

REPORT

OF THE

JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE

TWENTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

STATE OF IOWA,

APPOINTED TO VISIT THE

INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

LOCATED AT

VINTON.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

DES MOINES:

GEO. E. ROBERTS, STATE PRINTER.

1886.

REPORT.

To the General Assembly of Iowa:

Your committee heretofore appointed to visit the College for the Blind at Vinton, Iowa, beg leave to report as follows:

We began our work on Monday, January 25, 1886. We carefully examined the buildings and grounds of said Institution; went through the different departments, and saw the work that was being done, examined the books and accounts of the Steward of the Institution and vouchers for money expended, and we found: That the buildings and grounds are kept in the best of order, and that cleanliness and thrift exist everywhere. The buildings need some repairs, which is more fully set forth in Mr. Finkbine's report, a copy of which is hereto attached. We found the school under the best discipline and all teachers were doing their work with full satisfaction; and the Principal is especially to be commended for the perfect discipline and thorough organization of the school. We found the accounts correct and the books in first class shape, and the published report is a faithful resume of the Institution. On the special subjects which the General Assembly required us to examine into, we found: *First*, that the appropriations made by the Twentieth General Assembly for various purposes, as far as used, were wisely and economically expended; and were used for the objects for which they were appropriated. The \$1,200 appropriated by the Twentieth General Assembly for the purpose of repairing the roof, was not drawn or expended, being deemed entirely inadequate for the purpose for which it was appropriated. The sum of \$3,000, appropriated for musical instruments, was all used for that purpose except \$20. Of \$2,000 appropriated for furniture, etc., \$1,036.65 remains. Of the \$500 appropriated for school supplies, there remains \$200 unexpended. Of the \$1,500 appropriated for special oculist for the Institution, \$1,000 remain, \$500 having been used for that purpose. The trustees had overdrawn

the contingent fund appropriated, viz.: \$2,000, supplying the deficiency of \$200 from the general support fund. Otherwise, all moneys have been used for the purpose for which it was appropriated by the General Assembly.

Second. The acts of the Seventeenth General Assembly have been fully complied with; no debt having been contracted by the board of trustees.

Third. We herewith append a list of the employes of the Institution and their salaries, and no one is given anything at the expense of the State except as set out in the list attached to this report and made a part thereof.

Fourth. The building is in as good condition in regard to protection from fire as it can well be, and needs no recommendations as to this. No special means of escape in case of fire are provided; but a watchman is employed, whose duty it is to inspect every portion of the building each hour of the night. If there are any known means of escape in cases of fire which could be used by these unfortunate people, we would recommend that such be supplied.

Fifth. The sanitary conditions could not be improved upon.

We call your attention particularly to Mr. Finkbine's report as to the necessary repairs for the preservation of the building. We found that the roof was in bad condition, and in many places melting snow and rain had leaked through and was damaging the plastering of the building. To preserve the building from serious damage, we think the roof should be taken off and the building be re-covered.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SCOTT,

On part of the Senate.

J. R. BRADLEY,

J. E. CRAIG,

On part of the House.

LIST OF EMPLOYES AND SALARIES PAID.

NAME.	OCCUPATION.	SALARY.	REMARKS.
Thomas F. McCune.	Principal.	\$1,200.00 per year.	Lives in building.
James A. Brown.	Secretary and steward.	1,200.00 per year.	Boards outside.
Lucy James.	Matron.	545.00 per year.	Lives in building.
S. C. Waychoff.	Principal assistant.	45.00 per month.	Lives in building.
Hortense McCrory.	Teacher.	35.00 per month.	Lives in building.
George W. Tannehill.	Teacher blind.	70.00 per month.	Lives outside.
Lorrana Mattice.	Teacher blind.	30.00 per month.	Lives in building.
Annie Sidwell.	Teacher.	30.00 per month.	Lives in building.
Minta Keith.	Teacher.	35.00 per month.	Lives in building.
John M. Bigger.	Musical director blind.	1,200.00 per year.	Lives outside.
Kate Cesna.	Teacher in music blind.	25.00 per month.	Lives in building.
Nannie Duncan.	Teacher in music blind.	75.00 per month.	Lives in building.
John Cesna.	Teacher in broom shop.	350.00 per year.	Lives in building.
A. C. Fernby.	Teacher in general work.	200.00 per year.	Lives in building.
Amy Hewitt.	Teacher in sewing.	20.00 per month.	Lives in building.
C. C. Griffin.	Physician.	400.00 per year.	Lives outside.
F. S. Binder.	Engineer.	70.00 per month.	Meals in building, sleeps outside.
John Horn.	Fireman.	25.00 per month.	And board.
John Sawyer.	Assistant Steward.	45.00 per month.	Lives outside.
Robert Squires.	Porter.	25.00 per month.	And board.
L. Bixby.	Night watchman.	40.00 per month.	Lives outside.
Lizzie Linderman.	Nurse.	20.00 per month.	And board.
Mary O'Connell.	Nurse.	17.00 per month.	And board.
Marion Kerr.	Cook.	20.00 per month.	And board.
Tilly Rumelsburg.	Pastry Cook.	18.00 per month.	And board.
Mary L. Allen.	Assistant cook.	12.00 per month.	And board.
Ellen Brink.	Laundry work.	18.00 per month.	And board.
Lizzie Blough.	Laundry work.	15.00 per month.	And board.
Lizzie Smith.	Laundry work.	15.00 per month.	And board.
Minnie Ashbrook.	Dining room work.	12.00 per month.	And board.
Julia Brockman.	Dining room work.	12.00 per month.	And board.
Emma Hunt.	Dining room work.	12.00 per month.	And board.
Agnes Lawson.	Chamber work.	12.00 per month.	And board.
Jenny Berry.	Chamber work.	12.00 per month.	And board.
Ida Speaks.	Chamber work.	12.00 per month.	And board.
Eva Moody.	General work.	12.00 per month.	And board.
Joseph Hartley.	Kitchen work.	5.00 per month.	And clothes; lives in building.

REPORT OF R. S. FINKBINE.

To the Trustees Iowa College for the Blind, Vinton:

GENTLEMEN—In compliance with your request, I have made an examination of the College building, and find the roof in bad condition, the slates are broken in many places, the gutters and valleys (which are tin) have been cut in some places by broken slates, and in the long gutters constantly leak from the expansion of the metal pulling the joints apart. The slates are too large to use on a building so high and exposed. To make the roof good, the best economy would be to take the slate all off and use what are good in covering your shops, barns and other low buildings, as they may need roofing, and put a new slate roof on using slate not larger than 9x16. Replace all valleys and gutters with one and a half pound copper, put up new conductors five inches in diameter. Replace the wood cornice on the main building and south wing (which is rotting in places) with one of galvanized iron to match that on the north wing. All the wood work of the exterior should be painted and sanded. Some repairs are needed to the wood work of the porches and cupolas.

The area around the building should be covered with Portland cement to prevent water getting below the foundations. The wood foundation to front portico and the front steps need replacing with stone. A few broken stone caps should be replaced. The stairs in the main building are worn out or worn through in many places, they should be replaced with iron ones. Many of the floors are worn nearly through and should be replaced. Some repairs are needed on the plastering and the entire wood work should be painted.

In my judgment all that I have enumerated should be done to place the building in good repair and most of it is necessary to prevent greater delapidation.

I estimate the cost of the repairs to be \$18,150.55. A detailed estimate is herewith submitted.

ESTIMATE OF REPAIRS TO COLLEGE FOR THE BLIND, VINTON.

EXTERIOR WORK.

To removing slate, 242 squares at \$1.25	\$ 302.50	
To 242 squares of slate at \$12.00	2,904.00	
		\$ 3,206.50

GALVANIZED IRON WORK.

662 lineal feet of cornice at \$4.25	\$ 2,813.50	
555 lineal feet of hip and ridge at 40 cents	222.00	
590 lineal feet of conductor at 40 cents	236.00	
632 square feet of cornice covering at 15 cents	94.80	
		\$ 3,366.30

COPPER WORK.

Gutters and valleys, 9,040 pounds at 35 cents	\$ 3,164.00	
Lead flashing, 1,400 pounds at 7 cents	98.00	
Wood work, repairs to porches and cupolas	226.00	
Painting outside, 3,000 yards at 30 cents	\$ 900.00	
Painting outside, 1,685 yards at 25 cents	421.25	
		\$ 1,321.25

REPAIRS TO STONE WORK.

13 plain caps, \$10 each, \$130.00; 5 moulded at \$40 each, \$200.00 ..	\$ 330.00	
New front steps, buttress and platform, including brick work ..	852.00	
Portland cement work, 4,450 feet at 15 cents	667.50	
		\$ 13,231.55

INTERIOR WORK—IRON STAIRS.

28,140 pounds at 10 cents	\$ 2,814.00	
260 feet of wood rail at \$1.00	260.00	
		\$ 3,074.00
3,000 yards inside painting at 25 cents	750.00	
110 squares new floor, including taking out old floors and leveling joists	770.00	
Repairs to inside wood work and hardware	200.00	
Repairs to plastering	125.00	
Total inside	\$ 4,919.00	
Total outside	13,231.55	
		\$ 18,150.55

R. S. FINKBINE.