

REPORT
OF THE
JOINT COMMITTEE
OF THE
EIGHTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
STATE OF IOWA,
APPOINTED TO VISIT THE
STATE NORMAL SCHOOL,
LOCATED AT
CEDAR FALLS.

[PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.]

DES MOINES:
F. M. MILLS, STATE PRINTER.
1880.

REPORT.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

YOUR Joint Committee appointed to visit the State Normal School, at Cedar Falls, have performed that duty and beg leave to report as follows:

We were very cordially received by Prof. J. C. Gilchrist, the Principal, and Col. Wm. Pattee, the Steward, and shown over the building and grounds, and given free access to all the books of accounts and departments of the institution. We made a thorough examination of both the educational and boarding departments, and found everything in a very gratifying condition. We most heartily commend the Trustees and Steward for their very economical management of the finances of the institution and have no hesitancy in saying that in our judgment the appropriations made to this school by the last General Assembly have been wisely and economically expended, and that so far as we can learn they have not been diverted from the objects for which the appropriations were made.

We would also report that we find it is the practice, in the management of the institution, to contract no indebtedness, other than for contingent expenses, and that all of such debts are fully paid every thirty days; and that chapter 67 of the acts of the Seventeenth General Assembly have been carefully complied with.

We give herewith names of each teacher employed and amount of salary paid.

NAME.	SERVICE.	SALARY FOR YE'R.
J. C. Gilchrist.....	Principal.....	\$ 1500 00
M. W. Bartlett.....	Teacher.....	1200 00
W. N. Hull.....	Teacher.....	950 00
D. S. Wright.....	Teacher.....	900 00
Miss S. L. Ensign.....	Teacher.....	750 00
Miss Ida B. McLagan.....	Teacher.....	500 00

J. C. Gilchrist boards in the institution and pays board for himself and family.

D. S. Wright boards in the institution and pays board.

Miss S. L. Ensign boards in the institution and pays board.

Miss Ida B. McLagan receives her board in addition to her salary.

M. W. Bartlett and W. N. Hull board outside of the institution, receiving their dinner in the institution when engaged in school work, for which no charge is made.

We give below names of all other employes of the institution, kind of service performed and the price paid each per month:

NAME.	SERVICE PERFORMED.	SALARY PER MONTH.
Wm. Pattee.....	Steward.....	\$ 50 00 and board.
A. Martz.....	Engineer.....	40 00 and board.
E. H. Brown.....	Teamster.....	20 00 and board.
Hattie Wright.....	Cook.....	15 00 and board.
Anna Callenback.....	Cook.....	12 00 and board.
Mary Callenback.....	Cook.....	10 00 and board.
Nettie Brown.....	Laundry.....	12 00 and board.
Nellie Brown.....	Laundry.....	12 00 and board.
Ada Clark.....	Laundry.....	12 00 and board.
Ella Deitrick.....	Dining-room.....	8 00 and board.
Libbie Deitrick.....	Dining-room.....	8 00 and board.
Lizzie Vance.....	Dining-room.....	8 00 and board.
Libbie Callenback.....	Dining-room.....	8 00 and board.
Maude Harr.....	Dining-room.....	8 00 and board.
Carrie Wisebord.....	Dining-room.....	8 00 and board.
Libbie Vance.....	Halls.....	12 00 and board.

The number of students now in attendance is one hundred and ninety-five; the number enrolled during the current year, two hundred and fifty-two.

The course of study embraces the branches taught in both the common and higher schools.

It is the opinion of the committee that the school has a very capable and careful board of directors, and a most efficient faculty, and that they together have worked with a commendable zeal for the success of this, the first State Normal School, and that it has been their aim to secure for the State the largest possible results for the appropriations thus far made and placed at their disposal. They have enforced the most rigid economy in all the details of management, and have given a great deal of attention to the course of study. Your committee would, however, suggest the propriety, for the present, at least, of drop-

ping from the course of study the fourth year, as we consider it is of doubtful propriety to sustain a Normal School, at the expense of the State, for the purpose of instructing pupils in those higher branches, such as trigonometry, astronomy, surveying, navigation, spherical trigonometry, and calculus.

The work of the Normal School, in the opinion of the committee, is to prepare teachers for their work, and not to furnish them with a higher education.

With the exception of Greek and Latin the course of study here is about the same as that of the most of our colleges. This objection becomes more forcible when it is remembered that this school is supported by a tax on all the counties of the State, and that there are forty-two (42) counties that have no representatives, and a large proportion of the others have but one or two. At present there are but four pupils in this class, and the number will always be small. It costs as much to provide teaching force for a senior class of four as it does for a first year class of seventy-five. To provide the teaching force for the present advanced class during their last year will cost the State hundred and fifty dollars per student.

Beyond this we have no recommendation to make as to the course of study adopted. The teachers are all doing excellent work. They are preparing teachers in the subject matter as well as in the best way of imparting that instruction to others. They are turning out a large number of excellent teachers. We most heartily commend the work done, and would recommend the increase of facilities as fast as the revenue of the State will permit.

Your committee have carefully considered the wants of the school for the next biennial period, and would recommend that the following appropriations be made:

For teachers' salaries	\$ 13700 00
For repairs and improvements	1500 00
For library and apparatus	1000 00
For contingent expenses.....	1500 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 17700 00

It will be noticed that these amounts are less than the amounts estimated by the Board of Directors.

We would be in favor of allowing all that they ask and believe the money would be judiciously expended, but it seems to your committee,

in consideration of the unusually large demands upon the State at this time, that the amount we recommend is all that should be appropriated for the purposes named.

Your committee would call attention to some of the needs of the school, as set forth on page ten (10) of the Directors' Biennial Report, and would recommend that there be an appropriation made of twenty-thousand dollars (\$20,000) for the erection of a building to supply the much needed room, and would in addition to the reasons given by the Board, state that it costs the State about three millions of dollars annually to pay the salaries of the teachers employed in the public schools. Much of this is almost as bad as squandered through the inefficiency of the teachers. It is thought by many that of the twenty-one thousand teachers in this State, not more than one-half are even moderately well prepared for their work. If one-fifth of the money now expended in paying teachers was expended in preparing them for their work, the efficiency of our school system would be greatly enhanced. We think that it is no more than simple justice to those who pay this three million of dollars annually into the teachers' fund, that the State should, so far as possible by legislation, secure for our children a more efficient class of teachers, and we know of no way by which this result can be so cheaply accomplished as by fostering this school, and at no distant day establishing at least three other similar schools in different parts of the State.

The size and character of the present building, the amount of land owned by the State at this place, and amount of land under cultivation, has been fully shown by former reports to the General Assembly.

As the present building does not provide accommodations for all the pupils in attendance, and it probably will never be the best policy for the State to furnish boarding facilities for all those who may wish to attend this school, and as the building is situated one and one-half miles from the town of Cedar Falls, we would suggest that the Board of Directors be authorized to lease a portion of the land to parties who may be desirous of erecting houses for the accomodation of teachers and their families, or for boarding houses, or buildings having rooms to rent to students who may be desirous of boarding themselves.

Your committee would also recommend that any teacher having passed the regular examination in the course of study, and received a diploma, that said diploma shall give said teacher all the privileges and advan-

tages of a first class certificate issued by a county superintendent of schools.

A. W. FORD,
Com. on part of the Senate.

S. F. PROUTY,
MICHAEL EHL,
Com. on part of the House.