

time should be estimated and advertised for, a bond being required of the successful bidder. This will secure the lowest prices, which private purchase does not necessarily do. In respect to quality and prices, your committee find no cause to complain. But the adoption of this system would be likely to prevent the purchasers of supplies from buying so as to receive profits in the purchases; a thing which is wholly inconsistent with the interest of the State.

We do not find that the State has suffered any loss from this source in this Institution, though purchases of shoes have been made for the Home to a considerable amount through a firm of which the present Superintendent is a member, and from which he derives a profit. This firm is the only wholesale boot and shoe house doing business in the city of Davenport, and the destruction of the stores of the Institution by fire in November, made immediate purchases necessary, and the orders were filled through the wholesale house referred to. So far as the examination of the goods bought and the prices paid could determine in the minds of your committee, the purchases were at fair prices for good goods. But the practice is one which cannot be commended, and should be made impossible by a provision of the kind indicated.

We desire to commend the general management of the Home and care taken of the inmates by the Superintendent, Mr. Pierce, and the matron, Mrs. Pierce. They have devoted many years to the care of these unfortunate children, and are following their duty apparently, and as we believe, with Christian zeal and fidelity.

Respectfully submitted.

J. H. SWENEY,
On the part of the Senate.

WM. W. BUELL,
On the part of the House.

REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

OF THE

Iowa Soldiers' Home

TO THE

TWENTY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

DES MOINES:

GEO. E. ROBERTS, STATE PRINTER.

1888.

REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS.

To the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

The Commission appointed for the Soldiers' Home under chapter 58 of the acts of the Twenty-first Assembly respectfully report that by the request of the Governor, the Commission met at Des Moines on the 28th day of April, 1886, and elected their officers. A committee was at once appointed to visit one or more of the Homes in other States for disabled soldiers, for the purpose of obtaining some definite information which would enable us to make the best use of the appropriation placed at our disposal.

An architect accompanied the committee and the Homes at Milwaukee and Grand Rapids were examined and much valuable information was obtained as to the practical wants of institutions of this character.

Upon the return and report of the Committee the Board decided that no plans for a building should be adopted which contemplated the expenditure of a larger amount of money than that provided for in the act establishing the Home.

Mr. J. S. Blake, architect, was promptly employed to prepare plans as speedily as possible and he was specially enjoined to provide for a building which could be erected within the appropriation, and informed that no other plans would be accepted.

On the 17th day of June, 1886, Mr. Blake presented his plans and they were accepted upon condition that we could contract for the erection of the building for the money at our command for that purpose.

Anxious to avoid all danger of advertising for bids for a building which could not be erected with the means allowed us, we submitted the plans to a builder having a State reputation, who after a brief examination expressed the opinion that we could secure the erection of the building contemplated for an amount not exceeding the appropriation.

With this double assurance, notice was published, as provided by law, for the letting of the contract, and the 3d of August, 1886, was fixed as the time for opening bids.

There was appropriated \$75,000 to erect building and furnish it. Of the several sealed proposals submitted to us for the erection of the building in accordance with the plans and specifications, the lowest was \$81,600 and the highest \$99,432.

An attempt was made to modify the plans and adapt them to the appropriation, but this was unsuccessful and they were rejected.

We were now compelled to determine whether we would contract for a building which would exceed in cost the amount contemplated by the General Assembly, or obtain new plans. The latter course was adopted, and caused an unavoidable delay of several weeks.

The plans submitted by W. A. Fulkerson, architect, were then examined and accepted upon the same condition as that attached to the acceptance of Mr. Blake's plans.

After again giving the required notice of letting the contract, the bids were opened on the 29th of September, 1886. The lowest responsible bid was \$63,740; the highest was \$69,775. The contract was awarded to Theodore Peterson for \$63,740, and it required him to furnish all the materials, including steam fixtures, gas and water pipes, and to complete the building according to plans and specifications.

The work was at once commenced. A building committee was appointed and a superintendent employed to give his whole time and attention to the work.

During the season of 1886 the foundation walls were put in and a large part of the basement story was built.

Before commencing the work in the spring of 1887, an examination of the basement walls indicated that they were not erected in strict compliance with the specifications. They were put up in the absence of the contractor, Mr. Peterson. Portions of the walls were taken down, and upon a careful examination of the work the basement walls were condemned by the Board, and ordered taken down and rebuilt. The contractor gracefully accepted our conclusion, and at once commenced tearing down and re-building. From this time until the completion of the building, we had, so far as practicable, one member of the Commission all the time about the work and the materials furnished and work done, except the radiators, have been in substantial compliance with the terms of the contract.

The building was dedicated on the 30th day of November, and was opened on the first day of December, 1887, for the admission of those for whom it was intended.

The tract of land upon which the building stands contains 128 acres, and was donated by the citizens of Marshalltown. The building is about one and one-half miles from the business portion of the city. It is 210x120 feet, and has, including basement, four stories.

The walls of the basement story are built of stone, obtained near Marshalltown, and the walls above are brick. The roof is slate.

The basement is used for the kitchen, bakery, laundry and dining-room, smoking room, Quartermaster's office, bath-rooms and store-room. The second floor for the chapel, office of the Commandant and Adjutant, Commandant's living rooms, Doctor's office and medical store-room, reading-room, reception-room, and water-closets, dormitories and hospital. The third and fourth stories are used for dormitories.

The building is heated by steam and lighted by gas. For supplying the latter we have the Springfield Gas Machine, which works, so far, very satisfactorily. The gas supply does not cost to exceed \$1.00 per thousand feet.

Col. Milo Smith of Clinton, though not an applicant, was the choice of the Commission for, and accepted, the position of Commandant.

WATER.

Arrangements were made with the city of Marshalltown whereby they extended the city water mains to the east line of the land upon which the Home is located free of cost to the State. From that point we laid six-inch water mains to the Home building. This gives the Home a constant supply of water from the Iowa river and for five years it is to be without cost to the State, and after that time the State is to pay only the actual cost of pumping.

SEWERAGE.

The water for the Home and city is taken from the river about a mile below the Home building. This made it impracticable to carry the sewerage into the river. After careful investigation we adopted the sub-surface sewerage system. The sewerage is carried in pipes under ground some distance from the building and distributed into common tile, which are laid in numerous branches from the main

pipe and about three feet below the surface. This system has been used with satisfactory results by large institutions in other States and we believe it will prove equally satisfactory here.

With the view of ascertaining the number who would probably apply for admission to the Home, we sent circulars to the several county auditors during the last summer, requesting them to give us such information as they could obtain as to the numbers in their respective counties who would probably want a place in the Home. From the information received we deemed it desirable to furnish clothing and bedding for at least two hundred and accordingly we purchased supplies for that number. The beds and bedding are of first class quality. Each inmate is supplied with good under-clothing, stockings, shoes and a complete suit of good clothing and an army overcoat.

At present the vegetables are kept in a rude cellar intended only for a temporary use, and the other supplies are in one of the basement rooms which will be soon needed for other purposes.

For the reasons stated in the Superintendent's report we think there should be erected as soon as practicable an additional two story brick building with stone basement. The basement to be used as a cellar for vegetables and the first story to be used as an office for the Quarter master and as a general storage-room. And the second story to be used for sleeping rooms for the employes. Our present facilities would afford ample means for lighting and heating this additional building. We estimate the cost of such a structure as is required to be about \$4,500.

The indications now are that all of the room which can be made available in the present building will be required to accommodate the disabled soldiers who will within the next year apply for and be entitled to the benefits of the Home.

Believing that the main building should, so far as practicable, be occupied by those for whom it was designed and believing that additional room will soon be required, we recommend an appropriation of \$5,000 for the erection of cottages near the main building for the use of the officers of the Home.

A suitable barn for such horses and cattle as may be used upon the place is a necessity.

In selecting the site for the building and in preparing plans for streets and for beautifying the grounds we employed A. W. Swanitz, who surveyed the ground and prepared plats indicating the cuts and

fills which would be required, and the streets or avenues which he deemed desirable.

During the summer we expended about three thousand and five hundred dollars of the money donated by the citizens of Marshalltown, in grading the grounds.

Considerable grading will yet be required. The soil is of such a character that the street running to the building from the public highway, will require paving or macadamizing to make it passable. In our opinion, the sum of \$7,000 should be appropriated for fencing, grading and improving the streets and grounds, and preparing cemetery grounds.

We submit herewith reports of the Superintendent and the Treasurer, and a statement of the expenditures which have been allowed and paid. Of the contract price for the erection of the building all has been paid except the sum of \$1,461.64, which we have retained to make good any deficiencies in the steam heating or plumbing.

Mr. Peterson, the contractor, has, since the basement story was ordered rebuilt, given his whole time and attention to the work, and has exhibited a disposition to fairly and honorably comply with the letter and spirit of his contract.

At present the following named persons are employed at the Home, and their respective salaries are as here stated :

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Col. Milo Smith, Commandant..... | \$100.00 per month. |
| A. D. Gaston, Adjutant..... | 50.00 per month. |
| B. E. Eberhardt, Quartermaster..... | 50.00 per month. |
| Wm. Fisher, engineer..... | 50.00 per month. |
| A. G. Todd, chief cook..... | 50.00 per month. |
| W. Todd, assistant cook..... | 20.00 per month. |
| W. B. Waters, surgeon..... | 37.50 per month. |
| W. S. Highberger, night fireman..... | 30.00 per month. |
| Daniel Lawson, day fireman..... | 30.00 per month. |

We anticipate that some additional help will be required in the near future.

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Against the \$75,000.00 appropriated, we have drawn..... | \$73,343.89 |
| Balance referred to in report, to pay contractor in full | 1,461.64 |
| Balance not drawn..... | 194.47 |
| Total | \$75,000.00 |
| Against the support fund of \$25,000.00, we have drawn.... | \$20,000.00 |
| Leaving in the hands of the State Treasurer..... | 5,000.00 |
| Total | \$25,000.00 |

For the statements of the disbursements of above amount of money, as well as the funds donated by the citizens of Marshalltown, we would respectfully refer you to the report of the Treasurer of this Commission.

We have ordered a laundry outfit, to cost \$800. The gas machine cost us \$1,200, and will be paid for as soon as thoroughly tested.

For the payment of these, and some unsettled bills for grading, etc., we shall be compelled to use about \$3,000.00 of the funds now on hand.

We ask appropriations as follows:

For additional building for Quartermaster's office, store-room and sleeping-rooms for employes;

For cottages for the officers;

For barn, horses, cows and farming implements;

And for improvements of the grounds, including the cemetery, \$20,800.

For salaries of officers and employes, per annum, \$6,000.

For beds, bedding and clothing for 200 more inmates than now provided for, \$2,750.

For support fund, \$10 per month for each inmate of the Home.

For contingent expenses, to be used only on the written authority of the Executive Council, \$5,000.

All of which is respectfully submitted by the undersigned Commissioners.

J. M. TUTTLE,
N. A. MERRILL,
S. L. DOWS,
C. W. BURDICK,
J. J. RUSSELL,
G. A. MADISON.

OFFICE OF THE IOWA SOLDIERS' HOME,
MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA, JANUARY 9, 1888. }

GENERAL J. M. TUTTLE, *President of the Commission of the Iowa Soldiers Home:*

DEAR SIR—I have the honor to present the following report of the operations and present condition of the Iowa Soldiers Home:

The Home was dedicated November 30th, and opened for the reception of inmates on the first day of December last. It opened with seven inmates, and at the present writing has sixty-six in the Home, with thirty applications approved and the parties notified of their admission, and ninety applications out on request, and being prepared for the admission of the applicants. The average number for the month of December was forty-two. The present indications are that the Home will be filled to its full capacity during the year 1888.

Of the inmates now in the Home one is eighty-six years old; six are between seventy and eighty; seventeen between sixty and seventy; twenty between fifty and sixty, and twenty-three more than fifty.

Of the whole number in the Home eighteen are foreign born and fifty-six natives of this country. There are eleven married and fifty-five single men. There are twenty-five farmers, twenty-three laborers, two masons, two stone-cutters, two blacksmiths, two painters, two carpenters, two shoemakers, one tailor, one stock dealer, one cook, one clerk, one horse-trainer and one wagon-maker. Seventeen of the inmates draw pensions ranging from two to sixteen dollars per month.

Contrary to the generally accepted opinion throughout the State that inmates would come from the large cities the record shows that they come mostly from the smaller towns and rural districts. A very large proportion of the inmates are homeless, and have no relations in the State, and many report no known relations living.

A large per cent of the applications come from parties now in the almshouses of the State, and for those dependent upon the various charitable societies to which they belong for their subsistence. The inmates are, as a rule, orderly, and submit cheerfully to the rules and regulations for the government of the Home.

We have four inmates in the Hospital, all came here sick, but have improved in health since coming here.

The cost of subsistence for the month of December was \$258.13, being eighteen cents per day per man. Our other expenses are so connected with the expense of opening and preparing the Home for the reception of the inmates that it is difficult to determine the other expenses.

Our expenses were, for salaries of officers, \$200; for employes, such as engineer, fireman, cook and assistant, \$185; for coal, \$240, and for medical expenses, \$150, making a total of expenses pertaining to the support of the Home of \$1,033.13.

The building is convenient, comfortable and well adapted for the purpose for which it was built. The steam heating is sufficient to heat the entire building. The gas machine furnishes plenty of light, and the supply of hot and cold water is ample for all the wants of the Home. The necessary clothing, bedding, chairs, dining-room furniture, etc., for 200 inmates has been received. The kitchen, range, oven, etc., is sufficient for the capacity of the Home. It will accommodate 300 for sleeping and other accommodations, and has dining capacity for 240, as at present arranged. It is running smoothly and satisfactorily, and to all appearances is fulfilling the expectations of its friends.

The needs of the Iowa Soldiers' Home for the coming year are four cottages for employes, one building for the quartermaster, with a vegetable cellar under it; a barn of sufficient capacity to accommodate the teams necessary for the use of the Home and the cultivation of the farm; additional storage for coal; for fencing the grounds and preparation of a cemetery, and for such improvements of the grounds as the Board shall think proper. The strong arguments in favor of the rooms for the quartermaster are various. The rooms he now occupies are much larger than his business requires, and when the Home is full we shall need his rooms for dining rooms, and more room can be gained by moving him outside of the present building than in any other way. Then again there are so many steam pipes running through his room, used in warming the hospital and dormitories above, that they are too warm for the storage of his supplies, and if the windows are opened sufficient to cool his room the cold air on the steam pipes condenses the steam to such an extent as to make it impossible to warm the hospital in extreme cold weather; and the vegetable cellar is needed, as there is now no place in or around the building where vegetables can be kept without spoiling, as the rooms are so warm and light; and the upper story of such a building is needed for sleeping rooms for the employes, as there is no special provision for sleeping accommodations for employes in the main building, and such a building can be warmed and lighted from the present supply of heat and gas.

Yours truly,

MILO SMITH, Commandant.

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES MADE BY THE COMMISSIONERS OUTSIDE OF THE APPROPRIATION OF \$75,000.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Theodore Peterson, contractor | \$ 62,278.36 |
| W. A. Fulkerson, architect | 1,509.00 |
| J. S. Blake, architect | 300.00 |
| George Draper, superintendent | 1,045.00 |
| J. D. Heath, superintendent | 164.00 |
| Wm. H. Beasley, sewerage | 724.00 |
| A. W. Swanitz, engineer | 228.25 |
| Murray & Mullen, water main | 2,994.16 |
| Expenses of locating committee, paid by State Treasurer | 802.50 |
| Expense and per diem of building committee, expense of Commissioners and miscellaneous items, as per vouchers on file with State Auditor | 3,178.02 |
| Total | \$ 73,343.89 |

To the Commissioners of the Iowa Soldiers' Home:

GENTLEMEN—I herewith hand you my report as Treasurer up to January 1, 1888:

MAINTENANCE FUND.

RECEIPTS.

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1887. | | |
| Sept. 24. | Order on Treasurer of State | \$ 5,000.00 |
| Nov. 15. | Order on Treasurer of State | 5,000.00 |
| Dec. 6. | Discount—Sweet, Dempster & Co. | 8 03 |
| Dec. 6. | Discount—Chas. P. Kellogg & Co. | 85.56 |
| 1888. | | |
| Jan. 5. | Order on Treasurer of State | 10,000.00 |

DISBURSEMENTS.

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|
| 1887. | | |
| Sept. 24. | J. M. Tuttle, bill to Sept. 20, 1887 | \$ 258.10 |
| Sept. 24. | N. A. Merrill, bill to Sept. 20, 1887 | 13.05 |
| Nov. 4. | J. M. Tuttle, bill to Nov. 4, 1887 | 199.50 |
| Nov. 4. | G. A. Madison, bill to Nov. 4, 1887 | 20.00 |
| Nov. 4. | N. A. Merrill, bill to Nov. 4, 1887 | 26.00 |
| Nov. 4. | J. J. Russell, bill to Nov. 4, 1887 | 112.38 |
| Nov. 4. | C. W. Burdick, bill to Oct. 14, 1887 | 135.57 |
| Nov. 8. | Col. Milo Smith, estimate for November | 300.00 |
| Nov. 30. | N. A. Merrill, bill to Dec. 1, 1887 | 15.00 |
| Dec. 2. | S. L. Dows, bill to Dec. 1, 1887 | 57.30 |
| Dec. 2. | Exchange | .15 |
| Dec. 2. | H. G. Willard, gas fixtures | 515.55 |
| Dec. 2. | Exchange | .75 |

| | | | |
|----------|---|--------------|--------------|
| Dec. 2. | Stone & Davis, furniture..... | \$ 125.00 | |
| Dec. 2. | Exchange | .25 | |
| Dec. 2. | Gilbert & Baker, gasoline | 136.28 | |
| Dec. 2. | Exchange | .25 | |
| Dec. 2. | L. L. Hamlin, flags..... | 21.00 | |
| Dec. 2. | Hemmingway & Kelley, mattress and pillows | 2.86 | |
| Dec. 2. | Burley & Tyrrell, crockery | 262.01 | |
| Dec. 2. | Exchange | .45 | |
| Dec. 3. | Col. Milo Smith, estimate for December. | 1,500.00 | |
| Dec. 3. | Exchange | 2.25 | |
| Dec. 6. | Wm. Veitch, blankets..... | 275.00 | |
| Dec. 6. | Wm. Veitch, blankets..... | 225.00 | |
| Dec. 6. | Exchange | .75 | |
| Dec. 6. | Sweet, Dempster & Co., hats and caids.. | 232.20 | |
| Dec. 6. | Exchange | .35 | |
| Dec. 6. | C. H. Fargo & Co., shoes..... | 240.50 | |
| Dec. 6. | Exchange | .35 | |
| Dec. 6. | Chas. P. Kellogg & Co., shirts..... | 850.00 | |
| Dec. 6. | Chas. P. Kellogg & Co., clothing..... | 2,002.00 | |
| Dec. 6. | Exchange | 4.28 | |
| Dec. 28. | J. J. Russell, bill to date..... | 61.76 | |
| Dec. 28. | A. T. Birchard, making sheets..... | 92.79 | |
| Dec. 28. | I. S. Cady, cotton cloth..... | 284.75 | |
| Dec. 28. | Col. Milo Smith, estimate for January .. | 1,800.00 | |
| Dec. 28. | Marshalltown Times-Republican, advertising..... | 1.20 | |
| Dec. 28. | Jas. McCombs, livery | 33.00 | |
| Dec. 30. | A. C. Abbott & Son, iron work..... | 23.35 | |
| Dec. 30. | Kreutzer & Wasem, furniture..... | 294.30 | |
| Dec. 30. | I. S. Ford, Johnson & Co., chairs | 184.25 | |
| Dec. 30. | Exchange | .25 | |
| Dec. 30. | C. W. Burdick, expenses... .. | 61.84 | |
| Dec. 30. | N. A. Merrill, expenses | 13.00 | |
| Dec. 30. | J. M. Tuttle, expenses | 251.90 | |
| 1888. | | | |
| Jan. 12. | Col. Milo Smith, additional estimate.... | 1,000.00 | |
| Jan. 16. | Perren & Menzie, mattress | 920.00 | |
| Jan. 16. | Exchange | 1.40 | |
| | Balance on hand | 7,535.67 | |
| | | <hr/> | |
| | | \$ 20,093.59 | \$ 20,093.59 |

MARSHALLTOWN FUND.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Donated by citizens..... | \$ 12,000.00 |
| Discount—Miller, Hall & Son | 10.00 |

DISBURSEMENTS.

1887.

| | | |
|-----------|---|------------------------------|
| Aug. 10. | F. J. Peterson, on grading | \$ 1,480.00 |
| Sept. 10. | F. J. Peterson, on grading | 1,131.50 |
| Dec. 2. | F. J. Peterson, on grading | 400.00 |
| Dec. 2. | Wm. Bremner, civil engineer..... | 128.00 |
| Dec. 2. | Bramhall, Dean & Co., kitchen furniture | 1,155.79 |
| Dec. 2. | Exchange | 1.75 |
| Dec. 2. | Miller, Hall & Son, 200 bedsteads..... | 1,060.00 |
| Dec. 2. | Exchange | 1.50 |
| | Balance on hand | 6,701.46 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$ 12,010.00 \$ 12,010.00 |

RECAPITULATION.

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Balance maintenance fund..... | \$ 7,535.67 |
| Balance Marshalltown fund..... | 6,701.46 |
| | <hr/> |
| On hand..... | \$ 14,237.13 |

C. W. BURDICK, *Treasurer.*