

# 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)

*Stevens & Sayward*  
DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1863.

---

AUGUSTA:  
STEVENS & SAYWARD, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.  
1863.

---

---

# FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

---

SENATE.

No. 13.

---

---

## REPORT.

---

The Joint Standing Committee of the State Prison, to whom was referred the reports of the Warden, Inspectors and Committee of the Council, ask leave to

### REPORT:

Taking these reports for the basis of ours we have no hesitancy in saying that great reform is needed in the management of the affairs of our prison, such as buying stock in such quantities as to always have it on hand when needed. Buying all kinds of provisions, &c., at the season of the year when good business men make their purchases,—when such articles are usually at their lowest prices.

We see by the report of the Inspectors that great inconvenience is experienced for the want of stock on hand in all the departments; and they say had the conclusions of Councilor Rich and the Inspectors been adopted in the general management of the Prison, its financial condition would be more gratifying. And they further say that a proper executive, bringing to the discharge of his duties “fitness and integrity,” could demonstrate the capability of the Prison to very nearly support itself. And they report that the cleanliness of the prisoners is not cared for; and in some cases their under garments are not changed for three weeks, and that in other cases their outside garments are so ragged that they are indecent. And they state that there is not harmony or sympathy between the Warden and the subordinate officers, which has a bad effect in the management of the Prison; and that it is considered in the Prison a good day’s work to bottom a single pair of boots, while outside

a man will easily bottom three, pairs per day ; and that the State ought at least to realize \$3,000 more each year from the labor of the convicts.

They report that the Prison is not expected, under the present management, to support itself by the sum of \$6,925 ; and to that sum add the Warden's salary of \$1200, making the balance against the Prison for 1863 of \$8,125. And they report the indebtedness of the Prison to be \$10,885.26, which should be paid.

We see by the report of the Committee of the Council who visited the State Prison in Connecticut, that it paid all its expenses ; and that the prison in New Hampshire, after paying all expenses, had a surplus of \$500 ; and that the prison in Massachusetts had \$3,000 after paying all expenses ; and that most of the labor done in these prisons is manufacturing boots and shoes, which the committee think is the most profitable labor to be done in our prison.

Your committee think by making boots and shoes, and giving up other kinds of manufacturing, some \$2,000 could be saved in salaries, &c., of overseers.

We give it as our opinion, that our Prison is very badly managed, and that it will be so as long as the present Warden is employed in its management.

We recommend his removal at once, and that a competent man be employed in his place. The sums paid, say salary \$1200, for the use of his horse \$200, house rent \$200, making \$1600 ; which sum, we think, will command the services of a suitable man.

Your committee have many facts, derived from different persons, who have seen and know that the Prison is very badly conducted ; but we judge from the vote of the House they don't wish any more facts than are found in the printed reports.

Your committee recommend the accompanying Resolve for the sum of \$11,000 to pay the indebtedness of the Prison.

And we further recommend another Resolve for the sum of \$6,922 to pay salaries, &c., for the current year.

Per order.

JAS. P. WHITE, *Chairman.*

## STATE OF MAINE.

---

RESOLVE in favor of the state prison.

---

*Resolved,* That the sum of eleven thousand dollars  
2 is hereby appropriated for the indebtedness of the  
3 state prison, to be paid out under the direction of the  
4 governor and council.

*Resolved,* That the sum of sixty-nine hundred and  
2 twenty-five dollars for the payment of subordinate  
3 officers and other expenses for the current year, is  
4 hereby appropriated and placed at the disposal of the  
5 governor and council.

STATE OF MAINE.

---

IN SENATE, March 5, 1863.

Reported by Mr. EMERSON, and on his motion laid on the table and 350 copies ordered to be printed for the use of the Legislature.

EZRA C. BRETT, *Secretary.*