

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SIXTIETH LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

No. 69.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 16, 1881. }

Ordered, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of investigating the affairs of the Military and Naval Orphan Asylum at Bath, Maine, with reference to closing up the same, and that said committee are hereby authorized to send for persons and papers.

Read and passed.

ORAMANDAL SMITH, *Clerk.*

IN SENATE, February 22, 1881.

Indefinitely postponed. Send down for concurrence.

C. W. TILDEN, *Secretary.*

BATH MILITARY AND NAVAL ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Incorporated October 23, 1866.

(See Act). Section 1. * * “For the purpose of rearing and educating gratuitously, in the common branches of learning and ordinary industrial pursuits, the orphans and half orphans of officers, soldiers, seamen and marines who have entered the service of the government from Maine during the war for the suppression of the rebellion, and *have died while in said service, or subsequently from wounds received, or injuries or disease contracted while in said service.*”

1. The State owns the estate and all property connected therewith. Deed on file at State House.

2. There is not now probably a single person in the Asylum who answers the description in the act of incorporation.

3. As there is to be no Legislature for two years, some legislation should be had looking to a winding up of the institution, as the uses for which it was designed have been accomplished.

4. Expenses too high.

5. Officers over paid.

6. Matron unfit for position.

7. There should be a man and his wife at the head.

8. The children should be sifted out, and a limit fixed to the age when they should stay in the Asylum.

9. There are children there who have no claim upon the State whatever.

10. Children taught no trade nor vocation. (Mem. The children at the Hallowell institute school knit mittens, which are bought by the inmates of this asylum.)

11. Some law should be passed empowering the Trustees to bind out the children under proper conditions.

12. More help than is necessary at the asylum.

13. Boys, some of them bad, and a nuisance to the neighborhood, who can get no satisfaction from the matron.

14. Boys and girls brought up to be gentlemen and ladies. Not allowed to do chores.

CHILDREN IN THE INSTITUTION.

Patsey Coffin, aged about fifteen ; learning no trade ; ought to be bound out ; does nothing ; is a terror to the neighborhood.

Three children of William H. Day, North Monmouth. See report, 1879. No regiment.

Mabel Fletcher, aged about fifteen ; in high school of Bath ; smart. John Fletcher. Above children of David Fletcher, of Thirteenth New Hampshire regiment.

Four McKay children ; father lives in Bath ; loafer ; does nothing for support of children, nor don't try to.

Four Maxwell children, of C. N. Maxwell ; raised since war. Wife dead, and he is now in Georgia married again, and raising another crop of children for the asylum. Don't try to take care of his children.

Oscar Russell, of Topsham. Town pauper ; cripple ; a bad little boy, with no kind of claim on State. Turned right in among the other children, and the worst kind of an example ; nearly eighteen years old.

STATE OF MAINE.

In SENATE, February 24, 1881.

Laid on the table on motion of Mr. CORNISH of Kennebec,
to be printed with accompanying statement of facts.

C. W. TILDEN, *Secretary*.