MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Seventieth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 112

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND ONE.

RESOLVE in favor of the Bangor Children's Home.

Resolved, That the sum of one thousand dollars per annum

- 2 for the years nineteen hundred and one and nineteen hundred
- 3 and two, be and hereby is appropriated in aid of the Bangor
- 4 Children's Home, to be paid by the state treasurer to the said
- 5 home, from any funds not otherwise appropriated.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

This institution was founded by charitable ladies in 1835 and was chartered under the name of the "Bangor Female Orphan Asylum" in 1839. It was sustained by the women of Bangor and their friends, without any considerable endowment, until 1865, when its name was changed to that borne by it at present "The Bangor Children's Home," its scope was enlarged so as to receive children of both sexes. At this time, by the generosity of a friend, its present home was constructed, at a cost of not less than \$30,000, and an endowment fund now reaching \$58,000 has been provided by charitably disposed citizens. Its constitution provides:

- Ist. This society shall be called the Bangor Children's Home, and be strictly a charitable institution, no article shall be admitted to this constitution which shall recognize the peculiar sentiments of any particular denomination of Christians, but all shall be considered as enjoying equal rights and privileges.
- 2d. The object of this institution shall be to provide and carry into effect, means for the support, instruction and employment of destitute children, especially of orphans.

The care of the institution is under a board of twenty-five ladies of Bangor, whose management will readily be recognized as exceptionally conservative when it is known that the entire cost of maintaining fifty-five children in the year 1900 was \$4,985.42, including pay of matron and assistants, fuel and expenses of every kinds.

Considerable repairs were made on the property, at the cost of generous individuals, which is not included in the above-mentioned total expenses. It is not, of course, safe to include in the estimate for the future year similar provision for such requirements which are constantly recurring.

As is stated in the memorial before the committee the total revenue received by the home in the same year was \$5,574.18, including \$1,000 from the state, so that that appropriation could not have been spared without serious restriction to the work. For twenty years the state has allowed an annual sum, varying from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

Children are received from all parts of the state on the same terms as those in Penobscot county or the city of Bangor, viz. gratuitously, unless they are paupers, in which case a charge, often not realized, of \$100 for entrance fee is made to the town sending them. Children are also sometimes committed to the care of the home by parents who for various reasons find it desirable, and who pay a small stipend towards cost of support. But the entire amount thus received is small, and is included in the income of the year as before stated.

In the year 1900, fifty-five children received the care of the home, a considerable portion of whom were from localities outside of Bangor.

It is respectfully submitted, that this institution is purely charitable and non-sectarian; that it is conducted with the strictest economy; that its benefits are enjoyed in at least eight counties of the state; that it affords a comfortable home and suitable education for many who otherwise would grow up in poverty and ignorance, if not in crime, and that its present needs make its call upon the state justifiable.

JOHN L. CROSBY, H. H. FOGG, H. W. BLOOD,

Trustees.

January 10, 1901.

STATE OF MAINE.

In House of Representatives,

AUGUSTA, February 8, 1901.

Reported by Mr. BEAL of Bangor, from Committee on Financia Affairs, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, Clerk.