

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

A. D. 1859.



AUGUSTA:

STEVENS & SAYWARD, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1859.

REPORT

OF THE

TREASURER OF MAINE,

ON THE

TRANSACTIONS OF THE TREASURY,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31, 1858.

AUGUSTA:

STEVENS & SAYWARD, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1859.



REPORT.

TREASURER'S OFFICE, }
Augusta, December 31, 1858. }

*To the President of the Senate,
and Speaker of the House of Representatives:—*

In accordance with the provisions of law, I lay before the two houses of the Legislature a detailed account of the state of the treasury for the year ending December 31, 1858.

Receipts of the treasury in January, 1858, . . .		\$58,321 02
“ “ February, “ . . .		68,021 36
“ “ March, “ . . .		75,853 06
“ “ April, “ . . .		40,659 37
“ “ May, “ . . .		20,160 98
“ “ June, “ . . .		8,834 74
“ “ July, “ . . .		12,547 07
“ “ August, “ . . .		12,014 93
“ “ September, “ . . .		1,711 01
“ “ October, “ . . .		34,634 10
“ “ November, “ . . .		11,630 65
“ “ December, “ . . .		29,596 41
Amount of receipts from January 1, 1858, to De- } cember 31st, 1858, inclusive,		373,984 70
Cash on hand January 1, 1858,		48,423 30
		\$422,408 00

Expenditures of the treasury in January, 1858,	\$31,190 09
“ “ February, “	14,162 85
“ “ March, “	77,435 20
“ “ April, “	63,147 77
“ “ May, “	5,673 57
“ “ June, “	22,548 40
“ “ July, “	39,039 74
“ “ August, “	4,194 68
“ “ September, “	9,218 58
“ “ October, “	33,386 44
“ “ November, “	13,657 60
“ “ December, “	27,384 56
Amount of expenditures from January 1, 1858, to December 31, 1858, inclusive,	346,039 48
Leaving a balance in the treasury, December 31, 1858, of	76 368 52
	<u>\$422,408 00</u>

DR. STATE OF MAINE, *in account with* BENJAMIN D. PECK,
Treasurer.

To military purposes,	\$3,681 00
“ costs in criminal prosecutions,	34,376 59
“ publishing revised statutes,	3,299 99
“ reform school,	17,125 00
“ insane State paupers,	15,999 83
“ trustees insane hospital,	586 00
“ insane hospital, for repairs,	1,000 00
“ State prison, payment of debts,	6,000 00
“ subordinate officers of State prison,	9,683 00
“ inspectors of State prison,	292 00
“ investigating affairs of State prison,	400 00
“ deaf, dumb and blind,	3,614 16
“ board of agriculture,	1,793 40
“ State agricultural society,	1,000 00
“ county agricultural societies,	4,809 15
“ printing agricultural report for 1856,	1,000 00
“ Penobscot Indians,	4,289 00
“ education of Penobscot Indians,	250 00
“ Passamaquoddy Indians,	1,550 00

DR. STATE OF MAINE, *in account with* BENJAMIN D. PECK,
Treasurer, (Continued.)

" Passamaquoddy Indians for agricultural purposes,	400 00
" Passamaquoddy Indians for schools,	250 00
" printing,	8,500 00
" stationery,	2,000 00
" bank commissioners,	1,200 00
" reports of judicial decisions,	1,500 00
" pay roll of council,	3,548 00
" pay roll of senate,	7,781 50
" pay roll of house of representatives,	29,963 00
" salaries,	31,230 97
" teachers conventions,	2,000 00
" expenses of superintendent of common schools,	735.53
" public debt,	30,500 00
" postage,	1,192 13
" forfeited lands,	156 19
" meteorological observations,	150 00
" interest on lands reserved for public uses,	1,122 69
" fuel and lights,	2,000 00
" furniture and repairs of public buildings,	1,875 00
" cash on hand,	76,368 52
" miscellaneous items, under acts and resolves,	799 01
" county taxes,	2,978 86
" clerks in public offices,	7,002 00
" library,	500 00
" contingent fund of secretary,	200 00
" interest on public debt,	39,440 00
" roll of accounts—No. 33 to 37,	223 99
" roll of accounts—No. 38,	12,673 98
" porter and messenger,	100 00
" contingent fund of governor and council,	4,172 10
" binding and stitching,	500 00
" interest on Sanford legacy,	42 00
" school funds—No. 15 to 24,	27,585 81
" school fund—No. 25,	10,312 33
" militia pensions,	1,944 00
" indexes,	150 00
" contingent fund of treasurer,	331 51
" Westbrook seminary,	200 00
" State tax, 1856,	2 49
" County of Washington,	27 28
	<u>\$422,408 01</u>

CR. STATE OF MAINE, *in account with* BENJAMIN D. PECK,
Treasurer.

By balance January 1, 1858,	\$48,423 30
“ military purposes,	82 80
“ gun house and lot at Bowdoinham,	50 00
“ redemption of lands sold for taxes,	484 70
“ land agent,	45,863 21
“ lands reserved for public uses,	220 16
“ permanent school fund,	5,068 58
“ State tax, 1846,	24 66
“ “ 1847,	4 68
“ “ 1851,	37
“ “ 1852,	27 89
“ “ 1853,	37
“ “ 1854,	203 69
“ “ 1855,	56
“ “ 1856,	2,154 27
“ “ 1857,	182,084 57
“ “ 1858,	14,966 06
“ County taxes, Hancock County,	345 72
“ “ Washington “	949 03
“ “ Kennebec “	32 25
“ “ Oxford, “	118 62
“ “ Somerset “	287 82
“ “ Penobscot, “	316 34
“ “ Piscataquis, “	309 95
“ “ Franklin “	185 91
“ “ Aroostook “	969 52
“ Penobscot Indians,	105 00
“ miscellaneous items,	204 25
“ interest on State taxes,	294 63
“ bank tax—No. 25,	37,780 37
“ bank tax—No. 26,	36,861 66
“ north-eastern boundary,	10,126 98
“ State bonds,	30,000 00
“ premium on State bonds,	1,252 50
“ duties payable on commissions,	1,650 00
“ fuel and lights,	69 80
“ furniture and repairs of public buildings,	12 59
“ notes receivable,	875 20
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	\$422,408 01

Amount paid for claims due prior to January 1, 1858.

For Salaries,	2,615 62
“ Contingent fund of Governor and Council,	275 01
“ Militia pensions,	1,065 00
“ Costs in criminal prosecutions,	12,259 65
“ Publishing revised statutes,	2,299 99
“ Reform School,	5,000 00
“ Inspectors of State Prison,	200 00
“ Forfeited lands,	49 05
“ Meteorological observations,	75 00
“ Trustees Insane Hospital,	88 00
“ Board of Agriculture,	200 00
“ Interest,	660 00
“ Postage,	256 55
“ Printing agricultural report for 1856,	1,000 00
“ Expenses of Superintendent of common schools,	185 53
“ Public debt,	500 00
“ Rolls of account No. 33 to 37,	223 99
“ School funds,	27,585 81
	<u>\$54,489 20</u>

Estimated Receipts for the year 1859.

Cash on hand January 1, 1859,	\$76,368 52
Balance due on State taxes,	199,410 23
Bank tax,	73,000 00
Land Office,	25,000 00
Duty on commissions,	2,000 00
County taxes,	3,500 00
	<u>\$379,278 75</u>

Estimated Expenditures for the year 1859.

Public debt,	\$30,000 00
Interest on public debt,	42,000 00
School fund No. 26,	20,000 00
Balance due on school funds No. 8 to 25,	80,000 00
Salaries of public officers,	32,000 00
Reform School,	15,000 00
Insane State paupers,	14,000 00

Estimated Expenditures for the year 1859, (Continued.)

Pay roll of Council,	4,000 00
Pay roll of Senate,	6,300 00
Pay roll of House of Representatives,	25,200 00
Clerks in public offices,	6,500 00
Subordinate officers of State Prison,	8,000 00
Deaf, dumb and blind,	5,500 00
State Agricultural Society,	1,000 00
County Agricultural Societies,	4,500 00
Board of Agriculture,	1,700 00
Contingent fund of Governor and Council,	5,000 00
County taxes,	3,500 00
Reports of judicial decisions,	4,500 00
Penobscot Indians,	2,956 32
Penobscot Indians for annuities,	1,500 00
Passamaquoddy Indians,	2,150 00
Contingent fund of Secretary,	200 00
Contingent fund of Treasurer,	500 00
Military pensions,	2,000 00
Military purposes,	3,765 00
Postage,	1,400 00
Furniture and repairs of public buildings,	2,000 00
Fuel and lights,	2,000 00
Teachers conventions,	2,000 00
Bank Commissioners,	1,200 00
Bounty on animals,	1,400 00
Sheriffs and Coroners,	400 00
Printing,	14,000 00
Stationery,	3,000 00
Library,	300 00
Interest on lands reserved for public uses,	1,300 00
Trustees Insane Hospital,	600 00
Porter and Messenger,	100 00
Indexes,	150 00
Lands forfeited,	300 00
Balance on roll of accounts,	300 00
Expenses of Superintendent of common schools,	650 00
Interest on Sanford legacy,	42 00
Maine State Seminary,	600 00
East Maine Conference Seminary,	500 00
Westbrook Seminary,	200 00
Insane State paupers, deficiency for 1858,	998 15
Warrants drawn and unpaid,	7,916 41
Balance due on roll of accounts,	512 36
	<hr/>
	\$363,640 24

Resources of the State.

Cash in the Treasury January 1, 1859,		\$76,368 52
Balance due on State taxes to 1858, inclusive,		199,410 23
SECURITIES IN LAND OFFICE.		
Bills receivable,	\$131,717 10	
Bonds,	19,497 09	
		151,214 19
Notes receivable in treasury office,		9,356 64.
\$3,000 City Calais bonds, due 1876,		3,000 00
		<u>\$439,349 58</u>

Liabilities of the State of Maine, January 1, 1859.

PUBLIC DEBT.		
Due in 1859,	30,000 00	
“ 1860,	51,000 00	
“ 1861,	30,000 00	
“ 1862,	30,000 00	
“ 1863,	50,000 00	
“ 1864,	50,000 00	
“ 1865,	37,000 00	
“ 1866,	37,000 00	
“ 1867,	37,000 00	
“ 1868,	37,000 00	
“ 1869,	37,000 00	
“ 1870,	33,000 00	
“ 1871,	40,000 00	
“ 1872,	40,000 00	
“ 1873,	50,000 00	
“ 1874,	50,000 00	
“ 1875,	30,000 00	
“ 1876,	30,000 00	
		\$699,000 00
TRUST FUNDS.		
Permanent school fund,	149,085 48	
Lands reserved for public uses,	115,231 01	
Penobscot Indian fund,	49,272 12	
Passamaquoddy Indian fund,	20,388 71	
Sanford legacy,	1,300 00	
		\$335,277 32

Liabilities of the State of Maine, Jan. 1, 1859, (Continued.)

Warrants drawn and unpaid,	7,916 41	
Interest due and uncalled for,	540 00	
Balance due on school funds,	80,748 86	
Balance due on rolls of accounts,	512 36	
Bank tax No. 26,	36,861 66	
		126,579 29
AMOUNT DUE ON COUNTY TAXES.		
To county of Hancock,	345 72	
" Washington,	949 03	
" Kennebec,	32 25	
" Oxford,	118 62	
" Somerset,	287 82	
" Penobscot,	316 34	
" Piscataquis,	309 95	
" Franklin,	185 91	
" Aroostook,	969 52	
		3,515 16
		<u>\$1,164,371 77</u>

There has been paid into the treasury by the Land Agent during the year 1858, the sum of \$51,151 95, viz: on general account \$45,863 21, on permanent school fund \$5,068 58, and on lands reserved for public uses \$220 16. The sums were received at the time indicated in the following schedule.

January 6,	\$8,034 43
" 9,	844 62
" 16,	74 03
February 5,	250 00
" 18,	15,272 76
August 10,	175 00
" 26,	7,350 00
December 20,	484 99
" 21,	7,095 27
" 22,	1,691 63
" 29,	2,757 01
" 31,	7,122 21
	<u>\$51,151 95</u>

It will be observed, by consultation of the tables herewith submitted, that the balance of cash on hand at the close of business, December 31st, 1858, amounts to \$76,368,52. In my last report upon the estimated receipts and expenditures for the year which has just closed, I shew a deficit of \$62,897,46. The inquiry may very naturally arise, how does this happen, that there is a surplus when it was stated there would be a deficiency? The reply is, that the balance on hand is the school fund now due; but which is still retained in the treasury in accordance with a law passed last winter, authorizing its retention in the treasury while any State tax assessed may be due. Whenever the State tax of 1858, or any arrearages prior to that time, shall have been paid by the towns and cities owing said taxes, the treasurer is authorized to pay over to the said towns the school fund that is due, which is now in the treasury.

Had not this provision of law been incorporated into the tax act, and had there been no change in the law respecting the costs of criminal prosecutions, the deficit named in my last report would have been inevitable. It will be seen that the balance now on hand is due; and is only retained in the treasury in consequence of a wise provision of law, which will prove salutary in its results by hastening the prompt payment of the State tax by the several towns.

By a resolve approved March 11th, 1858, the treasurer was directed to collect, at the earliest day, the notes given for timber and grass sold on lands belonging to the Passamaquoddy Indians, or exchange them for Calais city scrip. There has been collected on said notes the sum of \$8000 in Calais city scrip, and \$875,20 in cash. This is all I have been able to collect during the last fiscal year. There now remains due upon these notes the sum of \$9,356-64—exclusive of interest.

Several of my predecessors have, from time to time, recommended the devolving of costs in criminal prosecutions upon the several counties. But the law was not changed till last winter. The limited condition of the financial resources of the State, at the close of the current year 1857, suggested the propriety and necessity even, of trying this experiment. I am happy to be able to state, that the indications from all quarters are that this law will work well. The payment of the expenses arising out of the administration of criminal justice should be met by the counties wherein

the crimes are committed; and for this reason, among others, these costs will be more carefully scrutinized by the officers, whose duty it is to tax them, and they, being amenable directly to the people of the county, it may be presumed that a severer scrutiny will be exercised in the examination of each bill of costs, and that in all cases, where it can be done safely, these expenditures will be reduced to the narrowest possible limits, consistent with general safety in the prosecution of offenders against public justice.

It is no part of my object in this report to present a detailed argument in favor of the law as it now is. On the score of economy, I am confident it is fast commending itself to public favor, and that it will be the means of saving to the people of the State, as a whole, many thousands of dollars, annually, will soon be patent to the most superficial observer.

No perceptible benefit, however, has resulted to the State treasury the past year from the passage of the new law; for there have been paid out of the State treasury, for costs of criminal prosecutions, up to the time the new law took effect, the sum of \$34,376,59. This sum falls but a few thousand dollars short of the annual amount heretofore appropriated and paid out of the State treasury for this purpose, though the new law was approved March 27, 1858. It is fair to presume, therefore, that, had there been no change in the law in this regard, and had there been no increase of the financial resources of the State, the treasury must soon have become bankrupt from this draft upon it alone.

In my last annual report I called the attention of the Legislature to the act establishing the Maine State Seminary. This law provides that upon the fulfilment of certain conditions on the part of the friends and trustees of said Seminary, and the Governor and Council having been notified to this effect, shall direct the treasurer of State to issue to the said trustees the scrip of the State for the sum of \$10,000, redeemable in twenty years, bearing interest, payable semi-annually, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, which scrip shall be placed to the credit of said trustees, in the books of the treasurer, and also deposited in the treasurers office, in trust for the said trustees. I understand that the Governor and Council have been officially notified by the trustees of the Institution, that all the conditions of their charter in this regard have been complied

with. But under existing circumstances I can see no way for the treasurer to perform the duty which such contemplated instructions imply. In my judgment, some further legislation is needed to enable the State to keep its faith with this Institution. The State cannot, constitutionally, loan its credit for a single dollar beyond its present indebtedness. The issuing of this scrip would be a loan of the State credit. The State cannot, therefore, without some further legislation, redeem its pledge to this Institution.

I would suggest two ways, either of which may be adopted, and the State thereby preserve its faith inviolate with the friends of this Institution.

Thirty thousand dollars of the State debt matures and must be paid March 1st 1859. It is competent for the Legislature to authorize a new loan, in the usual form, for only \$20,000; this will leave a margin upon which the scrip to the Maine State Seminary may be predicated. The other mode of meeting this question is for the Legislature so to amend the act incorporating the said Seminary, that the sum of \$10,000 may be given to the Institution outright. An appropriation can be made therefor, and the money paid out of the treasury upon a warrant of the Governor and Council.

My design in these statements is simply to submit to the Legislature, in the pursuance of my official duty, the state of the case between this Institution and the State, presuming that the Legislature will act in the premises in a way to preserve the faith of the State.

There has been received from the general government on account of expenses arising out of the North-Eastern boundary question, the sum of \$10,126,98.

The usual State tax will be necessary the coming year.

Economy and retrenchment are words upon which the changes are very easily rung. Many fine theories and imposing platitudes are marshaled in this behalf for effect only. But the time has come when those who administer the public affairs of the State must give attention in right down sober, earnest purpose to the principles which these words suggest. Prudential considerations of the first importance demand it. The financial resources of this State are fast becoming the pockets of the people exclusively, and the people's servants cannot consistently be prodigal of the people's money. A rigid adherence to the strictest economy is demanded in any aspect

of the case, whether our resources be ample or limited, and especially is it so now, when to raise means to meet the ordinary expenses of the government the productive capital of the people must be taxed.

The disbursements from the treasury have been considerably augmented within the last few years. This increase of expenditures is readily accounted for by the establishment and support in the State of several humane, reformatory and other institutions. I allude to the Insane Hospital, the State Reform School and the Agricultural Societies. Doubtless these institutions should all be cherished with a fostering care, and liberal appropriations be made in their behalf, but it is certainly a subject of inquiry how far they are capable of being made self-supporting, and how much State patronage may be wisely bestowed upon them. I do not understand it to be my province to recommend any particular mode for the government and support of these institutions, but simply to call the attention of the Legislature to the financial condition of the State, and to suggest to them, if appropriations be made, ways and means must also be provided to meet the current expenses of the government.

For several years past the treasury has received from the land office from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per annum.

I am informed by the Land Agent that the receipts from that quarter, for the next fiscal year, will be almost entirely cut off, unless some further legislation is had upon the matter. The Land Agent will doubtless lay before you the condition of his department in this regard.

BENJAMIN D. PECK, *Treasurer.*