

REPORT  
OF THE  
JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE  
TWENTY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE  
STATE OF IOWA,

APPOINTED TO VISIT THE  
IOWA SOLDIERS' HOME

LOCATED AT  
MARSHALLTOWN.

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PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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DES MOINES:  
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1894.

## REPORT.

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

Your joint committee appointed to visit Soldiers' Home at Marshalltown, having performed its duty, beg leave to submit the following report:

We visited the Home on Jan. 17th, one day earlier than we were expected by the officials, so contrary to many predictions, the Home was not in gala day attire, but came under our observations in its every day apparel. This, instead of being a detriment, was certainly beneficial, inasmuch that it was positive proof to your committee that the Home was ready to receive visitors any day.

By visiting the Hospital, we noticed that cleanliness and order prevailed. The ventilation was excellent, and the general condition of the patients showed that they were cared for in a home-like manner. A city physician visits the Hospital once a day, and a member of the Home being an old army surgeon is in the building all the time, acting as general nurse and administering to the sick. In visiting the main building we found the same air of neatness prevailing, for so large a building and for so many inmates the air was fresh and invigorating, showing that the ventilation was excellent.

Reading room is furnished with daily and weekly periodicals, also all of the leading American magazines. In connection with reading room is a well filled library. All members of the Home have free access to the same.

Smoking room is a large airy room separate from the others; here they are required to do all their smoking when in the building.

Religious services are observed every Sunday; preachers of all denominations from the city conducting the same.

Clothing furnished is second to no other State institution, consisting of a suit of clothes, two suits of woolen underwear, two over shirts, shoes, and hat or cap which is given to each member when admitted to the Home.

Beds and bedding were neat, clean, and of sufficient amount to warrant comfort to the members.

At the sound of a bugle the members all marched to the several large dining rooms to their customary seats. On invitation from Commandant Keatley, your committee entered and found that all were supplied with an ample amount of well cooked nourishing food.

The cottages were found to be model homes in every respect.

The Ladies' Relief Corps of the State have certainly done themselves honor in the way of furnishings. It was found after furnishing the present number of cottages (ten) that there were carpeting and furniture enough to furnish twenty-two more of like dimensions. These have been cared for and will be sold. It is thought by officials at the Home that there are a sufficient number of cottages to meet all future demands, there being three vacant ones at present.

The commissary department, under control of Quartermaster Eberhart, was found well stocked with the best of everything that is purchased for supplies. Mr. Eberhart also has charge of barns and farm. The only stock that is raised is hogs, and these are of the very best stock to be had in the State.

The grounds are in an unfinished state, and an appropriation will have to be made at some future day, before they can be arranged to correspond with other surroundings.

The cemetery is a beautiful spot of ground, and well cared for.

The appropriations of the Twenty-fourth General Assembly have been properly expended for purposes intended, and no debts have been contracted in excess of appropriations.

Your committee would respectfully recommend the following appropriations:

For hard wood floors in main building, corridors, etc...	\$ 600.00
For refrigerator in main building .....	600.00
For new oven.....	400.00
For extension of sewerage below city water works .....	2,500.00
For increase of physician's salary (per month).....	25.00

Your committee would also recommend that the officers whose salaries have recently been decreased, be restored to their original amount.

The following communication from Commandant Keatley will explain many points that will be of interest to the public.

JULIAN PHELPS,  
For the Senate.  
W. B. BELL,  
H. J. GRISWOLD,  
For the House.

IOWA SOLDIERS' HOME,  
MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA, JANUARY 29, 1894. }

Visiting Committee of Iowa Soldiers' Home:

DEAR SIRS—In response to some questions submitted to me by letter of January 29, 1894, from Colonel W. B. Bell, of the House of Representatives, and a member of your committee, permit me to make the following reply:

*First.*—The support fund of the Iowa Soldiers' Home is in the first instance derived from a permanent appropriation made by the second section of chapter 121 of the acts of the Twenty-second General Assembly (1888) based upon the average number in attendance in the prior quarter, at the rate of ten dollars (\$10.00) per month.

This amount is drawn from the State treasury, by the treasurer of the board of commissioners, upon a requisition, signed by the president of the board, and its secretary, and by the commandant, each month. A certified statement is also made in the body of this requisition, directed to the auditor of State, showing the average number of the Home present, during the month prior to such requisition.

*Second.*—The appropriation for salaries and wages was fixed at ten hundred and fifty dollars (\$1,050.00) per month, by section 1 of chapter 58 of the acts of the Twenty-third General Assembly (1890), and the amount is drawn from the State treasury by the treasurer of the board of commissioners, by virtue of the same requisition made for the monthly allowance for each month of the Home.

*Third.*—Under an act of Congress passed many years ago, a permanent appropriation was made, under which the treasury of the United States, through the board of managers of the National Home for disabled volunteer soldiers, annually paid over to the State of Iowa the sum of one hundred dollars per year to aid the State in its support of the members of the Iowa Soldiers' Home, but by the act of Congress, approved August 9, 1892, it was provided that one-half of any sum or sums obtained by State Homes on account of pensions received from inmates shall be deducted from the aid herein provided.

A rule of the board of commissioners went into effect April 1, 1892, providing that a certain proportion of the monthly pension received by an inmate, who had no dependent relatives, should pass to the support fund of the Home, that is, all over six dollars (\$6.00) per month. Attached to this communication you will find a printed circular, giving the character of that rule.

Hereafter in this report, I will submit a quarterly statement of all such sums as have been retained by the Home from pensioners, having no dependent relatives, and paid over by me quarterly, to the treasurer of the board of commissioners.

Permit me to say, also, that at the end of each quarter, a detailed report of all pension amounts retained from pensioners having no dependent relatives, is made by the treasurer of the board of commissioners and the commandant, under oath, to General William B. Franklin, president of the board of managers of the National Home for disabled volunteer soldiers at Hartford, Connecticut.

The commandant of this Home is also required to make a report to General Franklin of the movement of population every ten days or three times a month, and also a consolidated quarterly report of the same, in addition to the quarterly report of the amount of pensions retained and passed to the support fund as required under the rule of our board, which became effective April 1, 1892.

I have no means of stating the amount received at any time from the government of the United States by the State of Iowa in aid of the support of the Iowa Soldiers' Home, either before the date of the act of Congress, August 9, 1892, or thereafter, for the reason that all such amounts are paid by draft by General W. B. Franklin, president of the board of managers of the National Home for disabled volunteer soldiers, into the hands of the governor of the State of Iowa, and by him passed to the State treasurer without any report of the amount or the date of payment being made by either General Franklin or the governor, to either the treasurer of the board of commissioners of the Iowa Soldiers' Home or to the commandant of the Home. Neither the treasurer of this Home nor the commandant receives or accounts for any part of the money so paid over by the United States.

*Fourth.*—The following are the amounts of pensions retained from pensioners, having no dependent relatives, under the rule of the board of commissioners, effective April 1, 1892, and have been duly reported by the treasurer of the board, by the commandant to General W. B. Franklin, president of the board of managers of the National Home for disabled volunteer soldiers, and which amounts at the dates hereafter specified, have been duly paid over by the commandant of the Iowa Soldiers' Home to the treasurer (C. W. Burtech) of the board of commissioners of the State Home, namely:

First quarter, September 5, 1892.....	\$ 534.50
Second quarter, December 24, 1892.....	738.50
Third quarter, March 20, 1893.....	846.10
Fourth quarter, July 21, 1893.....	730.25
Fifth quarter, September, 20, 1893.....	838.00
Sixth quarter, December 21, 1893.....	901.00
Total.....	\$4,697.35

The current quarter has not quite ended, so as to enable the commandant and the treasurer to render the required monthly return to

General W. B. Franklin, but I can safely estimate the amount that will be due to that fund at the end of this quarter to be a close approximation to \$800.00.

Permit me to say, also, that our board of commissioners in allowing every pensioner in the Iowa Soldiers' Home to retain for his own use the sum of \$6.00 per month, whether he has dependent relatives or not, to whom the Home sends the excess, is far more liberal in that respect than is any other of the forty (40) State Homes in existence.

The South Dakota Home retains all the pensions, in case the pensioner and inmate has no dependent relative. The Pennsylvania Home, and several other State Homes, only allow the pensioner the personal use of twenty per cent of the total amount received by him.

This is done in the interests of sobriety and good order.

I think the rule of the board of commissioners of the Home, in regard to the retention of a part of the pensions, leaving the pensioners six dollars per month, is a good one, in view of the fact that the Home furnishes each inmate all his food, clothing and quarters, including his tobacco, both chewing and smoking, does all his laundry work, barbering, mending of clothing and of shoes without any cost to himself, and this rule should not be disturbed by any legislation.

*Sixth.*—By section 1 of the acts of the Twenty-fourth General Assembly (1892), appropriations were made:

For two buildings complete for officers of Home .....	\$4,000.00
For improvements of the grounds.....	1,000.00
To reimburse support fund.....	1,532.00

One half the \$1,000.00 for the improvement of the grounds only, was made available during the year 1892, and was expended by my predecessor, Col. Milo Smith, before I took charge of the Home, October 10, 1892.

The remaining half, by a proviso in the appropriation, was not available until 1893, and was expended by me in that year under the direction of the board of commissioners, within the limitations of the proviso, and duly accounted for in vouchers submitted to the board of commissioners, the money itself having been drawn from the State treasury by the treasurer of the board of commissioners.

The appropriation of \$4,000 was expended by the board of commissioners itself, and without any intervention of the commandant of the Home, and none of the payments therefor made through the commandant, but by the treasurer of the board of commissioners to the contractors direct.

As to the appropriation of \$1,532 to reimburse the support fund, this office has no record, for the reason that the money was not drawn from the State treasury except by the treasurer of the board.

*Seventh.*—By chapter 95, of the acts of the Twenty-fourth General Assembly (1892), the sum of \$5,000.00 was appropriated for the erection of the ten cottages on the grounds of the Home, for the use of the old soldiers and their wives, who might, under the provisions of the act, be entitled to the benefit of the Iowa Soldiers' Home.

This money, as in the case of the two officers' cottages, was expended by the board of commissioners, under contracts made by it, and all payments made thereunder were made to the contractors direct, under the direction of the board, by their treasurer, and not through or by the commandant, and there is, therefore, no record in this office of such expenditure.

By section 6 of chapter 95, of the acts of the Twenty-fourth General Assembly, an appropriation of \$5,000.00 was made to provide accommodations for the widows of deceased soldiers, as prescribed in section 5 of the same act. In reasons stated in the biennial report of the Board of Commissioners to the Twenty-fifth General Assembly, now in session, such appropriation of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) was not drawn from the State treasury by the board and still remains therein unexpended.

*Eighth.*—The following is a statement of the amount expended in the support of the Iowa Soldiers' Home during the biennial period beginning July 1, 1891, and ending June 30, 1893, including salaries, wages and general support fund.

Amounts expended for the Iowa Soldiers' Home from July 1, 1891, to June 30, 1892, inclusive, the period of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1892, for support, that is, for subsistence, clothing, fuel, etc., and for salaries and wages and not including improvement of grounds or new buildings:

1891—	
July.....	\$ 3,740.75
August.....	3,729.11
September.....	3,693.17
October.....	4,457.05
November.....	5,020.75
December.....	5,276.80
1892—	
January.....	5,110.01
February.....	4,202.87
March.....	3,987.12
April.....	4,136.90
May.....	3,559.47
June.....	3,732.03
Total.....	\$ 50,646.03

Total expended in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1892, for subsistence, viz: food, quarters, clothing, etc., and for salaries and wages, fifty thousand, six hundred and forty-six dollars and forty-six cents (\$50,646.46).

Amount expended for the fiscal year 1892, for the Iowa Soldiers' Home, from July 1, 1892, to June 30, 1893 inclusive, for subsistence, viz: clothing, quarters, food, etc., and including salaries and wages, and not including my expenditures for improvement of grounds or new buildings:

1892—	
July.....	\$ 3,353.74
August.....	3,932.22
September.....	4,198.15
October.....	4,850.02
November.....	5,428.02
December.....	5,640.11
1893—	
January.....	5,433.60
February.....	4,620.73
March.....	3,630.58
April.....	4,497.34
May.....	4,575.07
June.....	3,939.02
Total.....	\$ 54,048.60

Total expended in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, for subsistence, viz: food, quarters, fuel, clothing, etc., fifty-four thousand and forty-eight dollars and sixty cents (\$54,048.60).

Total amount expended for the biennial period, extending from July 1, 1891, to June 30, 1893, for subsistence, clothing, fuel, food, etc., including salaries and wages, one hundred four thousand, six hundred ninety-six dollars and six cents (\$104,696.06).

I would respectfully refer you to that part of my biennial report for the period ending June 30, 1893, which may be printed in the report of the board of commissioners to the Twenty-fifth General Assembly, for any other matters of detail connected with the operations of the Iowa Soldiers' Home for the period named.

Permit me to remark, however, that, though the ten cottages provided for by the Twenty-fourth General Assembly were fully completed and equipped and furnished by the 8th day of February, 1893, only eight of them have ever been occupied; and the further fact that while, upon request, I have forwarded to applicants about twenty-five sets of blanks, rules and instructions, in regard to admission to the remaining two unoccupied cottages, there has not, since the 29th of September, 1893, been any applications forwarded to the

Home for either of these vacant cottages, and since then no application for that reason has been placed on file with me, for the consideration and action of the board of commissioners, by whose orders assignments to these cottages are and have been made.

JOHN H. KEATLEY,  
Commandant.

The following statement is embodied in our report by consent of Governor Jackson:

*The United States for the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers,  
To the State of Iowa, Dr.*

DATE.	DISBURSEMENT.	AMOUNT.
1893.		
Dec. 31.	For aid to the Soldiers' Home established by the State of Iowa under the provisions of an act to provide aid to State or Territorial Homes for disabled soldiers and sailors, etc., approved August 27, 1888, viz: 329 members, average present from October 1, 1893, to December 31, 1893, three months, at the rate of \$100.00 per annum.....	\$ 8,475.00
	Less one-half amount pension retained, quarter ending December 31, 1893....	450.50
	Total.....	\$ 8,024.50

I certify that the above account is correct, and chargeable to the appropriation for State or Territorial Homes for disabled volunteer soldiers, 1894.

W. B. FRANKLIN,  
President and Acting Treasurer.

Received at Des Moines, Iowa, this 31st day of January, 1894, of Gen. W. B. Franklin, acting treasurer N. H. D. V. S., the sum of eight thousand, twenty-four and fifty-hundredths dollars, in full of the above account, by check No. 72221 on the U. S. Assistant Treasurer, New York.

FRANK D. JACKSON,  
Governor.

We, the subscribers, acknowledge to have received from the Treasurer of the Iowa Soldiers' Home for services for the month ending —, —,

NAME.	OCCUPATION.	No. days.	Amount.
A. C. Fox.....	Sergeant of wards.....	30	\$ 3.00
John Clifford.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	2.50
Samuel Jamison.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	4.00
Robb Tryon.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	4.00
C. P. Lowry.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	4.00
W. M. Reed.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	3.00
J. Gregory.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	3.00
Thomas Wilson.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	3.00
John Roth.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	3.00
A. Metz.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	3.00
V. Travis.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	3.00
A. Runkle.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	3.00
George Seibel.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	2.00
P. M. East.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	2.00
J. Bateman.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	2.00
S. D. Comstock.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	2.00
P. W. Watson.....	Sergeant of ward.....	30	2.00
Total.....			\$ 61.50

All members of Home.

PAY ROLL—HOSPITAL.

Dr. A. J. Cole.....	Assistant surgeon.....	30	\$ 20.00
J. W. Bricker.....	First cook.....	30	50.00
P. D. Strong.....	Second cook.....	30	10.00
George Utz.....	Diningroom.....	30	5.00
John Crow.....	Diningroom.....	30	5.00
H. J. Barrett.....	Steward.....	30	15.00
W. B. Doolittle.....	Nurse.....	30	10.00
Michael Naylor.....	Nurse.....	30	10.00
Z. G. Moore.....	Nurse.....	30	10.00
John Laporte.....	Night nurse.....	30	10.00
Wm. Loft.....	Guide.....	30	2.00
Total.....			\$ 147.00

All members of Home but Bricker, cook.

SALARIES AND WAGES OF OFFICERS.

NAME.	RANK.	Amount.
John H. Keatley.....	Commandant.....	\$ 100.00
Fred T. Wells.....	Adjutant.....	65.00
B. E. Eberhart.....	Quartermaster.....	65.00
G. W. Harris.....	Surgeon.....	50.00
H. McClure.....	Engineer.....	25.00
Lydia Keatley.....	Matron.....	30.00
.....	Chaplain.....	30.00
Total.....		\$ 400.00

All members of Home except Dr. Harris.

## PAY ROLL—MISCELLANEOUS.

NAME.	OCCUPATION.	No. days.	AMOUNT.
F. T. Murray	Teamster	30	12.00
Thomas Delop	Teamster	30	12.00
P. W. Watson	Teamster	30	12.00
Ole Olsson	Laundry foreman	30	10.0
F. Ericson	Laundry	30	5.00
F. Beaugard	Laundry	30	5.00
L. Holzman	Laundry	30	5.00
John Labold	Linon room	30	5.00
Wm. Goemans	Guide	30	3.00
Charles Kink	Guide	30	3.00
Thomas Simpson	Bath room	30	3.00
P. W. East	Water closet	30	5.00
J. Leonard	Water closet	30	5.00
J. Menger	House cleaner	30	10.00
J. Huntington	Bugler	30	5.00
C. Lind	Tailor	30	8.00
J. L. Johnson	Carpenter	30	15.00
W. F. Harrison	Greenhouse	30	5.00
Hugh Burns	Depot man	30	9.00
Charles Rose	Care of cottages	30	45.00
F. Rubee	Electric engineer	30	23.00
Joe Wood	Engineer	30	20.00
S. Reeks	Fireman	30	15.00
Ed. Hungerford	Fireman	30	15.00
Thomas Shuman	Yard man	30	10.00
W. C. Chilton	Shoemaker	30	10.00
O. Shistieff	Barber	30	10.00
John Betz	Care of hogs and chickens	30	10.00
A. M. Lucore	Postmaster	30	10.00
Charles Fraser	Night watch	30	7.50
S. M. Eddy	Night cottages	30	7.00
Total			\$ 319.50

All members of Home but head cook.

## PAY-ROLL—KITCHEN AND DINING ROOMS.

NAME.	OCCUPATION.	No. days.	Amount.
D. G. Elefritz	Steward	30	\$ 10.00
H. Mead	Head cook	30	45.00
C. O. Williams	Second cook	30	12.00
C. D. Rogers	Pan washer	30	8.00
Charles Hendrick	Baker	30	20.00
John Lyon	Quartermaster's clerk	30	15.00
Tom Bird	Helper	31	9.30
Charles Schlutz	Dining room	30	5.00
John Fells	Dining room	30	5.00
Phil Rober	Dining room	30	5.00
J. D. Glidden	Dining room	30	5.00
J. W. Harvey	Dining room	30	5.00
Peter Qualters	Dining room	30	5.00
Charles Bells	Dining room	30	5.00
J. L. Noy	Dining room	30	5.00
Charles Howell	Dining room	30	5.00
A. Menker	Dining room	30	10.00
N. Bigelow, F. Zeith	Dining room, \$5.00 each	30	10.00
Daniel Myrus, G. W. Egbert	Dining room, 5.00 each	30	10.00
M. C. Lichty	Dining room	30	5.00
Total			\$195.30

All members of the Home except Rubee, Wood, Reeks, Hungerford.