

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Seventieth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 146

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE, in favor of the Hospital of the Society of the Sisters
of Charity of Lewiston, Maine.

Resolved, That there be and hereby is appropriated the sum
2 of five thousand dollars to be paid to the society of the Sis-
3 ters of Charity of Lewiston, Maine, for the use of said
4 society for the year nineteen hundred and one, and the sum
5 of five thousand dollars for the use of said society for the
6 year nineteen hundred and two.

Resolved, That the further sum of ten thousand dollars be
8 and hereby is appropriated to be paid to the said society of
9 the Sisters of Charity to be used to assist in completing,
10 furnishing and equipping the new building now in process
11 of erection by said institution, payable in nineteen hundred and
12 two, provided said institution shall furnish satisfactory evi-
13 dence to the governor and council that said hospital has been
14 fully completed and equipped prior to the thirty-first day of
15 December, nineteen hundred and two.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The hospital of the Sisters of Charity was founded in 1888, in the City of Lewiston, and is located at the junction of Pine and Sabattus streets, one of the most central points in the city, and an ideal location for such an institution. Pine street leads in an air line from the hospital to the canals upon which are located all our great cotton manufacturing industries, while Sabattus street merges into Main street leading to the sister City of Auburn. Its commanding elevation overlooks the twin cities and the surrounding country; while the quietness of the place and the purity of its atmosphere are unsurpassed.

The present hospital accommodates thirty patients. Of these, those admitted to the general wards are expected to pay five dollars per week, and those occupying private rooms, from ten to twelve dollars. But a large proportion of those admitted to the general wards are unable to pay the same, and as will be seen by the report, over one-third of the entire number are treated, lodged and boarded gratis. All patients receive the same treatment and attention without regard to creed or nationality, and are cared for by the sisters who have devoted their lives to the work.

The institution is supported by the paying patients, voluntary contributions and an annual appropriation from the state.

The medical and surgical departments are in charge of an able staff, whose services are at the disposal of the institution at all hours, day and night.

In addition to the usual medical and surgical departments, a department for the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat has been maintained under the supervision of one of the ablest specialists in the state, and during the current year, three hundred and forty-one cases of patients, not inmates of the institution, covering a large field of ophthalmic, nasal and aural work, have been treated.

During the past, the demands upon the institution have been such that the management has been obliged to refuse admission to a large number of applicants. Owing to the lack of facilities to accommodate all who come, the sisters have decided to erect a

new hospital building, and are pleased to announce that they have completed the foundation and basement story of the same.

The building will be a brick structure three stories above the basement, with a frontage on Sabattus street of two hundred and six feet, and two hundred and four feet on Golder street. The estimated cost of this building is in excess of one hundred thousand dollars. The sisters have already expended a sum exceeding seventeen thousand dollars.

There will be four general wards, two medical and two surgical, and twenty-five private rooms, equipped with all the conveniences of a model hospital. The sisters anticipate, with these added accommodations, that they will be able to care for all who may apply, and will not be compelled to close their door to any unfortunate who may seek admittance.

As is well known, the work of the sisters is largely of a charitable nature and the good offices of the liberally disposed public will be relied upon in the future as in the past to sustain their hands in this great undertaking.

Since 1893, the hospital has been favored with an annual appropriation from the state. Considering the work of this institution, it is the hope and the prayer of the sisters that the state will see fit to grant to said society an annual appropriation of \$5,000.00. The sisters further beg leave to call the attention of the state to the fact, that, though they have spent nearly one hundred thousand dollars for land and buildings in the past, they have never received a cent from the state for land or buildings. By practice of the most rigid economy, and from the proceeds of a fair held for that purpose, the sisters have been enabled to make a beginning towards the erection of the new building, which they intend to complete during the present year. To do this, and to furnish and equip the same, one hundred thousand dollars will be needed. In consideration of this large expenditure of money on the part of a private institution for a public and charitable purpose, they most respectfully ask the state to contribute the sum of \$20,000.00 in aid thereof. Such an appropriation will assure its construction and equipment and thereby enable the sisters to carry on their good work.

SR. LAJEMMER AIS, *Supre.*

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

AUGUSTA, February 13, 1901.

Reported by Mr. PAGE of Skowhegan, from Committee on Financial
Affairs, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*