

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 257.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of the Portland School for the Deaf.

Resolved, That the sum of five thousand dollars be and
2 hereby is appropriated, for the year one thousand eight hun-
3 dred and ninety-seven, in aid of the Portland School for
4 the Deaf, as follows: The sum of three thousand two hun-
5 dred and seventy-three dollars for furniture and furnishings
6 for the dormitory of said school; the sum of one thousand
7 seven hundred and twenty-seven dollars, for cost of venti-
8 lation, painting, grading, fencing, insurance, fire escapes and
9 other necessary expenses. The said sums to be expended
10 under the direction of the Governor and Council.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The Legislature of 1895 appropriated sixteen thousand dollars for the purchase and alteration of a building to be used as a dormitory for the Portland School for the Deaf. By the exercise of the most stringent economy in all particulars the building itself was made ready for furnishing without a debt, but leaving no money to pay for furniture and equipment.

The urgent needs of these helpless children (located as they were in different parts of the city and many of them housed in unsuitable places) impelled the Governor and Council to find some means to make the building ready for occupancy by Jan. 1, 1896, rather than to continue the former unsafe and unsatisfactory method, until the Legislature should convene. By the generous co-operation of the best business firms in Portland, arrangements were made for furnishing the building with its indispensable needs on leases, at a nominal rate, until the matter could be brought before the Legislature. Three thousand two hundred and seventy-three dollars is needed to purchase the furnishings now in use, for which no extra price was charged and for the use of which nothing is paid or expected. The dormitory is entirely unprovided with ventilation and was necessarily so left for want of funds. It also needs painting, which could not be done within the appropriation.

Other necessary expenditures enumerated in the resolve make the total of estimated cost besides the furnishings, seventeen hundred and twenty-seven dollars. The building is the property of the State and the school is the equal, in point of excellence of instruction, to any in the country, and is so recognized.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
March 10, 1897.

Reported by Mr. BURNS of Westbrook, from the Committee on
Financial Affairs, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*