

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# SEVENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

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SENATE.

• No. 76

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE in favor of the Bangor Children's Home.

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*Resolved,* That the sum of one thousand dollars per annum  
2 for the years nineteen hundred and five and nineteen hundred  
3 and six be and hereby is appropriated in aid of the current  
4 expenses of the Bangor Children's Home.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS.

## THE BANGOR CHILDREN'S HOME.

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 the 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 \$68,000 has been provided by charitably disposed citizens. Its Constitution provides:

1st. "This society shall be called the Bangor Children's Home, and being a strictly 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 orphans."

The care of the institution is under a board of twenty-five ladies of Bangor, whose gratuitous management will readily be recognized as exceptionally conservative when it is known that the entire cost of maintaining fifty children in the year 1904 was \$4,872.39, including pay of matron and assistants, fuel and expenses of every kind. The total revenue received by the home in the same year, including \$1,000 from the State, will not exceed this amount after deducting the amount received from permanent fund applied to the extraordinary additions and improvements to the property. For these purposes an outlay of nearly \$7,000 has been made for the construction and furnishing of a separate ward for the accommodation of such of the children as may from time to time be sick. This sum (aside from a special appropriation of \$2,000 by the State in 1903-4) was provided by generous friends of the home. The advantages

of this long needed improvement are too obvious to require enumeration, protecting the whole family from infection by single cases of contagious disease which previously were necessarily treated in the common dormitories. In addition to this expenditure, it was unexpectedly found necessary to replace the boiler for heating the entire plant, at an expense of \$1,200.

(N. B. In the annual report of the treasurer of the home, the above mentioned special State appropriation does not appear, for the reason that the amount was temporarily provided from the permanent funds of the home and subsequently replaced when the amount was received from the State.) For twenty-four years the State has allowed towards the current expenses 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 from 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 admitted 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 stated before.

In the year 1904, forty-seven children received the care of the home, many 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 not restricted by city or county lines; 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 and necessary.

BANGOR, MAINE, January 7, 1905.

JOHN L. CROSBY,

*Financial Committee of the Bangor Children's Home.*

STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, February 10, 1905.

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

KENDALL, M. DUNBAR, *Secretary.*