

The children are quite free from troubles of the eye. Skin diseases, so common in public institutions, are not troubling us.

It is hoped that an abundant pure water supply will soon be furnished.

Respectfully submitted,

W. F. PECK,  
*Medical Officer.*

# REPORT

OF THE

## JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE

TWENTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

STATE OF IOWA,

APPOINTED TO VISIT THE

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' HOME

LOCATED AT

DAVENPORT.

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PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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DES MOINES:  
GEO. E. ROBERTS, STATE PRINTER.  
1886.

## REPORT.

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*To the Twenty-first General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

Your joint committee appointed to visit and examine the Iowa Soldiers' Home and Home for Indigent Children, at Davenport, Iowa, beg leave to report that they have performed their duty in accordance with the concurrent resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Your committee would report that they visited the above named institutions on the 20th day of January, 1886, and found that the appropriations made by the Twentieth General Assembly, have been wisely and economically expended, and that they have been expended for the object for which they were intended, except, that after expending the appropriations made by the Twentieth General Assembly for building purposes, there remained from said appropriation about \$2,000, which was used in the erection of a barn, in addition to the sum already appropriated for that purpose, to-wit: \$2,000, making the barn cost about \$4,000. Chapter 67, acts of the Seventeenth General Assembly, have been complied with in not contracting indebtedness in excess of the appropriations, and that no funds have been diverted from the specific purpose for which they were drawn from the State Treasury, except as above stated.

The following table shows the names of all persons employed, the kind of service they severally perform, and the price paid each per month. All of these persons have their board, fuel, lights and washing at the expense of the State:

NAME.	DUTY.	Salary per month.
S. W. Pierce	Superintendent	\$ 100.00
F. N. Pierce	Matron	50.00
W. F. Peck	Physician	33.35
F. B. Cone	Book-keeper	25.00
Anna Craft	Assistant matron	30.00
W. H. Mead	Baker	26.00
Henry Hagman	Shoemaker	26.00
Orville Robeson	Laborer	22.00
John Fish	Fireman	30.00
William Hyde	Watchman	15.00
Thomas Pritchard	Laborer	16.00
S. J. Edwards	Cottage manager	20.00
G. W. Hill	Cottage manager	15.00
Louisa Appleby	Cottage manager	20.00
Amelia Hunt	Cottage manager	20.00
Genie Carnahan	Cottage manager	20.00
Mrs. E. Taft	Cottage manager	15.00
Ella Hathway	Cottage manager	20.00
E. R. Little	Cottage manager	20.00
Helen Ahrens	Cottage manager	20.00
M. V. Hetherington	Cottage manager	20.00
Alice Herndeen	Cottage manager	20.00
M. C. McLean	Cottage manager	20.00
C. C. Kelley	Cottage manager	20.00
Emma Martin	Teacher	25.00
Delia Webb	Teacher	25.00
M. A. Logan	Teacher	25.00
Carrie Roe	Teacher	25.00
Hannah Smith	Teacher	20.00
M. J. Hopper	Sewing-room manager	18.00
Olive Dull	Seamstress	10.00
Ida Thompson	Seamstress	10.00
F. R. Hulse	Seamstress	10.00
Clara King	Seamstress	10.00
M. C. Peck	Seamstress	12.00
Katharine Ferguson	Seamstress	8.00
Laura Brown	Kitchen manager	20.00
Anna Rixinger	Assistant cook	12.00
L. M. Bateson	Housekeeper	12.00
Amanda Cowdery	General work	8.00
Mary Mulcrome	Laundry manager	18.00
Maggie Mulcrome	Laundress	15.00
Augusta Dulett	Kitchen help	8.00
Abbie E. Hill	Seamstress	8.00

The means of escape in case of fire are ample, and as a protection they are provided with thirty Roads' fire extinguishers, and also one Babcock fire extinguisher, also four force pumps, one hydrant and three hundred and fifty feet of hose, and six hand force pumps, distributed among the cottages.

We inspected the cottages, fourteen in number. They are plain, substantial brick structures, 31x51 feet, one and one-half stories high, each containing a sitting-room 18x18 feet, a sleeping room 20x30 feet;

also a sleeping room 10x12 feet, for the use of the lady in charge of the cottage, together with a bath room and closets, and attic unfinished; one boiler house and laundry 38x52 feet, two stories high with smoke stack attached; one two story hospital building 36x39 feet; one wooden barn 36x96 feet, with basement; one main central building 50x90 feet, three stories high, and 66x92 feet, two stories, and six brick out houses 16x24 feet; one two story school-house 35x68 feet, containing four rooms 26x32 feet. All except the barn are of brick, and are plain, but substantially built.

Your committee consider the iron door between main building and dining rooms insufficient as a protection against fire, and recommend that they be covered with hard wood not less than one inch in thickness, and covered with No. 14 sheet iron.

An inspection of the laundry, bakery, pantry, store-room and dining-hall, show excellent management.

The children look clean and healthy, and are provided with plenty of wholesome food, and seem cheerful and happy.

There are at present *two hundred and eighty children* in the Home; *one hundred and fifty-one boys*, and *one hundred and twenty-nine girls*. The school rooms are in charge of earnest and intelligent teachers, and their efforts to secure proficiency in their pupils are certainly commendable.

There are now fifty-seven and two-tenth acres of land belonging to the Home; about fifteen acres are used for buildings, lawn and play grounds, and twenty-five acres for pasturage, leaving about seventeen acres for cultivation.

The Trustees ask for an appropriation of \$1,350 to buy nine acres of land adjoining. It can be readily seen that more land is needed for pasture, but your committee would not recommend paying over \$100 per acre for the land.

The trustees ask for the following appropriations:

Four cottages	\$12,000
School building	6,000
Chapel and kindergarten	6,000
Ice house	1,000
Industrial building	6,000
Boiler and steam heating	5,000
Water supply	5,000
Electric lights	6,000
General repairs	2,500

Land .....	1,350
Industries .....	2,500
Furniture .....	3,000
Library .....	500
Contingent fund .....	2,000
Fencing and grading .....	1,000
Organs .....	4,000
Nursery Building .....	6,000

Your committee believe that for the best interests of the Home the following appropriations should be made, to wit:

Two cottages .....	\$ 6,000
One school building .....	6,000
One ice house .....	1,000
One boiler and steam heating .....	5,000
General repairs .....	2,500
Land .....	900
Furniture .....	1,500
Library .....	250
Contingent fund .....	2,000
Organs .....	400
Nursery building .....	4,000

We commend the management of Superintendent S. W. Pierce and his wife, the Matron of the Home, which they have, with the help of their assistants, made this Institution one of the most useful of the State.

Dr. Peck, who presides over the medical department, should receive more than an ordinary notice of his services, looking after the health of the children, having lost only two (2) patients in the biennial period. Such a showing is certainly remarkable.

S. P. Bryant, resident Trustee, has certainly been very efficient in looking after the trust of the Home, and has been ably supported by his co-workers, Orcutt and Wilson.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. P. STEPHENS,  
*On part of the Senate.*

G. W. HAYZLETT,  
PHIL. SCHALLER,  
*On part of the House.*