

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 155.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of Lee Normal Academy.

Resolved, That the sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars
2 is hereby annually appropriated out of the school fund, for
3 the term of two years, to Lee Normal Academy, an institu-
4 tion of learning located in the town of Lee, in the county
5 of Penobscot; provided, however, that this appropriation is
6 made on the express conditions that the trustees of said
7 institution shall maintain and keep in operation a school
8 equal in rank and grade of teaching with a first-class acad-
9 emy, and in which shall be given special and systematic
10 instruction in the science and art of teaching; that no part
11 of this appropriation shall be devoted to other purposes
12 than the payment of instructors in said institution; that the

13 superintendent of common schools shall be ex-officio, a
14 member of the board of directors thereof; and that, if in
15 the opinion of the governor and council, said institution at
16 any time hereafter, shall fail to fulfill the conditions con-
17 tained in this resolve, they may, in their discretion, withhold
18 the appropriation herein granted.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Lee Normal Academy, chartered by the legislature of Maine in 1845 and the only chartered normal academy in the State, is situated in the town of Lee in Penobscot county, sixty miles either way from Bangor or Calais, and a still greater distance from Houlton, these being the nearest points where high grade fitting schools for teachers are in operation, unless Old Town be so reckoned which is forty-eight miles distant. This school is situated in what may be termed a sparsely settled region, yet the territory from which pupils are drawn contains a population of over thirteen thousand, and includes the towns of Lee, Springfield, Carroll, Prentiss, Topsfield, Kingman, Medway, Mattawamkeag, Winn, Chester, Woodville, Lincoln, Howland, Princeton, Mattamiscontis, Passadumkeag, Enfield, Burlington and Lowell, and the plantations of Summit, Grand Falls, Macwahoc, Molunkus, Drew, Webster, Reed, Lakeville and Kossuth. The school is especially designed to prepare those attending, for teachers. The common schools in that section are taught largely by the graduates and students of this institution.

A principal and two assistants are employed, and a normal, and a college preparatory course of instruction are maintained, giving two terms a year, at an annual expense of about eleven hundred dollars. During the last fourteen years the State has paid annually, six hundred dollars, towards the expense of instruction. The number of different pupils in attendance per year will average about one hundred, and over fifty per cent. of the total number in all grades are engaged in teaching some part of the year during their connection with the school.

The income of the school has been derived from the following sources:

State appropriation	\$600 00
Tuition from students	350 00
Rents and interest	65 00
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Making a total of	\$1,015 00

The last resolve granting State aid to this school for a period of ten years, was passed in 1887, and has therefore become inoperative by limitation. There should be three terms per year instead of two, and a State appropriation of twelve hundred dollars annually is absolutely necessary to give three terms and keep the school up to that state of efficiency which has characterized it in the past, and which this section of country demands.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
February 25, 1897.

Reported by Mr. LEVENSALER of Thomaston, from Committee on
Education, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*