

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Ninth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 59.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of Patten Academy.

Resolved, That the sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars is
2 hereby appropriated annually, for the term of two years, to
3 Patten academy, an institution of learning in the town of
4 Patten, in Penobscot county, provided, however, that this
5 appropriation is made on the express condition that the trustees
6 of said institution shall maintain and keep in operation a school
7 equal in rank and grade of teaching with a first class academy;
8 and provided, further that the governor and council and super-
9 intendent of common schools, shall have a right at all times to
10 visit said school when the same shall be in operation, and if in
11 the opinion of the governor and council said institution, at any
12 time hereafter, shall fail to fulfill the conditions contained in
13 this resolve, they may, in their discretion, withhold the appro-
14 priation herein granted.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Patten academy was incorporated in 1847, five years after the incorporation of the town. The state gave as aid one-half a township of wild land after the incorporators had built a schoolhouse and had started the school. In 1875 the town took advantage of the free high school act, which put the school on a firmer financial basis. In 1888 the state aided the school to the extent of an annual appropriation of \$500 for ten years. Since that time the school has had a graded course of study, and has been one of the best academies in the state. Patten academy from its starting has been the educational center for the group of towns about Patten, and has always been the point where young men and women in that vicinity completed their school days or fitted for college. Graduates sent to Bowdoin and the University of Maine show the result of a good fitting for college. Patten academy is centrally located to accommodate pupils from at least five surrounding towns which have on high schools. The town and academy have built this year, at an expense of \$10,000, a new building furnished with hot water heat, plumbing and other modern conveniences. The new building accommodates 150 pupils easily. The course of study has been enlarged so that the academy is now prepared to fit students for any college in the state. In the last ten years the attendance has increased 70 per cent. On account of the growth, the trustees will be obliged to add another teacher to the force. At present about 25 per cent of the students come from neighboring towns, and with our new building and added facilities we expect to see a material increase in this number and to see the school grow to equal its environment.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, February 7, 1899.

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

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*