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# FORTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE.

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SENATE.

No. 43.

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## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON INSANE HOSPITAL.

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The Joint Standing Committee on the Insane Hospital, to whom was referred the report of the Trustees, Superintendent and Treasurer of that Institution, also the Report of the Commission of Investigation of the Insane Asylum made to the Governor and Council by order of the last Legislature, and transmitted through the present Legislature to this Committee, have considered the recommendations and suggestions therein contained, and ask leave to submit the following

### REPORT.

All subjects of general interest relating to the Hospital are contained in the elaborate reports of the several officers, under whom the Institution is placed, which renders it unnecessary for the Committee to enter into the particulars of its affairs. Still we feel that justice to the Superintendent and subordinate officers requires us to say, that so far as we can judge, the management of the Hospital is conducted as satisfactorily as can be expected, considering its crowded condition, especially that portion occupied by male patients, where the need of more room seems so evident.

We earnestly hope the finances of the State will ere long be in a condition to warrant the appropriation of sufficient funds for an additional wing.

The beneficial effects of manual labor, and out-door exercise, with open air amusements for the promotion of the mental and physical health of a large portion of the patients, we need not discuss as it is patent to the mind of every intelligent person in the successful management and treatment of insane patients.

In addition to the present premises we would recommend the purchase of the "Tobey Farm," so called, provided it can be obtained for a sum not to exceed \$5,000, and that if purchased, a park of sufficient size be formed and suitably arranged with walks and ornamented with trees on some desirable portion of the premises; much of the labor of which could be done by the inmates, without any expense to the State.

A very good building for a Laundry, with the most approved apparatus, costing six thousand six hundred and seventy-three dollars and ninety-six cents, (\$6,673.96,) \$4,000 of which was appropriated by the last Legislature, the balance two thousand six hundred and seventy-three dollars and ninety-six cents, remains unprovided, for which we would recommend an appropriation.

Your Committee are of opinion that great good would result to the Hospital as an Institution, if provision was made for the removal of patients demented, and supposed to be incurable, to some more appropriate place, where they could have all the care necessary for their comfort, which would supersede the necessity of enlarging the present Hospital building, and as suggested by the Commission in their report to the Governor.

We would recommend that any person now in the Insane Hospital, or that may be committed there hereafter by order of any court for observation, and awaiting trial shall be discharged by the Superintendent, if not sent for by the court committing him or her during the next term of said court. But every such person shall be liable to be committed by the municipal officers of the town where such person belongs, if found to be insane, to be supported in the same manner as other persons so committed by said municipal officers.

We would also recommend that a Civil Engineer be employed to make a survey and plan of the sewer and water pipes connected with the Asylum, and that measures be taken to carry the same into effect.

We do not think the re-organization of the Board of Trustees, as recommended, would be advisable.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ALEXANDER FULTON, }  
A. J. BILLINGS, } *Chairmen.*

## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE in favor of the insane asylum.

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*Resolved,* That there be appropriated and paid out of  
2 the state treasury to the trustees of the insane asylum,  
3 two thousand six hundred and seventy-three dollars  
4 and ninety-six cents, and that the governor is hereby  
5 authorized to draw his warrant on the state treasurer  
6 for the same.

## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE in favor of the insane asylum.

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*Resolved,* That the trustees of the insane asylum are  
2 hereby authorized to procure a survey and plan of the  
3 sewer and water pipes of the insane asylum, and that  
4 the governor is hereby authorized to draw his warrant  
5 on the state treasurer for an amount to pay for the  
6 same.

## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE in favor of increasing the insane asylum property by the purchase of land.

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*Resolved,* That the governor and council be and are  
2 hereby authorized to purchase the "Tobey farm," so  
3 called, situate in Augusta adjoining the insane asylum  
4 property, for the use of the asylum, provided it can  
5 be obtained for the sum of five thousand dollars. And  
6 if the purchase is consummated the governor is hereby  
7 authorized to draw his warrant on the state treasurer  
8 for the amount of the purchase sum.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, February 20, 1868.

Read and accepted, and on motion of Mr. FULTON, laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

THOMAS P. CLEAVES, *Secretary.*