

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)

ACTS AND RESOLVES,

PASSED BY THE

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

Adjourned Session, 1840.

Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June
28, 1820, and February 26, 1840.

AUGUSTA:

WM. R. SMITH & CO., PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1840.

MESSAGES OF THE GOVERNOR.

To the Senate and House of Representatives :

Major General Greenlief White having resigned the command of the Second Division of the Militia of this State and received an honorable discharge, a vacancy exists in the office of Major General of that Division, to the filling of which your attention is respectfully requested.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, }
Sept. 19, 1840. }

JOHN FAIRFIELD.

To the Senate and House of Representatives :

I herewith lay before you for your consideration a Report and Resolutions of the Senate and Assembly of the State of New York in relation to the national domain : a Preamble and Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of Kentucky, and Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut upon the same subject : Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut upon the subject of the protective policy of the government : Preamble and Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio and General Assembly of the State of Indiana in relation to the Northeastern Boundary: Resolutions adopted at a meeting of the citizens of Georgetown, District of Columbia, upon the subject of a retrocession of a portion of the District to the State of Maryland.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, }
Sept. 22, 1840. }

JOHN FAIRFIELD.

To the Senate and House of Representatives :

I take great pleasure in informing the Legislature that the Hospital for the Insane is now nearly completed, and in a few days will be ready for the reception of patients. In design, materials and construction, it is believed to be inferior to no building of the kind in the country. The cost, though considerably more than was anticipated, will hardly be remembered when we shall have had some demonstration of the amount of good that can be accomplished by it. It is an institution worthy of the age in which we live, and will ever reflect the highest credit upon the individual philanthropy and public munificence by which it has been established.

By the accompanying Report of two of the Directors it will be perceived that an appropriation is needed to provide supplies and to defray the necessary expenses of the institution for six months. They also advise the erection of a small building at some distance from the main building, to provide for those who may be furiously insane; the cost of which they estimate at \$1,200. I have no hesitation in adding my recommendation to that of the Directors, and in expressing the hope that no obstacle will be found in the way of making the necessary appropriations.

Early last spring, circulars were addressed to the several town authorities in the State for the purpose of ascertaining the number of insane persons in the State and such facts and circumstances in regard to them as it was supposed would be useful and interesting. Returns have been received from only about two thirds of the towns in the State. Estimating the whole number of insane from these returns, it will not vary much from six hundred. A considerable proportion of these, however, are cases of long standing, and their circumstances such as to render it probable that no application will be made for their admission to the institution. There is however, every reason to believe that a large number of applications for admission will be made immediately upon the opening of the institution, and that very soon the whole building will be occupied.

Agreeably to the directions of the Legislature in their Resolve of March 6th, the Governor and Council have established certain Rules and Regulations for the government of the institution, a copy of which is herewith transmitted.

The officers therein provided for, have been filled as follows: Benjamin Brown of Vassalborough, Reuel Williams of Augusta, and Wm. C. Larrabee of Readfield, *Directors*. Doct. Cyrus Knapp of Augusta, *Superintendent*. Doct. Chauncey Booth of Brattleboro', Vermont, and now connected with the institution for the insane at that place, *Assistant Physician*. Henry Winslow and wife of Augusta, *Steward and Matron*.

The compensation and salaries for the foregoing officers have been fixed as follows: for the Directors the travel and *per diem* of members of the Legislature. For Superintendent \$800 per annum. Assistant Physician \$300. Steward \$350, and Matron \$150. The four last sums exclusive of board.

If this compensation should be deemed by the Legislature either too high or too low, an opportunity is now afforded for placing it right, before the officers enter upon their respective duties.

By the Report of the Directors it would seem that the late Hon. Bryce McLellan of Somerset County, has bequeathed the sum of \$500 to the Insane Hospital. As soon as a copy of the will has been received, it will be transmitted to you, if any legislative provision is deemed necessary to perfect the object of the benevolent donor.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, }
 Sept. 26, 1840. }

JOHN FAIRFIELD.

To the Senate and House of Representatives :

A vacancy having occurred in the office of Major General of the Seventh Division, Maine Militia, by the resig-

nation and honorable discharge of General Ezekiel Foster, your attention to the filling of the same is respectfully requested.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, }
October 3, 1840. }

JOHN FAIRFIELD.

To the Senate and House of Representatives :

A vacancy having occurred in the office of Major General of the Sixth Division of the militia by the resignation and honorable discharge of General Bolster, your attention is respectfully requested to the filling of the same.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, }
October 8, 1840. }

JOHN FAIRFIELD.

To the Senate and House of Representatives :

I herewith transmit a copy of the last Will and Testament of the Hon. Bryce McLellan late of Somerset County, by which it appears that he has bequeathed to the Insane Hospital the sum of "five hundred dollars, to be paid in two years after his decease, the interest or income to be applied annually for the benefit of said institution." The two years having elapsed, I would recommend that such legislative provision may be made as will enable the State to avail itself of the noble liberality of the testator, by authorizing some person to receive and invest the sum bequeathed, or by such other course as may be deemed best.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, }
Oct. 15, 1840. }

JOHN FAIRFIELD.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a Report of Henry Winslow, Agent for superintending the erection of the Insane Hospital, by which it appears that there are claims, including one of his own, outstanding against said institution and unpaid, to the amount of six hundred and twenty-three dollars and six cents. As the Resolve of the 14th instant, "in favor of the Insane Hospital," would not authorize the payment of the above sum from the amount therein appropriated, your attention to the subject is respectfully requested.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, }
Oct. 19, 1840. }

JOHN FAIRFIELD.