

INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB.

[B6.

Credit.

1880. May 11. By warrant from State Auditor\$ 689.00

SEWER FUND.

Debit.

1880. June 23. To C. B. Gas Light Co., sewer.....\$ 600.00

Credit.

1880. May 11. By warrant on State Treasurer.....\$ 60.00

RANGE AND GROUNDS.

Debit.

1880. April 14. To P. C. De Vol, one miller's range.....\$ 395.00

1881. Sept. 17. To Wm. Harrison, labor on grounds..... 30.00
To Ira De Reus, labor on grounds .. 15.00
To Alex. Sams, labor on grounds..... 10.00
To D. Rickabaugh, labor on grounds..... 12.00
To J. F. Secor, labor on grounds..... 29.68
To J. J. Doed, labor on grounds..... 6.66
To Butler Goodrich, labor on grounds..... 15.00
To Thos. A. Davis, labor, pruning trees.. 36.00
Balance..... .86

\$ 550.00

Credit.

1880. May 11. By warrant on Treasurer.....\$ 550.00

PRINTING OFFICE.

Debit.

1880. Oct. 6. To Marder, Luse & Co., printing office\$ 959.12
Oct. 6. To L. Weinstein, Trustee's service..... 8.00
Dec. 8. Marder, Luse & Co., supplies 15.95

1881. Sept. 30. A. Rogers, supplies..... 16.93

\$ 1,000.00

Credit.

1880. May 11. By warrant on Treasurer.....\$ 1,000.00

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. STUBENRAUCH, Treasurer.

REPORT

OF THE

JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE

NINETEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

STATE OF IOWA,

APPOINTED TO VISIT THE

INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB,

LOCATED AT

COUNCIL BLUFFS.

HENRY W. ROTHERT, Lee County, on the part of the Senate,
E. M. REYNOLDS, Appanoose County,
H. M. McCULLY, Marion County, on the part of the House,
Joint Committee.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

DES MOINES:
F. M. MILLS, STATE PRINTER.
1882.

REPORT.

To the Nineteenth General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

PURSUANT to a concurrent resolution and the appointment made by the Honorable President of the Senate and the Honorable Speaker of the House in consequence thereof, the undersigned committee beg leave to make the following report with reference to the condition of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Said committee have endeavored to faithfully discharge the duties assigned to them, and while not clothed with powers of an investigating committee, nor desirous of having their actions so construed, have to the best of their ability made a thorough examination and a careful scrutiny of the Institution, with a view of ascertaining as to the efficiency of its management, the economy and utility of its expenditures, and the proper recognition of the purposes and aims for which the same was erected, and now is maintained by the State. We hope to be just in our criticisms and ready to give credit wherever such credit is due, remembering that while gratefully acknowledging personal favors, and willing to accord the highest encomium for integrity and sincerity of purpose, it is to be our duty, in the interest of the children there to be educated, to call attention to errors in judgment, and make such recommendations as to a betterment in the future as may be prompted by the representative position we for the time occupy.

In response to the resolution above referred to, and in answer to the interrogatory, "Whether the appropriations made by the last General Assembly have been wisely and economically expended," we would say that the appropriations are made for needful and pressing necessities, and as far as in the power of the committee to ascertain, have been properly expended. The committee are of the opinion, however, that no verbal contracts hereafter be made, and that all expenditures for erection of new buildings or extraordinary repairs, the cost of which

shall exceed one hundred dollars, be a matter of written agreement between the Board of Trustees and the contractor. Before amounts are paid, itemized statements should be filed in the office and properly audited by the Board.

Second. "Whether they have been expended for the objects appropriated." The committee are pleased to say there has been no diversion of the funds specifically appropriated, and the Board and Superintendent have carefully and zealously guarded the several appropriations so as to come within the limits prescribed, and expended for the objects named.

Third. "Whether chapter 67, of the acts of the Seventeenth General Assembly, has been complied with, in not contracting indebtedness in excess of appropriations." Your committee find that the management have conscientiously recognized the law in this regard, and from a personal knowledge of its members, and repeated interviews with reference to said law, have no fears that the same will be disobeyed. In this connection it may be proper to call attention to the small balance in hands of the Treasurer, barely sufficient to maintain the school to the end of the present quarter. Some provision must be made to sustain the school until the regular appropriations are available, otherwise the dismissal of the school for three months would be the necessary consequence, a dire calamity, indeed, to the two hundred and thirty-five pupils now attending said school. The reasons for such an unfortunate condition are to be found in the steadily advancing prices of supplies, a matter of considerable consequence when considering the large family to be supported and its increasing numbers. The Board have endeavored in some measure to avoid this impending fate, but with the growing demands of the institution, the certainly positive necessity of providing good and wholesome food, the exorbitant charges for everything furnished, these endeavors to institute a closer economy have been unsuccessful.

Fourth. "Whether there has been any diversion of any money from the specific purpose for which it was drawn from the State treasury." Your committee deem the answers given to the second and third questions sufficiently explicit, precluding any additions thereto in reply to the above.

OFFICERS AND EMPLOYES OF THE DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTION WITH SALARIES.

NAME.	KIND OF SERVICE.	REMARKS.
A. Rogers.....	Superintendent.....	Salary per annum, \$1,200, and board of family.
C. S. Zachary.....	Teacher.....	Salary for school year, 900; board and washing furnished.
Edwin Southwick.....	Teacher.....	Salary for school year, 850; sign teacher; \$10 per month.
F. C. Holloway.....	Teacher.....	Salary for school year, 600; board and washing furnished.
T. W. Booth.....	Teacher.....	Salary for school year, 600; board and washing furnished.
J. W. Blather.....	Teacher.....	Salary for school year, 600; master of printing office, \$300 for nine months.
C. Spruit.....	Teacher.....	Salary for school year, 500; board and washing furnished.
Jean Van Tassel.....	Teacher.....	Salary for school year, 300; board and washing furnished.
M. H. Pollock.....	Teacher.....	Salary for school year, 600; board and washing furnished.
H. E. White.....	Teacher.....	Salary for school year, 450; board and washing furnished.
Kate M. Farlow.....	Teacher.....	Salary for school year, 400; board and washing furnished.
Cona Van Dorin.....	Teacher.....	Salary for school year, 300; board and washing furnished.
Sargent Cowden.....	Teacher.....	Salary for school year, 250; board and washing furnished.
E. Willard.....	Assistant matron.....	Salary per annum, 600; board and washing furnished.
John Green, M. D.....	Physician.....	Salary per annum, 600; board and washing furnished.
M. J. Erwin.....	Nurse.....	144; resides in the city.
Jennie M. Wilkins.....	Seamstress.....	\$5.00 per week; board and washing furnished.
Kate Harrington.....	Pantry.....	6.00 per week; boards herself.
Annie Hocke.....	Dining-room.....	4.00 per week; board and washing furnished.
Lillie Weinstrand.....	Dining-room.....	3.00 per week; board and washing furnished.
Rachel Young.....	Dining-room.....	3.00 per week; board and washing furnished.
Martha Surber.....	Hall.....	2.50 per week; board and washing furnished.
Charles Christianson.....	Hall.....	2.50 per week; board and washing furnished.
Anna Wallin.....	Hall.....	2.50 per week; board and washing furnished.
Mary Kramer.....	Hall.....	2.00 per week; board and washing furnished.
Haggie Heide.....	Laundry.....	2.00 per week; board and washing furnished.
Mary O'Day.....	Laundry.....	4.00 per week; board and washing furnished.
Nettie Olsson.....	Laundry.....	4.00 per week; board and washing furnished.
Anna Nystram.....	Laundry.....	4.00 per week; board and washing furnished.
Mary O'Day.....	Laundry.....	4.00 per week; board and washing furnished.

OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES—CONTINUED.

NAME.	KIND OF SERVICE.	REMARKS.
Emily Falk.....	Ironing room.....	\$ 4.00 per week; board and washing furnished.
Peter West.....	Steward.....	40.00 per month; board and washing furnished.
W. W. Winter.....	Boys' supervisor.....	35.00 per month; board and washing furnished.
T. K. Winter.....	Night watch.....	33.33 per month; board and washing furnished.
Charles H. Woolsey.....	Cook.....	40.00 per month; board and washing furnished.
Mrs. C. H. Woolsey.....	Pastry cook.....	40.00 per month; board and washing furnished.
W. W. Whitemen.....	Second cook.....	35.00 per month; paid with Mr. Woolsey.
Edwin A. Akers.....	Enginer.....	50.00 per month; board and washing furnished.
Ira De Ruess.....	Fireman.....	25.00 per month; board and washing furnished.
H. H. Standish.....	Master of carpenters.....	18.00 per month; boards himself.
Geo. W. Ramsey.....	Master of shoemakers.....	45.00 per month; board and washing furnished.
Jacob Keis.....	Tenmaster.....	20.00 per month; board and washing furnished.
D. Rickabaugh.....	Cow boy.....	16.00 per month; board and washing furnished.
		15.00 per month; board and washing furnished.

Fifth. In obedience to the instructions contained in section 5 of resolutions, we append a list of persons employed, stating amount of salary, and naming cases where, in addition thereto, board, rooms, lights, etc., are furnished.

Sixth. The means of protection against fire within the building we deem adequate, and are inclined to the belief that the sad experience of the past prompt a more than ordinary precaution and careful attention for the present and future. We recommend, however, a certain training of pupils and teachers under a systematic organization, so that, in case of a sudden visitation of the destroying element, the wild confusion and ungovernable excitement incident to such catastrophies may not prevail, but under the direction of discipline and order each and every one may do his or her part as per previous training, to avert serious consequences and prevent the sad results so often incident to fires in schools or buildings containing a large number of inmates. The fire-escapes placed on one side of the building appear to be rather for ornament than service, and your committee question the probability of any child using the same in case of accident. The two ends of the building should be provided with large suitable stairs, so as to afford an easy egress from the halls below, and, if fire-escapes be constructed in the front of the east and west wing, we recommend same to be of a character more in harmony with the object for which same are erected than those now attached to said wings.

BOOKKEEPING AND CONDITION OF ACCOUNTS.

Your committee, after a somewhat careful examination of the manner of keeping accounts, are inclined to the opinion that in this direction a change is a positive necessity. The first and peremptory duty of those who are entrusted with the management of our State institutions, is to so arrange and keep a correct and complete system of accounts as to show in detail the receipts and disbursements of the moneys coming into its hands, in order that any one item can be readily referred to, any one account readily ascertained, and all transactions as a whole readily verified.

This direction to be a want of business and systematic management in this section which justly deserves criticism and calls for an immediate improvement.

The committee are willing to accord due credit to the correct and acceptable condition of the Treasurer's books, but find a want of sys-

tem and an absence of necessary proof and balancing in the books in office. Separate accounts of each class of receipts and expenditures should be kept and so arranged that the whole could be verified on demand. To this end the employment of a competent person in the office is necessary, and the committee unanimously concur in the opinion that such appointment would be a saving to the State. In other words, a system of double-entry book-keeping should be introduced under expert management without reasonable possibility of errors or omissions.

RECORD OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

This journal of the proceedings of the Board of Trustees, the only legal record of their action, we found written in a very unsatisfactory manner. The reading and approval of the same at subsequent meetings seems to have been ignored, and transactions had, the written history of which was indistinct and improper.

Responsibilities as to motions made, definite instructions as to duties, correctness as to accounts, details as to management, results as to votes taken, approval as to former proceedings, verifications as to actions had, do not enter into the record of the Board. We would suggest a more rigid application of the customs and rules of transcribing the minutes of such meetings.

SCHOOL ROOMS AND SCHOOL FURNITURE.

The want of the necessary apparatus and furniture so essential to the advancement and reasonable comfort of pupils, seems to the committee as an evil which should have been remedied years ago. The great State of Iowa can certainly afford to provide ample accommodations, and necessary conveniences, for those who by law have a right to claim an education at its hands. The smallest subdistrict school-room in a sparsely populated neighborhood is better furnished and equipped than this institution, under the roof of which all children of a certain class, from all parts of the State, are gathered together for the same purpose. We heartily recommend the appropriation for school desks and furniture.

LIBRARY.

If a collection of books and printed matter be a helpmate to mental advancement wherever such collection exists, among those who enjoy the free use of all the senses, how much more necessary is such collection to those who rely solely upon their reading for their education and their information as to the outside world? Deprived of the avenues of speech and hearing leading to a desired and necessary mental condition, which is a prerequisite of moral safety and human influences, the deaf mutes must, as a matter of necessity, rely solely upon the information and guidance secured from the perusal of appropriate and instructive reading matter, which should be within their reach at all times. The committee indorse the request made for an appropriation of five hundred dollars for the library, with the recommendation that the selection be made with reference to accommodating all grades within the school, and especially designed for the wants of the pupils.

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT AND PRINCIPAL OF SCHOOL.

No system of graded schools can be complete so as to insure to the advancing scholar the advantages thereof, unless some competent superintending authority is in charge.

While we are pleased to note the faithfulness of teachers and apparent interest in the work, our observations lead us to the positive conviction that some one thoroughly competent to teach and to superintend, should be placed at the head of the teaching force. His daily examinations and suggestions would be of benefit to both teacher and pupil, and a more competent and thorough system thereby inaugurated. The Board of Trustees can arrage by orders and directions so that no conflict of authority would occur between said principal and the Superintendent.

Ever bearing in mind that the educational department is the paramount and important trust, every effort should be made for its increasing benefits and blessings. To this end an academic department should be established so that these children might reap the same advantages in higher education that those do who attend the high schools of our State. Such an addition would be preparatory to its graduates entering the National Institution, the University as it were, of the deaf mutes of the land.

Children attending the common schools of the State are permitted

to enjoy the opportunities there offered for a period of ten to twenty years; why not then permit those who are by nature less favored to secure their education, which will be their main dependence in life under equally favorable circumstances?

In this connection your committee would call attention to the meager salaries paid those who have this important trust in charge. The trusty, honest workman is worthy of his hire, and the competent and faithful teacher should receive an equal reasonable pecuniary reward. When compared with the salaries paid at several institutions in this State, these teachers, who must, by hard work prepare themselves, and by honest and arduous toil devote themselves to this peculiar calling, are receiving no reasonable or fair compensation.

The best talent should be secured and properly paid, and the incompetent applicants who are willing to serve without giving or being able to give adequate return should be ignored.

ARTICULATION.

Your committee, from their limited knowledge of the subject, do not consider themselves competent judges, but desire to say their observations prompt them to a hearty indorsement of the action of the Board in securing a teacher in this especial branch of the education of deaf mutes.

Experiences of the past, notwithstanding positive assertion to the contrary, prove that this class of pupils can be taught articulation and lip reading so as to be able to converse with the outside world.

An opportunity should be afforded all who may desire to secure an advancement in this direction, and in the Iowa Institution for the Deaf and Dumb such an opportunity is afforded. We recommend this branch to the care and encouragement of the Board.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

Perhaps with no class is the necessity of a practical education as apparent as with those who are by misfortune debarred from pursuing so many avocations in life.

The wisdom and generosity of the preceding General Assemblies in making appropriations for the industrial schools are heartily applauded by those who have occasion to recognize their promising benefits to those who may enjoy the same. Your committee regret to say that the opportunities for securing the means of gaining a live-

lihood are not offered to as many as circumstances seem to warrant. The printing office your committee found in excellent condition, but the few there employed called forth the hope that in future a greater number might be permitted to avail themselves of its promising advantages. To this end your committee would recommend an appropriation necessary for the purpose. The plan that at some future day a part at least of the State printing could be economically done by these charges of the State, your committee deem a feasible one. The monthly paper, *Deaf-Mute Hawk-Eye*, is a model of neatness and a welcome visitor to every fireside where anxious hearts beat for the welfare of some loved child educated in part by its influence.

The carpenter shop, shoe shop and broom shop were visited and inspected by your committee. In the one we found no appearances of thrift or energy, while in the other the want of proper tools impressed the committee very unfavorably. We would recommend the management to secure as teachers in these branches those who are thoroughly conversant with the sign language, and to furnish all necessary tools and implements necessary to the several trades. This would not compel any extraordinary outlay of money. As a whole, we recommend the industrial schools to a closer supervision and a more interested and helpful assistance.

DRAWING TEACHER.

Children who must of necessity secure their education by sight, and to whom the eye is the only avenue of information as to the surrounding world, should have the benefit of that training which will eventually afford them the acquirement of transmitting on paper their thoughts, yea, their language, in an intelligible form. No class is so absolutely in want of a knowledge of lines and curves, of forms and figures, as the deaf mutes. We most earnestly recommend the employment of a competent teacher in drawing, which we deem as essential to the advancement of these inmates as the sign language itself.

TABLE AND TABLE SUPPLIES, BEDROOMS, ETC.

We believe, under the excellent management of the Matron and her assistant, the requirements of the children as to wholesome food and proper sleeping comforts are not neglected. There is a want of convenient receptacles for children's clothing, and the appropriation for furniture should include wardrobes in each sleeping apartment.

The arrangements as to the children's meals, study hours and sleeping time made by the Superintendent we heartily approve, and recognize a careful and kindly guardianship for the protection and physical and moral safety of the pupils.

The absence, however, of a Matron for the smaller boys, who need a mother's care, and should have a mother's love, seems to your committee as much to be regretted, in view of the fact that so many of this class are not in condition to be self-depending. We recommend with positive convictions that this betterment be made at an early date.

The manner of purchasing supplies appears to your committee as one offering an opportunity for overcharges and deficiencies. A better check on charges for and quantities of goods delivered, should be adopted, and all supplies, as far as practicable, should be bought in competition, under sealed bids, on estimates made per quarter or semi-annually.

HEALTH AND HOSPITAL.

We are pleased to note the general good condition of the school for the last two years in regard to the health of its inmates, and are willing to ascribe this desired result to proper and careful supervision. The records of the hospital show only eight cases of sickness, and these of a trivial character. The hospital we found a convenient, neatly arranged room, suitable for ordinary requirements.

In this connection we suggest, as not only conducive to health, but as a matter of physical development, the introduction of gymnastics and calisthenics.

FENCE AND CONDITION OF GROUNDS.

The appropriation asked by the Board of Trustees would seem to your committee as too large, were it not that part of the same is to be devoted towards securing better and more pleasing and necessary surroundings. There is no question that the children's play grounds and the immediate neighborhood of the buildings need attention, and certain improvements are absolutely necessary. Also, that certain divisions of the fence should be replaced. Much in this direction can be done by the inmates themselves, and the physical exercise incident to outdoor work can be but healthful and beneficial.

REPAIRS.

The present condition of the west wing appears to your committee as positively dangerous, and demands at the hands of the General Assembly prompt action in making the necessary appropriation to remedy the same. The walls necessarily should be anchored, and such betterments made as will be lasting and of substantial benefit. The dilapidated appearance of halls and rooms in this part of the building should be removed by the necessary plastering and replacing of wood-work, and the instituting of other repairs. The work-shops also need the attention of the mechanic, and the judgment of your committee is that the amount asked for is reasonable and necessary.

SHUTTERS AND WINDOWS.

For the better protection of building and furniture, as well as for the health and comfort of the inmates, the windows should be provided with shutters. There seems to be a positive necessity for this improvement, and your committee beg leave to recommend that provision be made therefor.

LAUNDRY.

The expediency of changing the site of the laundry and removing same where expense of fuel would be less and the demands for this necessary attachment be better recognized was carefully considered and fully investigated by your committee. The foundation being already built, a suitable building with a comparative small outlay could be erected, and thus remove the laundry from the place where now it requires extra boiler and attendants, and consequent increased cost. This removal would also add to desirable additional room in the work-shops, and the consequent purchase of new machinery do away with the old slow process as now in use of wash-board and tub. An institution under the roof of which near three hundred inmates demand as for rules of health and cleanliness constant attention, the absolute necessity of a change in this direction becomes at once apparent.

WATER SUPPLY.

There seems to be no question as to the absolute necessity in the early future of providing some means to avert the impending danger threatening the institution in a supply of impure water or a sudden total want of present supply by the breakage of reservoir or pipes. The plan recommended by the Board of Trustees seeking safety in boring artesian wells your committee deem as a doubtful experiment, necessitating a large outlay of money without the promise of positive reward.

While your committee recommend an appropriation for the purpose of securing a better and safer water supply, they would also recommend that any plan adopted by the Board of Trustees should first receive the sanction and approval of the Executive Council, or a competent civil engineer appointed by said Council, before any expenditure in obedience to such plan be made.

REMOVAL.

During the visit of your committee, a number of petitions were presented by the pupils, praying for a removal to Des Moines, claiming and suggesting that by such change better facilities would be open for the growth and beneficial results of the institution. These petitions have been supplemented by communications received from parents, citizens of the State, giving numerous arguments why this change should be made and offering suggestions as to the future occupancy of buildings and grounds.

Opinions as to the desirability of such removal, both from local promptings and from interest in the success of the school, have also in the same measure been offered in opposition thereto.

The committee deemed the time too short to at this session secure the necessary information which influence a positive recommendation in this regard. The importance, however, of the suggestions will demand at no distant day a close examination and thorough investigation.

CONCLUSION.

The committee have thus briefly reviewed the important matters to which their attention has been called by personal observation, and submit the following summary of

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Better system of book-keeping.
2. Better management of industrial schools.
3. Appointment of principal of school.
4. Appointment of drawing teacher.
5. Appointment of book-keeper.
6. Appointment of matron for small boys.
7. Increase of teachers' salaries.
8. Addition of academic department.
9. Training of teachers and scholars with reference to cases of fire.
10. Instruction of gymnastics and calisthenics.
11. Better record of Board of Trustees.
12. Appropriation for library.
13. Appropriation for school desks and furniture.
14. Appropriation for fence and grounds.
15. Appropriation for laundry.
16. Appropriation for repairs.
17. Appropriation for water supply.
18. Appropriation for stairs and fire-escapes.
19. Appropriation for shutters.
20. Increase of quarterly allowance.
21. Purchase of supplies by contract awarded to lowest responsible bidder on estimates made, and a more careful and closer inspection of delivery of such supplies.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY W. ROTHERT (Lee county),
On the part of the Senate.
 E. M. REYNOLDS (Appanoose county),
 H. M. McCULLY (Marion county),
On the part of the House.