

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Ninth Legislature.

SENATE.

No. 41.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary.

Resolved, That there be and is hereby appropriated annually the sum of five thousand dollars to be paid to the treasurer of the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary for the use of said institution, for the years 1899 and 1900.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The Maine Eye and Ear Infirmiry in its corporate capacity has established and maintained an institution in Portland for twelve years where not only in the out-patient department a clinic for the free treatment of those who are suffering from diseases of the eye and ear is given daily but in this out-patient department, free daily treatment is given for all diseases of the body by a large corps of competent physicians and surgeons. The only requirement necessary to obtain treatment in this department is proof from the person applying or his friend that he is poor and without means to pay for the treatment. The register for the year ending November 1, 1898, shows that 2,433 hours were spent in the clinical work of this out-patient department and the records show that the patients come from all parts of the State. The rooms not now actually needed for the original purpose of the institution, are open to receive the patient of any reputable physician of the State and thus by the income derived therefrom, the infirmiry pays a part of its running expenses.

It will be seen that the infirmiry is a public charitable institution in its broadest sense. Its spacious apartments with its present additions and equipments afford opportunities for every reputable physician not only to investigate and treat diseases but to study the fundamental principles which are so essential for the proper understanding of the nature and character of diseases.

It was incorporated according to the statute laws of Maine, February 15, 1886, and opened for the reception and treatment of patients April 22, 1886. Since then over 18,000 patients have been registered and there has been an attendance of over 110,000. Over 5,000 operations have been performed including among them 500 operations for removal of cataract for the restoration of sight. Thus hundreds have had their sight or hearing preserved or restored and have returned to the walks of life self-dependent. For further particulars for the work done at the institution, reference should be made to the thirteenth annual report a copy of which will be sent to anyone upon request. The amount named in the resolve is the sum appropriated at each session of the legislature for the benefit of the institution for its last three sessions.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, February 14, 1899.

Reported by Mr. HARGRAVES from Committee on Financial Affairs,
and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

KENDALL M. DUNBAR, *Secretary*.