

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

Seventieth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 148

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of the Society of the Sisters of Charity for
the use of the Healy Asylum of Lewiston, Maine.

Resolved, That the sum of four (4) thousand dollars be
2 and is hereby appropriated to be paid to the society of the
3 Sisters of Charity for the use of the Healy Asylum in Lewis-
4 ton, of which twenty hundred dollars shall be paid during
5 the year nineteen hundred and one and twenty hundred dol-
6 lars during the year nineteen hundred and two.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The Healy Asylum at Lewiston, Me., was founded in 1893, and placed under the management of the Sisters of Charity.

The principal aim of this institution is to provide a home for young boys who have been left orphans, or who have been forsaken by their parents, and to enable them to become, by instruction and advice, honest and respectable citizens.

The institution is practically non-sectarian. Its doors are open to all, regardless of creed or race, and the religious opinions of each child's family are scrupulously respected.

As regards locality, the site of the asylum is as pleasant and healthy as could be found in the city. The house itself is a large, spacious brick building, well ventilated; it is surrounded by fine galleries and extensive playgrounds, thus assuring a healthy and pleasant home for the boys.

All boys under the age of fifteen years receive daily instruction at the home. The course of studies is the same as that pursued in the public schools of Lewiston. At the age of fifteen, the boys pass into a department of the asylum, separated from that occupied by the younger ones. Here, unless prevented by some physical infirmity, they are allowed and encouraged to obtain employment outside of the house, or to learn a trade, still continuing to make their home at the asylum, until such time as they can enter some respectable family, or are able to take care of themselves.

One of the objects of this institution is to aid, advise, and encourage to lead a better life, such boys as have, thoughtlessly or intentionally, been guilty of some petty offence whereby they have become amendable to the law. Owing to the kindness of the public authorities, the Sisters, during the last few years, have been allowed to take charge of several young boys, guilty of misdemeanors. They hold themselves responsible for all such entrusted to their charge. In this way, the public has been relieved of the expense, and the boys of the evil influences, which must inevitably have followed from their confinement with older and confirmed criminals.

The result has, so far, been quite satisfactory. From the opening of the asylum in September, 1893, up to the close of the year 1900, about 700 boys have been admitted, and of these nearly 100 are now resident.

Only a small portion of these boys have their board paid either by the municipalities or by relatives, whilst a large number are received gratuitously or for a mere nominal sum. It is in favor of these children that the Sisters appeal to the state for assistance in this work to which they have consecrated their lives.

It is true that in 1898, the state granted an appropriation of \$1,500 a year, but as will be seen by the above figures, the total income of the institution is still quite insufficient.

In consideration of the further fact, that the state never has been called upon to contribute toward the establishment of this institution, the same having cost some seventy-five thousand dollars, it is not only our earnest hope, but our fervent prayer that the state will grant to us the annual appropriation of twenty-five hundred dollars.

Healy Asylum,
By S. R. DION,
Mother Superior.

The following statistics taken from the annual report of the asylum for the year 1900, will be found interesting and instructive:

Boys who been at the asylum during this year, 1900:

Born in the United States,	115
Born in Canada,	19
Born in Nova Scotia,	1
Born in Poland, Europe,	1
Born in Scotland, Europe,	1
Total,	137

Residences of the families are as follows:

Auburn, Me.,	13
Augusta, Me.,	2
Bangor, Me.,	4
Bath, Me.,	3
Biddeford, Me.,	1
Broomfield, Me.,	1

Brunswick, Me.,	4
Chisholm, Me.,	3
Concord, N. H.,	1
Gardiner, Me.,	2
Glasgow, Scotland,	1
Greene, Me.,	1
Jay Bridge, Me.,.....	2
Lewiston, Me.,	70
Manchaug, Mass.,	1
Mechanic Falls, Me.,	1
North Jay, Me.,	2
Portland, Me.,	14
Rumford Falls, Me.,.....	4
Skowhegan, Me.,	1
Turner, Me.,	1
Waterville, Me.,	3
Westbury, P. Q.,	2
Total,	<u>137</u>

The ages of the children are as follows:

From 2 to 6 years of age.	13
From 6 to 9 years of age,.....	35
From 9 to 12 years of age,.....	61
Over 12 years old,.....	<u>28</u>
Total,	137

Financial Statement for 1900:

For food for children,.....	\$3,258	44
Services of help,	524	91
Medicine	94	33
Clothing and shoes,	1,124	33
Lighting and fuel,.....	821	81
School books, postage,.....	129	91
Furniture,	288	32
Laundry,	104	84
Repairs of buildings,.....	595	68
Incidentals,	1,094	24
Interest on debt for building asylum,.....	1,713	00
Total,	<u>\$9,749</u>	81

Receipts :

Received from board for children,.....	\$4,776 59
From gifts during the year,.....	1,628 15
State appropriation,.....	1,500 00
	<hr/>
Total,	\$7,904 74
Deficit,	\$1,845 07

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

AUGUSTA, February 13, 1901.

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

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*