

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE NO. 665

House of Representatives, March 12, 1915.
*Reported by Mr. Ricker from Committee on Education and
ordered printed under joint rules.*

C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

RESOLVE in favor of Lee Academy for maintenance.

Resolved, that the sum of fifteen hundred dollars is here-
2 by annually appropriated for the term of two years to Lee
3 Academy, an institution of learning situated in Lee, in the
4 county of Penobscot; provided, however, that this appropri-
5 ation is made on the express condition that the Trustees of
6 said Institution shall maintain and keep in operation a
7 school equal in rank and grade of teaching with a first
8 class academy, in which shall be given special and system-
9 atic instruction in the science and art of teaching; that no
10 part of this appropriation shall be devoted to other purposes
11 than the payment of instructors in said institution; that the
12 State Superintendent of Public Schools shall be, ex officio,
13 a member of the Board of Directors thereof; that if, in the
14 opinion of the Governor and Council, said institution at any

15 time hereafter shall fail to fulfill the conditions contained in
16 this resolve, they may, in their discretion, withhold the ap-
17 propriation herein granted.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Lee Academy, chartered by the Legislature in 1845, under the name of Lee Normal Academy, is situated in Lee, Penobscot county, sixty miles either way from Bangor, Houlton or Calais. It is located in a sparsely settled farming region, yet the section from which it draws students has a population of more than fifteen thousand. It is the principal secondary school in this section of Maine, and equips and furnishes teachers for many nearby towns. It has always drawn its State money from the regular school fund the same as the five Normal Schools and the Madawaska Training School. In this manner it has always been recognized as differing from the regular academies of the State. In 1901, when the Academy bill was under consideration, the Committee on Education decided that this school was in a class by itself and should continue to be supported by special act and from the general school fund. The House and Senate agreed with the committee and passed the resolve in favor of the institution. Each succeeding Legislature has passed similar resolves. All buildings connected with this school are under State control and the State Superintendent of Schools, ex-officio, is a member of the Board of Trustees. It has no trust or other fund as a means of revenue. The Committee on Education of the 76th Legislature recommended that the name be changed by omitting the word "normal" which suggestion has been carried into effect by the Trustees.