

WATER FUND.

DATE.	Voucher.	WATER FUND.	AMOUNT.
1880.		RECEIPTS.	
Nov. 18		From B. J. Miles, Superintendent.....	\$ 200.00
		EXPENDITURES.	
August 6	1	O. S. Simons, work.....	16.10
August 27	2	N. Jackson, work.....	6.56
August 27	3	B. O. East, digging well.....	19.00
August 27	4	L. A. McCall, laying pipe.....	2.00
August 27	5	B. O. East, cleaning well.....	1.50
August 30	6	L. R. Tyler, brick.....	23.45
Sept. 24	7	L. R. Tyler, brick.....	38.50
Sept. 24	8	Kimball & Mitchell, lime.....	4.60
Sept. 24	9	C. S. Carter, freightage.....	3.75
Sept. 24	10	S. B. Tuttle, cistern pipe.....	38.75
Sept. 24	11	Pay-roll, labor.....	27.49
Dec. 3	12	Geo. Clark, spouting.....	3.50
Dec. 3	13	I. M. Craig, work on cistern.....	14.80
		Total.....	\$ 200.00

The vouchers for the expenditures of the water, improvement, and removal funds above, are on file in the office of the Assistant Superintendent.

REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE
NINETEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE
STATE OF IOWA,

APPOINTED TO VISIT THE

REFORM SCHOOL FOR BOYS

LOCATED AT

ELDORA.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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

REPORT.

To the Members of the Nineteenth General Assembly, State of Iowa:

YOUR committee would announce that they have visited the Reform School for Boys at Eldora, carefully bearing in mind the instructions embodied in the concurrent resolution, and would respectfully report :

First. We find the discipline in the school most admirable, and after careful inquiry, are led to believe that said discipline has been attained by no undue severity; also, that the studies are well maintained in the school; all of which reflect much credit on the worthy Superintendent, his wife, the Matron, for her kind and tender ministrations among the boys, and the excellent corps of teachers, who seem to be thoroughly up to their work. The management of the school is to be further commended in the fact that although the grounds have no stockade, and much liberty is accorded to the boys, there have been so few escapes the past two years.

Second. Your committee would further report that the health of the boys the past two years has been remarkably good, and, as a rule, their habits of cleanliness have been well looked after.

Third. For the benefit and comfort of the pupils, who are the wards of the State, we make the following suggestions:

(a.) We deem it discreditable, that notwithstanding the number of years the State has owned the farm whereon the school stands, that it is yet a dreary, desolate, storm-swept plain, with hardly a bush or shrub to break the severity of the north and west winds; and we, therefore, recommend the immediate planting and careful tending of a grove of timber of at least twenty-five acres to shelter the site of the school building and farmstead thereof, such grove to consist of such fast-growing trees and evergreens which shall soonest and best make a shelter from the storms.

(b.) From our observations made at the school, we think that while the quantity of food furnished the boys is sufficient, and the quality generally good, there should be a greater variety, and we therefore recommend a more liberal dietary scale; we urge that the forty

cows kept upon the farm be made to furnish the boys with butter on their bread at least once a day, and that the boys have skimmed-milk as a beverage morning and evening in summer, and in the evening in the winter. We would also suggest that poultry enough should be kept on the farm to furnish the boys with eggs in season, and tender meat for the weakly and sick.

(c.) We recommend that the boys' basement lavatories be repaired and refitted, and that the evident efforts to promote cleanly habits among the boys by the family managers be continued and encouraged; also, that the coal ashes and other refuse be promptly removed from the neighborhood of the buildings, or used for the purpose of making walks.

(d.) We do not think the clothing allowed the boys is sufficient for the rigors of our northern winter, and we recommend that each boy be provided with a warm vest.

(e.) We cannot but think that if the farm of over seven hundred acres were more highly cultivated, it might be the means, with the help of so many strong, hearty boys, of advancing a long step on the way to self-support. To this end we recommend that instead of draining the sink-holes, the manure be all got out on the land, and the fences put in proper repair, and for this latter purpose we advise an appropriation of five hundred (\$500) dollars.

(f.) We recommend that means be at once taken to grade, smooth, seed down and otherwise improve and beautify the campus of the school.

(g.) We recommend that the sum of two hundred and fifty (\$250) dollars be appropriated for the purpose of sustaining Divine service on Sabbath afternoons in the chapel attached to the school; also, that the library fund on hand be immediately expended for good, sound, wholesome books, and that a further sum of one hundred (\$100) dollars be appropriated to procure standard periodicals for the boys' reading-room during the coming two years.

In regard to the enquiries embodied in the concurrent resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Nineteenth General Assembly, we would reply:

1. We believe that the appropriations have been wisely and economically expended.
2. That they have been expended for the objects for which they were appropriated, except an unexpended balance on library fund.
3. That chapter 67, of the acts of the Code of the Seventeenth

General Assembly have been complied with, excepting one hundred and twenty-six and twenty one-hundredths (\$126.20) dollars overspent on building fund, and thirty and fifty-six one-hundredths (\$30.56) dollars overspent on the repair fund.

4. There has been no diversion of any money from its specific purpose.

5. The names of the employes of the school are as follows, with salaries attached:

	Per annum.
B. J. Miles and wife, Superintendent and Matron.....	\$1,200.00
S. M. Crouse, Assistant Superintendent.....	620.00
W. F. Hewitt, teacher and manager of family No. 1.....	400.00
C. F. Shepherd, gardener and manager of family No. 2.....	860.00
J. W. Stephens, teacher and manager of family No. 3.....	480.00
William E. Whitney, farmer.....	300.00
John Willis, engineer.....	288.00
E. B. Eckhard, care of stock and manager of family No. 4.....	300.00
D. J. Dickenson, shoemaker and family manager.....	300.00
H. B. Shilling, baker.....	240.00
T. E. Evans, night-watchman.....	240.00
Miss E. A. Woods, teacher.....	300.00
Miss Ollie Mace, general house work.....	216.00
Mrs. D. M. Crouse, dormitory work.....	180.00
Miss Laura Brown, kitchen.....	180.00
Miss Ella Brink, kitchen.....	180.00
Miss Sadie Wright, laundress.....	180.00
Miss Lillie Williams, dining hall.....	144.00
Miss Cora Cook, dining hall.....	144.00
Mrs. William E. Whitney, tailoress.....	180.00
Mrs. W. F. Hewitt, dining hall work.....	180.00
Total salaries paid.....	\$6,612.00

All receive in addition, board, washing, lights, fuel and rooms.

6. We find as protection against fire four Babcock Fire Extinguishers and an abundant water supply, with plenty of hose convenient; but the means of escape in case of fire need, in the opinion of your committee, to be supplemented by outside iron ladders, firmly fixed to the wall, leading from the dormitories and upper hall-ways to the ground.

We would further recommend that three hundred and fifty (\$350) dollars be appropriated for the purchase of iron bedsteads for the dormitories, many of those at present in use being badly broken, and a disgrace to the State. Also, that the hospital room be finished, and

that the library room be furnished with the sound, moral, periodical literature of the day, and that the boys have ready access thereto when not otherwise engaged.

We find that a destructive cyclone struck the southwest angle of the new building on the evening of September 29, 1881, doing much damage, which has been partially repaired. This disaster, combined with the long continued bad weather of the past fall, retarded out-door work, and prevented your committee seeing the establishment under the most favorable circumstances; we found, however, that the work of repairing the family buildings has progressed favorably, and that most of the school-rooms are in as good shape as many of our village school-houses.

We recommend that the appropriations asked for by the Trustees and Superintendent be granted, with the exception of the five hundred (\$500) dollars proposed to be expended in tile draining.

In conclusion, we would say we have examined the accounts and vouchers of the amounts appropriated and spent, and find them correct, but we regret to find that there has been no sufficient account kept of profit and loss arising from farm operations, so that there is no definite means of arriving at a knowledge of how far the products of the seven hundred acres of fine land attached to the school are profitable or otherwise. We also advise that the Superintendent should take invoice of all stock, tools, hay, grain, or other farm produce of the establishment at least every six months. We further think that money might be saved to the Reform School, as well as to other State institutions, by public advertising for supplies and letting the contract to the lowest responsible bidder.

That there have been grave mistakes in the past in the construction of buildings and management of the institution is self-evident, but we have reason to hope that under the continued energy and economy of the present management, that the fine property owned by the State near Eldora may soon become an institution of which we may all feel justly proud, and that it may be no longer known as the "Reform School," but the "Boys' Industrial School" of the State of Iowa.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. A. MARSHALL,
Senate Committee.

DALLAS D. RORICK,
C. L. DAVIDSON,
House Committee.