

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Fourth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 270.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of Ricker Classical Institute.

Resolved, That the sum of one thousand dollars
2 be, and the same hereby is, annually appropriated,
3 out of any money in the treasury not otherwise
4 appropriated, for the term of ten years to Ricker
5 Classical Institute, an institution of learning located
6 in the the town of Houlton, county of Aroostook;
7 providing, that the trustees of said institution, in
8 consideration of the aid thus rendered by the State,
9 shall within one year after the passage of this
10 resolve, establish and thereafter maintain, a first
11 class normal department for the preparation of
12 teachers, for which purpose said trustees shall
13 employ at least one regular normal teacher, who
14 shall have the sole charge and management of said
15 department under the direction of said trustess.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Ricker Classical Institute has a large, modern style, brick school building, costing about \$30,000. It is heated by steam, well lighted and thoroughly ventilated. To establish and maintain a first-class normal department, the Institute agrees to contribute in addition to the use of its building, six or seven hundred dollars a year, which sum with the amount asked of the State the trustees are informed by competent authority will be sufficient.

The Institute endowment funds are available for specific purposes, and the school earnings are barely sufficient for the present needs of the departments already in operation.

The shire town of Aroostook county is at least two hundred and fifty miles, by the only accessible routes, from the nearest normal schools, consequently with the population of over fifty thousand people, she is practically excluded from those benefits which the more fortunate sections of the State have so long enjoyed and profited by. The young men and women who teach the common schools, as a rule get their education at great self-sacrifice, and the expense of travel and a long-continued absence from home, compels all but a very few to dispense with a normal training, much to the detriment of the educational interests of the county. A normal department at Ricker Classical Institute, situated as it is at Houlton, would be easily accessible to the people of Aroostook and quite a part of Penobscot and Washington counties, and while it might not fully take the place of a normal school, yet it would at small expense to the State, very largely remedy the evils from which so large a portion of the schools of the State are now suffering.

STATE OF MAINE.

The Committee on Education, to which was referred resolve in favor of Ricker Classical Institute, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report that the same ought to pass.

L. A. Poor, *of Senate.*

E. F. GOODWIN,

E. P. COLE,

O. B. CLASON,

F. O. PURINGTON,

of House.

COLE, *for the Committee.*

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 27, 1889. }

Pending acceptance of report, tabled, and ordered printed on motion
of Mr. COLE of Brooklin.

NICHOLAS FESSENDEN, *Clerk.*