MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

SENATE.

No. 113.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of Parsonsfield Seminary of Parsonsfield,

Maine.

Resolved, That there be and hereby is appropriated the

- 2 sum of five hundred dollars annually, for the years one thou-
- 3 sand eight hundred and ninety-seven and one thousand eight
- 4 hundred and ninety-eight, to the use of Parsonsfield Sem-
- 5 inary of Parsonsfield, Maine.

Provided, however, that this appropriation is made upon

- 7 the express condition that the trustees of said institution
- 8 shall maintain and keep in operation a school equal in rank
- 9 and grade of teaching with a first class academy, of not less
- 10 than three terms of ten weeks each during each year; and
- 11 provided, further, that the Governor and Council and super-
- 12 intendent of common schools shall have a right at all times

13 to visit said school, when the same shall be in operation; 14 and if in the opinion of the Governor and Council, said 15 institution at any time hereafter shall fail to fulfill the condi-16 tions of this resolve, they may in their discretion, withhold 17 the appropriation herein granted.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Parsonsfield Seminary was founded in 1832, by the Free Will Baptist Society, and was under its control until 1854, when the academy buildings were destroyed by fire and the society removed its educational interests to Lewiston, founding what is now Bates College.

The buildings were rebuilt by private subscription and since that time the seminary has been conducted as a non-sectarian school. The trustees maintain a first class academy, with English, Scientific and College Preparatory courses of study for thirty-eight weeks in each year with an average attendance of about sixty pupils. It is situated in the midst of a farming community and affords to many the opportunities of a higher education, who but for this school would be deprived of this advantage.

Since 1854 the seminary has not asked nor received assistance from the State until two years ago, when the legislature appropriated five hundred dollars per year for each of the years 1895 and 1896 in aid of the institution.

Without this help the trustees can not maintain the present standard of the school and they therefore ask that the same aid which was granted at the last legislature, and which is received by other schools of its grade in the State, be continued for the years 1897 and 1898.

STATE OF MAINE.

In Senate, February 25, 1897.

Reported by Mr. WALLS, from Committee on Education, and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

KENDALL M. DUNBAR, Secretary.