

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Seventy-first Legislature

HOUSE.

No. 339

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of the Augusta City Hospital.

Resolved, That there be and is hereby appropriated the sum
2 of three thousand dollars to be paid to the Augusta City
3 Hospital for the use of said institution for the year nineteen
4 hundred and three, and three thousand dollars for the use of
5 said institution for the year nineteen hundred and four and
6 that there be and is hereby appropriated the further sum of
7 one thousand dollars, to be expended for repairs of said insti-
8 tution, for the year nineteen hundred and three, and one thou-
9 sand dollars, to be expended for repairs of said institution,
10 for the year nineteen hundred and four.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The Augusta City Hospital was incorporated by the legislature of Maine in February, 1891, the declared purpose of its founders being the establishment of "a general hospital for the sick," to be located at the State capital.

It was not, however, until April, 1898, that the hospital was able to open its doors to the public, in a rented building. At the very start a training school for nurses was established which provided a comprehensive course of study in the form of lectures by members of the medical staff, supplemented by text-book and clinical instruction. The pupils in this school are drawn from all sections of the State.

In 1900, the closing of the school for girls at St. Catherine's hall put into the market a large and beautiful building with forty-four rooms, admirably adapted to the uses of a hospital. It stands upon an elevation overlooking the Kennebec river, and has a lot comprising four acres of land. This fine property the hospital corporation, through the generous contributions of its friends, was able to purchase on most advantageous terms. Since then \$9,283.26 has been expended in its reconstruction and equipment, in addition to furnishings to the value of about \$4,000 brought from the old hospital, and contributed by friends.

Although the title to the present hospital plant is free from encumbrances a debt of \$4,000—originally \$6,000—remains to be paid in addition to \$1,101.83 in bills carried over from 1902 against which, however, there are accounts due from patients, and for the services of nurses to the amount of \$572.29.

Since the hospital was first opened for the care of the sick, in 1898, its work has steadily increased, and it has furnished treatment to patients representing every county in the State. During the nine months that it was in operation in 1898 it cared for ninety patients, including sick soldiers returning from Chickamauga. In 1899, the number of patients was 116; in 1900, 132; in 1901, 169; in 1902, 205.

The hospital is entirely without endowment funds, and is wholly dependent for its running expenses upon the contributions of its friends, the earnings of its nurses, the receipts from

patients who are able to pay, and the assistance rendered by the State.

While the State has done a noble work in giving its other hospitals substantial appropriations for the construction of buildings, nothing of this kind has thus far been asked by the hospital located at its capital—the amounts appropriated by the legislature being wholly devoted to the care and maintenance of patients.

C. B. BURLEIGH,
President Board of Directors.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

AUGUSTA, March 12, 1903.

Reported by Mr. DUDLEY of Augusta, from Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk*.