

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# FORTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE.

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HOUSE.

No. 35.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE in favor of the Maine Central Institute.

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*Resolved*, That the sum of ten thousand dollars be  
2 and hereby is appropriated out of the state treasury,  
3 for the use of the trustees of the Maine Central Insti-  
4 tute, as endowment fund to said institution, the money  
5 to be retained in the treasury, and the interest paid  
6 semi-annually, till the year one thousand eight hun-  
7 dred and eighty ; and if at that time the said trustees  
8 shall have in their possession school property to the  
9 amount of forty thousand dollars, and the said institu-  
10 tion shall be in successful operation, the said sum of  
11 ten thousand dollars shall be paid to the trustees of  
12 said institution for the use and benefit thereof, and  
13 they shall safely invest the same, the interest only to  
14 be expended annually ; *provided*, that the trustees of  
15 said institution, in consideration of the aid thus ren-

16 dered by the state, shall establish and maintain a  
17 normal department for the preparation of teachers.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS.

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This Institution is located in Pittsfield village, Somerset county, on the line of the Maine Central railroad, twenty miles from Waterville, and thirty-five from Bangor. It was incorporated February 1st, 1866. The first term of the school was opened in a hall and school-house, August 30th, 1866, with eighty-three students. From that time until the year 1869, two terms a year were held, the number of students increasing to one hundred and eighteen while yet without a building of our own, and being obliged to occupy apartments unsuitable for school purposes.

In the spring of 1869, the school commenced its full course of four terms a year, of ten weeks each. The first term held in the *new building* was in the summer of 1869. The Fall term of 1869 numbered one hundred and thirty students. The Summer and Winter terms were thinly attended, on account of a large number of the students being engaged as teachers in our district schools. The prospect for the Spring term of 1870 is more flattering than that of any preceding term.

The school is of the same grade as those at Westbrook, Bucksport, Kent's Hill, and Maine State Seminary at Lewiston. Its location is such as to accommodate a large section of the State, that will not be reached by any other Institution of like grade.

This Institution has never received any aid from the State, while all the colleges and seminaries of similar grade have received liberal State endowments; and seven out of eight of those devoted to literary purposes are situated west of the Kennebec river, and have received *more* than seven-eighths of the appropriations made.

The main building of this Institution was erected in 1868-9. It is made of brick, in the form of a cross, 118 x 68 feet, and three stories high. The whole exterior and the lower story is finished, and when the entire building is complete, it will contain a large chapel 47 x 65 feet, and fifteen other commodious recitation, library, and society rooms. It is built in a thorough and

substantial manner, and located on a lot of twenty acres, in the most desirable part of the village.

Forty thousand dollars have been expended in bringing the work to its present state of perfection. Over eleven thousand dollars have been contributed to carry forward the work. The corporation have subscriptions, obligations and pledges made to it, to the amount of thirteen thousand dollars more, leaving unprovided for a debt of sixteen thousand dollars. Agents are vigorously presecuting the work of raising funds to meet this indebtedness. The Institution has also one thousand dollars as endowment.

A. L. GERRISH, } *President of the  
Board of Trustees.*

Respectfully submitted.

W. L HATHORN,  
*For the Committee on Education.*

## STATE OF MAINE.

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IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }  
February 10, 1870. }

Reported from the Committee on Education, by Mr. HATHORN  
of Pittsfield, and on his motion laid on the table and printed.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Clerk.*