylum I was first placed in a comfortable apartment, but on Tuesday, the next day, late in the afternoon, three of the attendants came and conducted me to a lodge, or more properly a cell on the lower floor. It was a small room, about 8 x 10 feet on the floor, lighted by one small window and not ventilated properly. In this dark place there was a rude bunk to sleep in, but I could not bear to stay in there, the atmosphere was so close and warm. It was very hard on me because at that time I was a very fleshy, heavy man.”

In regard to the abuse received at the hands of the attendants, Mr. Tewksbury stated that he was terribly beaten on the same night of his incarceration in the lodge room. He had been, according to his statement, in the lodge about an hour or two, when, being very thirsty, he

asked for some water, which the attendant roughly refused and gave him some milk instead. The milk was turned somewhat and made him sick, and all the more anxious for a drink of water. Instead of water, his second request for it brought tea, which he could not drink. The attendants forced it upon him, and as the gentleman says, "to get rid of them," he knocked the cup over, spilling the tea.

This enraged the attendants, one in particular, whose name we withhold, and they threw him down upon the floor, when the attendant most incensed at the trivial circumstance kicked the prostate man in the head and stomach, brutally cutting him over the right eye and on the right leg, besides leaving many other marks and bruises, one of which in the pit of the stomach, was, according to the physician who has attended Mr. Tewksbury since his recent sickness, the cause of a tumor which formed on the spot and which is now being treated. After this horrible scene, the attendants brought him a little water in a leaky dipper, and when in the night, the thirsty man wanted a drink, he found that the greater part of the water had leaked out. As a result of his injuries a long fit of sickness followed, and after two days and two nights in the lodge room where the bill of fare he says, "consists of bread and water," the patient was taken to the sick room where he received kind treatment from Dr. Hill. When he had been in the sick room four or five days, the cruel attendant came to him, asked his forgiveness for the abuse he (the attendant) had subjected him to, declaring that he would never abuse another man as long as he lived, and saying that he had not slept any for two nights, as he thought Mr. Tewksbury would not recover from his injuries.

Mr. Tewksbury says that some of the other attendants told him not to place any dependence in this particular man and he did not give him any satisfaction. Mr. Tewksbury was placed in the sick room on the evening of Tuesday, July 21, and his illness kept him there over a month. While there, as before stated, the patient received good treatment from Dr. Hill, and the food was of good quality, served in a passably fair manner. When he left the sick-room Mr. Tewksbury was placed in the upper hall, a quite comfortable apartment. Here the bill of fare was somewhat different than in the sick-room, and the food, though of fair quality, is served in a sort of back-woods style, all the dishes that go to make a common dinner being sent up in the elevator on the same plate, one for each patient. As for the cooks, Mr. Tewksbury says that many of them are inmates of the Asylum, whom the management have utilized for the purpose, thus saving an outlay of money on one hand, while on the other hand they receive the same amount per week for the support of these light-headed belles of the kitchen, as they would under any circumstances.

Mr. Tewksbury also states that the management seems unwilling to let a patient go, even if he be perfectly sound-minded, as it deducts from their revenue a certain amount each week. As an illustration of this inhuman greed, our informant stated that to his knowledge there was a man in the Asylum whom the management had impressed into the cooking ser-

vice, and who, as he became a good cook, also recovered his mind and asked to be allowed to go home. But the sagacious and hard-hearted managers would not grant his wish, for he was a good cook, and it would not be good business policy to allow him to go. It would at once deprive them of a good servant and so much weekly income.

Another instance of the general slackness which he claims exists in the institution. Mr. Tewksbury remarked that one night there was a great noise kicked up by two patients, one of whom was giving the other, a new comer, a sound beating, and the attendants made not the slightest show of interfering. While quartered in the upper hall, Mr. Tewksbury learned that Mr. O. H. Ingalls of this city, was at the Asylum, and he desired to see him and tell him of the abuses he had suffered. But he did not see Mr. Ingalls, although he watched for him when he was going about the place with an attendant, who, Mr. T. says, "took Mr. Ingalls around by another passage and contrived to keep him out of the way until he left on the train without seeing me."

Thinking that her husband must be well or nearly well, in the month of August Mrs. Tewksbury wrote to Dr. Harlow, the principal physician, asking about Mr. T's condition and when he would be able to come home. The Dr. replied that the patient would be well enough to go home in a certain time, and added that he would acquaint Mrs. Tewksbury with the facts as they were developed. Time passed, and the lady received no letter, according to her statement, and on the third day of September she went to Augusta to secure if possible her husband's release and bring him home. Upon her arrival at the Asylum, Mrs. T. says, "Dr. Harlow seemed surprised" and said, "you are going to take your husband home?" Mrs. Tewksbury replied that she was, and asked Dr. Harlow if he thought her husband was well enough to be dismissed; he said according to Mrs. T., "yes, possibly," and remarked that Mr. T. "might stand the journey and might not." "Dr. Sanborn," says the lady, "said Mr. Tewksbury was able to go," and according to the same lady, Mrs. Leighton, a lady employed at the Asylum, said, "Oh! Mrs. Tewksbury, I am so glad you have come to take away your husband! He has been able to go for a month." Mrs. Leighton's remarks in regard to the patient being able to go home for a month, referred probably to his ability as far as insanity was concerned, for he was, as will be seen by the first part of this article, in the sick-room at the time, but not so sick probably that he could not be removed carefully.

Mr. Tewksbury states that on the day he left the Asylum, he told Dr. Harlow in the presence of Dr. Hill, of the abuse he had received at the institution, and, to use Mr. T's own words, the doctor said he didn't believe a word of it. "The workmen who were repairing the building," said Mr. Tewksbury, "told me that the concern was a fraud." Mr. and Mrs. Tewksbury returned home, and although the patient is as rational as any man, he has experienced a long and painful illness, which he claims is the result of the injuries received at the Asylum, and to any of those who have known him in health, Mr. Tewksbury appears but the mere wreck of his former self.

During the interview, Mr. Tewksbury mentioned several names connected with the abuses at the institution, which, however, we withhold, preferring to present the bare statement of the gentleman himself without going into personalities at present. Mr. T. will tell the same to any person who visits him at his house, and bears to this day the scar on his right leg, where he was cut by the boot of the ruffianly attendant.

If these things be true, as they apparently are, of that State institution for the support of which so much of the people's money goes, and wherein those most unfortunate of all unfortunates, the insane, are supposed to be kindly treated and well taken care of; if the seemingly disgusting greed of those in power weighs human life and liberty in the balance with a few paltry dollars; and if worst of all, those poor creatures whose clouded minds render them helpless to redress their injuries, are abused behind those walls which a free commonwealth has reared for human good, if these things are *true*, let there be a speedy and thorough investigation, and the people who are sending aid to the distant savages be acquainted with the fact that there is a local market for their charity, that there are brutes and heathen nearer home."

The following article also appeared in the Bangor Commercial, February 9th, 1882 :

“MORE SERIOUS CHARGES AGAINST THE INSANE HOSPITAL.

We open our columns this evening to give another man, who has been an inmate of the Insane Hospital at Augusta, an opportunity to tell the story of his experience in that institution, which, according to Steward Lakin, is “conducted in so exceptionally faithful and efficient a manner.”

This man, who, in narrating the story of the cruelties practiced upon him at the asylum, corroborates the truth of Mr. Tewksbury's charges against that institution, belongs in a neighboring city, and his character and credibility are vouched for by two prominent gentlemen of that place. One of these gentlemen, who took down the statement as it is printed below, mentions this interesting fact in connection with the case: Some time before the appearance of the interview with Mr. Tewksbury in the Commercial, the man who makes this statement called at his office and told him, in connection with the story of his own experience at Augusta, the cruelties to others of which he had been a witness. Among the cases which he mentioned was that of Mr. Tewksbury, and his story of the barbarous treatment to which the latter had been subjected agreed in every essential respect with the statements made by Mr. Tewksbury as published in the Commercial at a later date.

When the interview with Mr. Tewksbury, as printed in the Commercial, was read by this gentleman, he was so impressed by the coincidence that he called the man into his office again and took down his statement as it is printed below. To this statement our informant writes us, the man is

ready to swear at any time. and his name is at the service of the Governor and Council if they shall decide to enter upon the investigation which it is now more than ever evident ought to be made, and which it is equally evident ought not to be long delayed.

The charges contained in this statement are of too serious a character to be ignored. It may be questionable whether it is within the legitimate province of the Governor or the Council to institute or conduct an investigation of this institution. The officials and subordinates of the Asylum are responsible to the Board of Trustees, and it is by the latter properly that an investigation of charges affecting the conduct of the institution should be made. If, as may be inferred from Mr. Manley's letter calling on the Governor to institute an investigation, the public would have no confidence in an investigation conducted by the Board of Trustees, then it would seem to be the duty of the gentlemen composing that Board to tender their resignations, in order that their places may be filled by others who can prosecute the much needed investigation in full confidence that their findings will be accepted by the public as truthful and final. The following is the statement which, it will be observed, is addressed to the editor of this paper:—

Editor of the Commercial :

I have just read the article in your paper entitled "Man's Inhumanity to Man." I was in the Asylum at the time and saw that brutal assault. The statement is correct in every particular. I also desire to add a series of similar outrages which I saw there, and which were inflicted upon myself and others.

I was sent to the Asylum the first time, in October, 1878. I was quite insane but I remember distinctly several brutalities inflicted upon me. I remember that for making a noise I was choked and kicked in the face by the night watch, and my jaw dislocated, which remained so for two days.

I remember still more particularly of an outrage perpetrated upon me one Sunday, about ten days after I arrived. After tea I went into the attendant's room, which of course I had no right to do; yet for this simple thing those two attendants dragged me into the hall and kicked me on each side while lying on the floor, and in the stomach until I was wholly unconscious. When I came to I was in my lodge, and the next day I was so sore that I could not move without great pain; it would take several minutes for me to rise from my bed and stand on the floor. At the signal for rising I would begin instantly by gentle and careful movements, to rise, but for several mornings following, the attendants provoked by my slowness, would rush in and violently twitch me from my bed to the floor. I was sore for the balance of my stay at the Asylum and for two or three months after returning home. I did not attempt any work at all till the next summer and cannot even to this day do a full day's work.

I can give the particulars of several other and similar chokings and kickings inflicted upon me during my three visits to the Asylum. During my last visit to the Asylum I saw the attendants kick an old and feeble man by the name of Porter outrageously in the stomach, because he did not know enough to wash himself.

I also saw a young man from Hallowell or Gardiner, by the name of Cragin I think, without any provocation to speak of, pounded in the hall, then dragged into the bath room. I saw three or four attendants go into the bath room; heard the beating continued. I heard the boy begging for mercy and saw him after he came out swollen about the head and neck. I can name others beaten in the same way, and I can assert and do, that such treatment was common in that institution, being at least a weekly occurrence.

THE MAINE INSANE HOSPITAL.

PRESS COMMENTS ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS.

[From the Portland Transcript.]

Dr. Harlow has resigned the Superintendency of the Maine Insane Hospital, on the ground that he has reached an age in life at which he had planned to lay down the work he had espoused in early manhood. Mr. C. B. Lakin, Steward and Treasurer, has also resigned, for the reason "that the institution continues to be subjected to calumny and embarrassment while being conducted, as has been recently shown, in an exceptionally faithful and efficient manner." It is true that much fault continues to be found with the institution, but that it is "conducted in an exceptionally faithful and efficient manner" remains to be proved. It is to be hoped that the investigation recently asked for will be had, and that it will be searching and thorough. So important an institution ought not to lie under a cloud. It ought to have the entire confidence of the community whose stricken ones are entrusted to its charge.

[From the Boston Post.]

The Bangor Commercial advises the trustees of the Maine Insane Asylum to follow the example of the superintendent and steward by sending in their resignations. This is excellent advice that is not likely to be heeded.

The editorial remarks and criticisms of the Daily Commercial, and other newspapers of the State, aroused public attention and comment, and caused an earnest inquiry in regard to the truth of the allegations; and it is reasonable to suppose that many believed that the charges were well founded. The trustees of the Insane Hospital forwarded to the Governor and Council the following communication:

Hon. HARRIS M. PLAISTED, *Governor of Maine*,

SIR: I desire, in behalf of the Trustees of the Maine Insane Hospital, to call your attention to a reported interview with Mr. Norris M. Tewksbury of Bangor, published in the Bangor Commercial on Saturday last, a copy of which is herewith enclosed. The charges made are very explicit containing, if true, serious accusations against the management of this institution. Mr. Tewksbury was for a short time last summer an inmate of the Hospital and was for two days, after his admission, a raving maniac. The people of this State have a right to demand that the management of this Hospital should be above suspicion; they have a right to insist that its unfortunate inmates shall be humanely treated, properly fed and clothed, and the recipients of the best medical attendance with competent and efficient nurses and attendants. If Mr. Tewksbury received the treatment it is alleged he did, the attendant or attendants that committed the brutal outrage should receive condign punishment and the officer or officers that would overlook it should be summarily dealt with.

If the charges be not true it is simply villainous to make and repeat them. I desire in behalf of the Trustees to urge that you and the Council cause this matter to be at once freely and thoroughly investigated, so that if blame can attach to any one, the guilty party or parties may receive the punishment which the law inflicts, and the condemnation which a just and humane people shower upon injustice. If the accusations are simply the vagaries of an unsound mind, absolutely without foundation, it is due to the officers of the Hospital and the people of the State that it should be so proven.

Whatever form the investigation may take, the Trustees will render all the aid in their power to have the investigation thorough and exhaustive.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. MANLEY.

Sec'y Board of Trustees,

Maine Insane Hospital.

AUGUSTA, ME., January 30, 1882.

MAINE INSANE HOSPITAL, *Superintendent's Office,* }
Augusta, Me., January 30, 1882. }

HON. HARRIS M. PLAISTED, *Governor of Maine,*

My Dear Sir: I have this morning read in the Bangor Daily Commercial of the 28th inst., a statement purporting to come from Mr. Norris M. Tewksbury of Bangor, in regard to his treatment while a patient in this Hospital last summer.

I write you, simply to deny having any knowledge of Mr. Tewksbury's ill-treatment while he was under our care. On the contrary, I fully believe that he received the kindest and gentlest treatment that could be bestowed upon one, who was for three days and three nights a violent and raving maniac. the time he alleges he was so unmercifully abused by his attendant.

I would, therefore, most respectfully ask for a full and impartial investigation into Mr. Tewksbury's case by yourself and your Honorable Council.

Very Respectfully, your obedient Servant,

H. M. HARLOW, *Superintendent.*

The Council at a regular meeting adopted the following order :

STATE OF MAINE.

IN COUNCIL, February 9, 1882.

Ordered, That the communications from Dr. H. M. Harlow and J. H. Manley, be referred to the Visiting Committee to the Insane Hospital.

IN COUNCIL, March 10, 1882.

Read and passed by the Council and by the Governor approved.

JOSEPH O. SMITH, *Secretary of State*.

A true copy. Attest :

JOSEPH O. SMITH, *Secretary of State*.

In obedience to this order and desirous of presenting all the facts, the Visiting Committee in company with Hon. Samuel N. Campbell, Councillor, visited Bangor and called on Norris M. Tewksbury, Esq., at his residence. Mr. Tewksbury made substantially the same statement that has been previously published in the Bangor Commercial. It was fairly and freely given, and there can be no doubt but that Mr. Tewksbury is sincere and believes what he states. He treated the Committee politely and with due consideration. He says he was taken to the Hospital July 18th, and left September 3d, 1881. He appears to comprehend very well the facts in the case which led to his removal to the Hospital, but is not aware that he exhibited any manifestations of violent insanity. He simply admits "he lectured and talked some;" and on the day he left Bangor "was as rational as he ever was, and knew what he was about." He says he was taken from Bangor to the Insane Hospital by James Nickerson and John Farnham, citizens of Bangor, "without any trouble or violence." They came to take him out on a ride. "I was as rational as I ever was, and knew what they were up to." He states that on arrival at the Hospital he was taken to an upper room and was detained there one day, and was then removed to a lodge in the second story of the same building. He states that the ill-treatment which he received was inflicted entirely by one attendant by the name of E. J. Williams, and during the early period of his confinement in the lodge-room. That before that period and since, and during his entire stay at the Hospital, he was treated with kindness and courtesy by Williams, every other attendant and officer of the institution; and makes no complaint of ill-treatment against any person except Williams.

He says that he was kicked in his legs and sides of his chest by Williams in a very cruel manner, and was taken from his lodge-room to the bath after this cruel treatment, and was so much prostrated and exhausted that restoratives had to be used. He further testified that he was refused water when thirsty, and was obliged to drink from a leaky and useless dipper, and that tea and milk were given him when he asked for water. He testifies that Williams would take him by the hand and ask his forgiveness and declare that he would never treat another patient in the same manner. He said that he heard from John Creahan that Williams asked him (Creahan) if he thought Tewksbury would forgive him for his ill-treatment. He repeated these words: "They were all kind to me and treated me first rate, and no one abused me except Williams."

Mr. Tewksbury complains that Mr. O. H. Ingalls visited the Hospital after his confinement, and that he was refused by the officers of the institution an opportunity to converse with him; and that Ingalls was taken round by the back door by Mr. Lakin, so that he might escape his notice. He said that Dr. Hill, Assistant Physician, said: "That he was never so astonished in his life as when he heard Dr. Harlow say he did not believe a word about the abuse I had received." He said that he was in the lodge two days.

The above is all that is important in the statement of Mr. Tewksbury. The Committee have taken the testimony of all the parties referred to in the statement of Mr. Tewksbury except Mr. Boothby, who has left the Hospital and could not be reached in consequence of his sickness; also, such other evidence as it was possible to obtain.

All the material facts stated by Mr. Tewksbury are unequivocally denied by the united testimony of the officers from Bangor, the attendants and officers of the Hospital. Messrs. Nickerson and Farnham, who took Tewksbury from Bangor to the Insane Hospital, refute his statement that he was "as sane as he ever was," and state that he was a violent, raving maniac and was with difficulty restrained from doing personal violence to himself. Three Resident Physicians all testify that he was a raving maniac when he was received into the Hospital; and an examination of the written history of the case, as appears in the Hospital Record Book of cases, shows that he was very violent, noisy, using meaningless

words and sentences. He tore off his clothes and was in a naked condition, continually gesticulating and striking himself with his fist, and doing many strange things.

The Superintendent and Resident Physicians testify that he was not in a condition to judge correctly of what transpired during the three days he was in a raving condition; that he was a fit subject for strange hallucinations and wrong impressions. The several attendants who were with him also bear witness to his continual noisy and violent ravings during the period of three days referred to.

A very particular and careful examination disclosed nothing in the treatment of Mr. Tewksbury, from the time he entered the Hospital until he left it, that should subject any of the officers or attendants of that institution to censure or criticism. The only time that Mr. Tewksbury alleges that he was the subject of cruel treatment was during the twenty-four hours he was confined in the lodge. He exonerates every officer and attendant except Williams. Tewksbury says that he was in the lodge two days. He is evidently mistaken. All the officers and attendants of the Hospital testify that Williams is one of the best and most humane attendants in the Hospital. He has been an attendant for five years without any previous complaint against him, and his character stands unimpeached.

Sands of Bangor made the following statement: "I am keeper of the Bangor Poor-house. July 17th, 1881, a brother of Mr. Norris M. Tewksbury informed me that it became necessary to remove him to the custody of the Poor-house in consequence of his violent insanity. I consented to receive him and told him that I could lock him up in a cell. Mr. Norris M. Tewksbury soon came in company with two policemen and three other attendants. He was very violent and kicked things about so, that we were obliged to take his bed out of his cell. He was very noisy all the time that he was there; was just like a brute and daubed everything up. Thrashed about enough to kill himself and tear himself all to pieces. If he did not hurt himself it is a wonder. The next morning he was taken to the Hospital."

John M. Farnham made the following statement: "I visited the Poor-house at Bangor the day that Norris M. Tewksbury was confined there. He was locked up in a cell and was nearly naked. He was shouting as loud as he could hollo—was very religious—calling himself Jesus Christ and talking about sparkling waters. I

could not stop him. He complained of his stomach several times on his way to Augusta."

James Nickerson of Bangor corroborated the statement made by Farnham.

Williams says that there never was any occasion for any unusual force during his care of Tewksbury. When in his presence he was always provided with ample number of attendants, and he thus prevented Tewksbury from using violence. Williams makes the following statement: "I never asked Mr. Tewksbury to forgive me, there was no reason why I should. I never struck, kicked or hurt him in my life; of this I am sure. I have never abused a patient in the Hospital, and during my five year's service, I have never seen a patient abused by anyone. I never asked John Creahan 'if he thought Tewksbury would forgive me.' I never gave him water from a leaky dipper. Tewksbury would not eat. I gave him water when he asked for it. Ice water is always at hand. I am not allowed to go into the room of a raving maniac without the attendance of two or more assistants. I was at no time alone in the lodge with Mr. Tewksbury. Adriel L. Pease, Mr. Boothby, John Creahan, Edward Holloway, Oscar C. Cushman and Willard Small were at my command and assisted me in the discharge of taking care of Tewksbury. He was never taken to the bath-room from the lodge while under my care."

All the other attendants verify this statement.

V. R. Luce made the following statement: "I am Supervisor and at the head of the attendants and have been in the Hospital eight years. I met Mr. Tewksbury when he first came to the Hospital. He was very wild and crazy, continually tearing off his clothes. He frequently soiled himself and was obliged to be carried to the bath-room. He was so noisy that I secured the services of four attendants and had him removed to the lower lodge, where he staid one day. I saw him frequently. He never complained to me while he was in the Hospital of any abuse, and nothing of the kind occurred under my observation."

Oscar C. Cushman testified as follows: "I am an attendant and in the same room with Williams. Saw what occurred in carrying Tewksbury to the lodge and afterwards. He was very noisy. I did not see him abused by Williams or anyone else. Mr. Williams is one of the best and kindest attendants in the Hospital. I know that he was not bathed while in the lower lodge. He was there only 24 hours."

Edward Holloway testified as follows: "I am night watch at the Hospital—have been here over three years. I remember Tewksbury when in the lodge. He was noisy and insane and wanted water several times. I always gave it to him. I never saw him abused or struck. He never made any complaint to me of abuse."

John Creahan made the following statement: "I am an attendant and my place is in the sick-room. I helped move Tewksbury to the lower lodge-room and left. I did not know anything further about him until he came to the sick-room on the next day. He remained in the sick-room one month. I helped bathe him several times. I never noticed any scars or bruises on him and he never made any complaint of abuse from Williams. I am sure that Williams never said anything to me about abusing Tewksbury or about asking his forgiveness. It is all false. Tewksbury while in the sick-room never made any complaint about feeling bad in consequence of kicks or blows. He made no complaint whatever."

Willard Small made the following statement: "I am an attendant. I first saw Tewksbury in the lower lodge soon after he was placed there. He was very crazy. He had his clothes stripped off, was talking very loud, striking himself with his fists and pounding the door. Doctors Harlow, Sanborn and Hill attended him. He wanted water and I gave it to him, but not from a leaky dipper. I was with Williams. I never saw him abuse Tewksbury or any patient. I should say he was one of the best attendants in the Hospital."

Dr. H. B. Hill made the following statements: "No such talk or remarks as Tewksbury alleges ever took place between him and Dr. Harlow. That he had an opportunity to examine Tewksbury, and found no scars or bruises, nor signs of any blows or abuse. The treatment that he alleges and the results, could not have happened during his stay in the Hospital."

Dr. Harlow testifies as follows: "I gave special instruction in regard to the treatment of Tewksbury, because he was a large and powerful man, and was a raving maniac for three days and three nights. I saw him the night he was in the lodge. It was one of the most violent cases I ever saw. I never have had any occasion to suspect Williams of treating patients other than in a kind and humane manner. The printed regulations of the Hospital in regard to attendants, read thus: 'No provocation can justify violence in word or action. Striking a patient shall be followed by the immediate

discharge of the person who gave the blow.' This rule has always been rigidly enforced. Williams has always been a faithful attendant."

O. H. Ingalls refutes what Tewksbury states. He says he did visit the Hospital while Tewksbury was there, and but once; that he saw Tewksbury twice while there; that he spoke to him when he first arrived at the Hospital, and after dinner sat down and had a talk with him. Says they talked some time; as long as they wanted to. Says Tewksbury made no complaint of any kind, and that he had plenty of chances to do so.

Ingalls says he has been Overseer of Bangor Poor-house for many years and has had large experience with the Hospital. There have been over sixty inmates from Bangor at the Hospital while he has been in office, (his own daughter being one of them.)

The City of Bangor has paid the Hospital over \$35,000 in twelve years, and has always been well satisfied. There have been twenty-seven patients from Bangor there during the year 1881, and this is the first instance of alleged abuse he has ever heard from them.

Mrs. C. R. Whidden says: "I was at the Hospital when Mr. Tewksbury arrived from Bangor. I had a short conversation with him at that time. He seemed excited, said he had received a sun-stroke, was a sick man and needed medical treatment and rest, but could not remain then, must go back first and attend to business. I left Augusta that afternoon and at my next visit found him comparatively well and waiting to go home. The alleged abuses had occurred during my absence. During that visit I had several long and pleasant conversations with him. He did not complain of, or allude to any abuse, but rather talked repeatedly of the kind treatment he had received; of his improved health, and said he intended after reaching home to drive up with his wife that she might see his many kind friends at the Hospital. I was much surprised when I heard that he had complained of abuse.

Upon visiting him last week at his own house in Bangor, he repeated to me the story of his abuses, substantially as they have been reported. I asked him why he had not reported to me while at the Hospital, as one of the duties of my office was to examine all such complaints. He said 'he understood that it was so, but did not know why he neglected to speak of it.' He said he had no complaint to make against the Hospital or officers, merely complained of his hard treatment the Tuesday night after his arrival, while in the lodge."

The Visiting Committee wrote letters to the attending physician of Mr. Tewksbury for necessary information, but did not receive any reply. They also requested the name of the individual who furnished the corroborating evidence that appears in the Commercial, the editor having volunteered to furnish the same, but not receiving any reply, we are unable to determine whether the same is worthy of any credence.

The several statements that have been made, clearly refute what has been said by Mr. Tewksbury. There appears to be a general denial of the charges made by Mr. Tewksbury. There can be no doubt but that Mr. Tewksbury, in his confused state of mind, was in error on many immaterial points, and it is logical to infer that there may be a corresponding error in the essential charges.

The Visiting Committee are aware that in making any investigation, much of the evidence for the defence must come from the party attacked, and therefore there may be cases where the truth may be omitted. In the case in question, we are of the opinion that there are no grounds for apprehension that Mr. Tewksbury was ill-treated at the Hospital. The facts, evidence and logic refute such a statement.

We therefore desire to exonerate the Hospital from any unjust criticism that these last charges have occasioned.

FREDERICK ROBIE, } *Board*
 J. T. HINCKLEY, } *of*
 Mrs. C. R. WHIDDEN, } *Visitors.*

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

STATE OF MAINE.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Augusta, March 17, 1882. }

The Visiting Committee of the Maine State Insane Hospital, in order to make their report as complete as possible, desire to add the following additional information, which was received too late to be inserted in the previous report. The following is a statement made by John M. Boothby of Limington, a former attendant in the lower lodge, where Mr. Tewksbury was confined and alleges he received his cruel treatment. This statement completes all the evidence from those persons who had charge of Mr. Tewksbury during his connection with the Hospital, and is as follows :

“I was formerly attendant in the lower lodge, and was an associate with E. J. Williams in taking care of patients. I recollect all about the case of Tewksbury. He was treated in the kindest manner by both of us. He was very crazy while in the lower lodge. He was not ill-treated by either Williams or myself, and as far as I know, received kind treatment from everybody and at all times.”

The Bangor Commercial of March 14th makes the following comments :

“THE INSANE ASYLUM WHITEWASHED.”

“The committee which has been ‘investigating’ the charges against the Insane Hospital, has made its expected whitewashing report, in which it is declared that Mr. Tewksbury labored under an ‘insane delusion’ as to the injuries and ill-treatment which he supposed himself to have received at that institution, and that everything is lovely within the walls of the granite building on the Kennebec. How complete a farce,

this purported 'investigation' has been, was pointed out in an Augusta letter to the *Commercial* a few days ago. The committee has examined only such witnesses as it deemed proper, and has combined in itself the functions of prosecution and defence—particularly the latter. No opportunity was afforded for cross examination of these witnesses whose testimony it heard, by any one really desirous of getting at the truth, nor was the evidence of witnesses sought—with the exception of Mr. Tewksbury himself, which could not well be avoided—who might have told any different story from that which the committee wished to hear.

How much truth there is in the whole report, may be judged from the following extract. The committee say :

'They also requested the name of the individual who furnished the corroborating evidence that appears in the *Commercial*, the editor having volunteered to furnish the same; but not receiving any reply we are unable to determine whether the same is worthy of any credence.'

A letter from Mr. Hinckley, dated at Bluehill, asking the name of the individual whose corroborating statement appeared in the *Commercial*, was received at this office. The letter was overlooked in our office for a few days, but as soon as it was called to our attention it was promptly answered, and the name of the person in question, (Mr. Charles Patten of Ellsworth,) given. That letter must have been in Mr. Hinckley's possession for some time prior to the making of this report, and the committee could doubtless have obtained Mr. Patten's evidence, had they desired it.

The 'investigation,' so called, has been a gross travesty of justice, and will receive no respect from any one who has not prejudged the case. It only adds another, to the many coats of whitewash which the management of the Hospital has received. This, however, is one of the thinnest that was ever laid on."

This article states "that the committee examined only such witnesses as it deemed proper," which is true, as they did not examine witnesses which they deemed improper.

Mr. J. T. Hinckley makes the following statement: "I wrote to the *Commercial* Feb. 14th, asking for the name of the corroborating witness, but have never received any reply to my letter. The first notice I received that my letter ever reached the *Commercial*, was from reading the announcement and comments which that paper was pleased to make. I never received any reply or other information, so that the committee could not avail themselves of the testimony of the witness for their previous report, whatever it might be."

It now seems that Charles Patten of Ellsworth is the party in question. It appears from the Hospital Record, that he has been an inmate of the Hospital several times, and we refrain from giving publicity to the characteristics of his case, as it would only be a repetition of the vagaries, personal abuse and violence which raving insanity produces. We believe that his statements are entirely false, and it is said by those who know him, that he is utterly incapable of writing such an article as appeared in the Commercial. The following portion of Patten's statement is the only material evidence as far as it affects or corroborates the story of Tewksbury :

“I was in the Asylum at the time and saw that brutal assault, and the statement is correct in every particular.” Mr. Tewksbury says “he was cruelly beaten on the same night of his incarceration in the lodge room.”

Dr. B. F. Sanborn testifies as follows : “I am one of the assistant Hospital physicians and am well acquainted with the case of Mr. Tewksbury. If this alleged cruel treatment ever occurred, it was at a time and place when Patten occupied a distant room in a distant hall, and at no time during the day or night could he have been so situated as to have been an eye witness to what is alleged by him to have occurred.”

The officers and attendants of the Hospital all certify to the truth of this statement, and the Visiting Committee, after examining into the relative situation of the place of abode of the two complaining parties on that eventful day and night, are satisfied that Patten's statement is impossible and untrue.

Dr. Sanborn further states : “I have read the previous report of the Visiting Committee, and can substantiate all the material facts therein stated by the attendants and officers of the Hospital. During the first three days of his being an inmate of the Hospital, he was shouting, singing and praying continually, tearing his bedding and clothing into pieces and throwing them about.”

Dr. Harlow makes the following additional statement : “While Mr. Tewksbury was in the lodge he oftentimes refused to eat or drink, but by humoring his fancies and complying with the dictates of his delusions, we succeeded in getting him to take milk and other nourishment, but always with the same ceremony. We represented ourselves as members of the Sacred Brotherhood, and dipped our

fingers into the milk and water brought to him, and crossed ourselves, thereupon the food became holy in his estimation, and we became holy and worthy to administer the same. The cross also had to be made on the walls of the room, that the room might be rendered holy and fit to be occupied. These demands were made by him, and followed by us to secure the obedience and confidence of an insane patient that could not be otherwise managed. After he left the lodge he was examined by Doctors Sanborn, Hill and myself, and we discovered no external mark of violence, or of any injury over the region of the stomach, and but slight bruises elsewhere, which were inflicted by himself during his violent paroxysm. There is no rational basis for any of his complaints that appear in the Commercial. The evidence published by Mr. Charles Patten has no foundation for truth, and I cannot understand the animus that invented and published it. At one time in a paroxysm of anger he (Patten) inserted the fingers of both hands into his mouth, and by a violent jerk dislocated his lower jaw, which was immediately reduced by myself. Mr. Tewksbury was a general favorite, and we all did everything in our power to make his stay with us profitable and pleasant for him."

In order that the evidence against the Hospital may be as complete as possible, we now introduce and add similar testimony to that which has already been made satisfactory to certain parties. We will add, as corroborating evidence, a statement made by Rev. James Patterson of Wilton, who now occupies the same lodge which was formerly occupied by Mr. Tewksbury.

Mr. Patterson makes the declaration: "I was formerly a minister and did much preaching, but now am a disbeliever in the gospel of Christ. I was here when Tewksbury was in the Hospital and saw him brutally treated. He was perfectly sane and one of the best and most quiet men that I ever saw. He was talking about Christ at all times. There have been three murders committed by the attendants since I have been here which I have witnessed. I am one of the number. I have been murdered, but like Christ was raised to life again, and here I am. I left my wife in Europe several years ago. I have never seen her since until yesterday, when I saw her in the yard with my attendant."

The above statement was made with evident sincerity. Mr. Patterson is violent and destructive, and in many respects like Tewksbury and Patten when inmates of the Hospital. An intelligent public can and must decide whether the evidence from such sources is worthy of credence, and whether it requires much "whitewashing" from any committee to remove charges of brutal inhumanity based on such evidence. There is nothing to be gained by the publishing of such improbable statements—the vagaries of disordered minds, not only ill at ease, but for the time being entirely wrecked.

The standing of a great and noble institution should not easily or unjustly suffer, and if its management is worthy of confidence, it should be our pride to defend it.

FREDERICK ROBIE, } *Visiting Committee*
J. T. HINCKLEY, } *to the*
Mrs. C. R. WHIDDEN, } *Insane Hospital.*

STATE OF MAINE.

In COUNCIL, March 17, 1882.

Read and accepted by the Council, by the Governor approved, and ordered printed
with former report.

Attest: JOSEPH O. SMITH, *Secretary of State.*