

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Ninth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 189.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of Parsonsfield Seminary, Parsonsfield, Mainè.

Resolved, That there be and hereby is appropriated the sum
2 of five hundred dollars annually for the years one thousand
3 eight hundred and ninety-nine and one thousand nine hundred,
4 to the use of Parsonsfield Seminary, Parsonsfield, Maine.
5 Provided, however, that this appropriation is made upon the
6 express condition that the trustees of said institution shall main-
7 tain and keep in operation a school equal in rank and grade of
8 teaching with a first-class academy, of not less than three terms
9 of ten weeks each during each year; and, provided further,
10 that the governor and council and superintendent of common
11 schools shall have a right at all times to visit said school, when
12 the same shall be in operation; and, if in the opinion of the
13 governor and council, said institution at any time hereafter
14 shall fail to fulfill the conditions of this resolve, they may in
15 their discretion withhold the appropriation herein granted.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Parsonsfeld Seminary was found in 1832 by the Free Will Baptist Society and remained under the control of this society until 1854 when the buildings of the institution were destroyed by fire. After this calamity the educational interests of the Free Will Baptist Society were transferred to Lewiston and merged in the institution now known as Bates College.

The buildings on the old location were rebuilt by subscription and the seminary has since been conducted as a non-sectarian school.

The trustees maintain a first-class academy with the usual courses of study for thirty-five weeks in each year with an average attendance of about sixty pupils. It is located in the midst of a farming community and affords to many the opportunities of a higher education, who, but for this institution, would be deprived of these advantages.

From 1854 to 1895 the Seminary did not ask nor receive aid from the State. In 1895 the Legislature granted the sum of five hundred dollars per year for the years 1895 and 1896 in aid of the school. At the last legislature the same assistance was continued for two years.

Without this help the work of the school would be seriously hampered and the trustees therefore ask that the same appropriation may be continued for the years 1899 and 1900.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Augusta, February 24, 1899.

Reported by Mr. MERRILL of New Gloucester, from Committee on
Education, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*