

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

Sixty-Seventh Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 55.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of the Central Maine General Hospital.

Resolved, That there be and hereby is appropriated the
2 sum of five thousand dollars, to be paid to the Central
3 Maine General Hospital in Lewiston, for the use of said
4 institution for the year eighteen hundred and ninety-five ;
5 and five thousand dollars for the use of said institution for
6 the year eighteen hundred and ninety-six.

Resolved, That the further sum of ten thousand dollars
8 be and hereby is appropriated to be paid to said Central
9 Maine General Hospital, to form a part of a building fund
10 to be expended in the construction of a new building to
11 be erected for said institution, payable in the year

12 eighteen hundred and ninety-six, provided, that said ten
13 thousand dollars shall not be so paid until said institution
14 shows to the satisfaction of the governor and council that
15 there has been subscribed and paid in cash or satisfactory
16 securities a like sum of ten thousand dollars to be used as
17 a part of said building fund.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Four years ago the citizens of Lewiston and Auburn came to the legislature with the request for an annual appropriation of five thousand dollars for aid in the maintenance of the Central Maine General Hospital, an institution which had just been organized, on account of the pressing needs which were felt for hospital aid in a community largely devoted to manufacturing interests, where accidents were frequently occurring and sickness of working people, far removed from their own homes, made proper accommodations impossible.

The legislature, after careful deliberation, granted the request and two years ago, the last legislature ratified the grant and renewed it.

Since then, the increasing reputation of the Hospital for successful work and the natural growth of the demand for hospital treatment has resulted in a pressure upon the directors for more and better accommodations. The old buildings which were re-fitted for temporary uses are inconvenient and ill adapted to hospital uses and our work has necessarily been done at a disadvantage professionally and financially, nevertheless during the period of our existence we have treated each year a constantly increasing number of patients, amounting in our first year to five hundred and seventy-seven days of treatment to free patients and three thousand, two hundred and seventy-five days to pay patients; while during the year ending September 30, 1894, we gave to free patients two thousand, nine hundred and twenty-one days treatment and to pay patients, four thousand, four hundred and twenty-seven days.

The cost of the support of these patients during the past year has been ten dollars and forty-six cents per week, this including the total expense for their maintenance.

The Managers of the Hospital feel deeply the disadvantage under which they labor and yet feel proud of the good results attained. Their income has been derived largely from the

generous donations of the State supplemented by the efforts of the Ladies Hospital Associations and gifts from corporations and private individuals, although without the aid of the State we should feel ourselves unable to continue the charitable work which is now so successfully going on.

We therefore ask the State to continue the appropriation of five thousand dollars annually for the ensuing two years, as has been done in the past, and in addition to grant us a building fund to aid us in the erection of a new wing for which preparations are being actively pushed forward.

The constantly increasing number of patients urges us to ask, in addition to our annual appropriation of five thousand dollars, an appropriation for a building fund for the next two years, of twenty thousand dollars contingent upon our raising an equal amount on our part.

SETH M. CARTER, President.

For the Board of Directors.

LEWISTON, Jan. 24, 1895.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 1, 1895.

Reported by Mr. FURBUSH of Lewiston, from Committee on Financial Affairs, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*