



STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

OF THE

STATE UNIVERSITY

OF IOWA,

MADE

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SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT.

Memorial from the Regents of the State University to the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

With faith founded upon the history of the State University of Iowa and with hope begotten of experience, we present ourselves before the Legislature at the close of our first quarter century's work, asking not for means wherewith to continue an experiment, but for a foundation to be laid deep and strong upon which shall stand for all time an institution in which the citizens of Iowa may take a just pride.

Blest as Iowa is in an intelligent citizenship, in unlimited resources of soil, mine and water-courses, in unsurpassed facilities for rapid transportation, in flocks and herds of superior quality, and in a widely diversified manufacturing industry; substantially free as she is from a State debt, and with a very low rate of municipal indebtedness, the outlook for leisure on the part of her thrifty citizens is certainly encouraging.

The active intelligence of the citizens thus blessed and freed will not permit an indolent leisure. The younger will seek instruction and the elder will strive for the promotion of knowledge; two ends for which a great institution of learning should exist.

Hitherto we have emphasized the first of these ends, and the privileges of the University have been extended to those seeking preparation for life's work. Our libraries and our laboratories have been elementary. Our professors have been confined to class-room work. They have not had leisure for such study as would, through their publications, enrich the State in all that pertains to its highest advancement. Time has been lacking for such investigations and analyses as the State has a right to expect from experts in the various departments of knowledge.

Students who have graduated from the colleges of the State, as well as our own graduates, have been compelled to go out of the State for special study in the line which has proven attractive in their elemental work. Men in active life, who had desired re-enforcement of their knowledge or help in perplexities, have failed to find in the State such sources of information, such opportunities for investigation as they need. Great expense has attended the analysis of soils, waters, minerals, etc., where the citizen should have found within his own State free information.

We wish to emphasize the second great end of the University, that of *promotion of knowledge*. We wish to encourage the colleges of the State by affording to their graduates opportunities for special study.

To this end we must have means sufficient to fill up our libraries, to equip our laboratories, and to furnish such time to our professors as will enable them to give attention to such calls upon them as may be made for longer or shorter time by the citizens of the State who are in active life and who need often counsel and guidance.

We cannot afford longer to devote our time so exclusively to the preparation of the young. The University should become a fountain of knowledge from which men may draw freely, not for two, three or four years, but for fifty years if so their need requires.

We cannot afford longer to hold any department at arm's length, compelling their professors to work at their own charges.

We can not afford longer to keep our rate of salaries so far below the rate in every other similar institution of the west.

We deem it a laudable ambition on our part that we desire to make the State University of Iowa the peer of any State institution in the land. We desire to elevate the standard of instruction steadily as we have done in the past by lengthening courses of study in some departments, so that we may suitably prepare our young men and women for their work.

We ask, therefore, for such an endowment as shall grow with our growth, starting with enough for present necessities and that we may be saved the necessity of again appearing before you in behalf of means for current expenses.

It may not be amiss to give in this connection a little in detail our history as to funds, students, etc.

UNIVERSITY LANDS.

The general government donated to the State of Iowa two townships of land, 46,080 acres, more or less.

Up to the year 1859 there had been sold of this land 31,400 acres at an average of \$3.52 per acre.

Since 1859 sales have been made at different times, so that there remains only 2,059.7 acres unsold.

These lands were originally appraised at \$5 per acre, and afterward at \$10 per acre. Had they remained unsold until the price of \$10 per acre had been reached, our income would have been more than twice what it is to-day from this source.

SALINE LANDS.

By some it has been supposed that the entire Saline Land Grant came to the support of the University. There were originally 46,100 acres of Saline lands. Of these the University received less than 4,600 acres, together with some Saline land contracts, which proved of very little value.

The State sold at a very low rate all the rest of the Saline lands, putting the avails into the treasury. At one time she gave to the University out of this fund \$10,000 to aid in building.

Our entire lands were:

	ACRES.
Congressional grant	46,080
Saline lands	4,600
Donation	500

Of this amount there remains unsold only 5,726.8 acres.

Our income fund from this source is only \$261,266.64.

But for the hurried sales it should have been not less than \$500,000, and had we received the entire Saline Land Congressional Grant, it would have been not less than \$1,000,000.

Is it asking too much at the hands of the Legislature to ask that the losses sustained in hurried sales and in diverted lands be made good, either by an increased productive fund or by a permanent endowment which shall annually bring our income up to what it would have been but for such sales and diversion?

The State has received the only benefit derived from these early sales of her University lands in increased valuation arising from settlement and cultivation. Her taxable property has been increased largely.

We only ask that the State shall now make over to the University the benefit she has derived in the past twenty-five years from the University and Saline lands.

EXPENDITURES.

The entire expenditures for University purposes from 1847 to 1885, a period of thirty-nine years, have been as follows:

For buildings	\$ 136,000.00
For all other items	981,198.56
Total	\$1,120,198.56

NOTE.—For two years, 1869 and 1872, the exact figures cannot be found, and they are put in at an average between the years immediately preceding and succeeding each.

To this total should be added \$19,000 of appropriations for the new Science hall, and the total will be \$1,139,198.56.

This may appear to be a large sum, but it covers a period of thirty-nine years, and the average per annum is \$29,216.22.

The first fourteen years were of comparatively light expenditure.

If we take the twenty-five years since the real organization of the University, we shall find the average annual expenditures for all purposes to be \$44,166.10; deducting from this the cost of buildings, the average expenditure for salaries, incidentals, apparatus, libraries, furniture, fuel, repairs and services of janitors and workmen, etc., is \$38,726.10.

STUDENTS.

In estimating the expenditures at their real worth, we must first consider the numbers reached by the expenditures made and the permanent appliances remaining for the use of students yet to come.

The average enrollment during the twenty-five years under review has been 522; more than forty per cent of which was in preparatory work, which for six years has been abandoned. The average cost to the State has been for each pupil instructed each year, \$84.60; or, if instead of the entire value of the buildings, we put into the total expenditures for each year, only ten per cent upon this value, we find the cost to be but \$75.22 per pupil.

The following table of statistics is in point here by way of comparison for 1885:

STATES.	Students.	Current expenses.	Cost per pupil.
Michigan	1,295	\$ 217,913.83	\$ 168.85
California	517	91,557.15	177.09
Nebraska	101	47,000.00	465.34
Iowa	479	50,439.71	106.34

Deducting amount paid by students, we find cost per pupil to the State as follows:

Michigan	\$ 110.41
California	176.15
Nebraska (tuitions not reported).	
Iowa	82.23

Out of 365 universities and colleges reported, 1882, the latest combined report at hand, number of students:

Harvard (collegiate students)	986
Yale	602
Baltimore City	513
University of Michigan	513
College of New Jersey	461
Oberlin	430
Cornell University	384
New York College	349
Amherst	339
Wisconsin	314
Ohio Wesleyan	286
Iowa	272

Iowa standing twelfth.

Introducing another table of comparisons, showing the number of collegiate students, the annual income and the proportion of the annual income to each collegiate student; we find for the first twelve in the list as reported:

INSTITUTIONS.	Students.	Income.	Per pupil.
Harvard	986	\$ 214,656	\$ 249+
Yale	602	64,211	106+
Baltimore City	543	Not reported.	
Michigan University	513	38,000	74+
College of New Jersey	461	72,800	158+
Oberlin	430	17,655	41+
Cornell University	384	66,701	171+
New York College	349	140,000	401+
Amherst	339	25,000	73+
Wisconsin University	314	28,603	91+
Ohio Wesleyan	286	21,000	73+
Iowa	272	16,488	60+

It is but slight cause for congratulation that Iowa stands lowest of all universities in cost to the State per pupil, when we know that it is at the expense of salaried officers and of needed apparatus and libraries.

Our instructors, the peers of any found in other institutions, receive ten per cent less salaries than those paid in any other. If we may be judged by number and character of our graduates, we have much to be proud of.

Our graduates number	2,327
Still surviving	2,225
Occupation unknown	185
Married women	152— 337
Leaving of known employment	1,888

Of this number—

Teachers, (50 prominent as superintendents, professors, etc.) ..	138
Lawyers (13 upon the bench)	882
Doctors (9 holding important positions as professors, etc.)	406
Clergymen	43
Journalists	25
Civil engineers	10
United States and State officers	9
Stenographers	9
Railway service	5
Business	362

1,888

In studying this list it must be remembered that the large majority are yet young men and women, with future honors awaiting proper age and experience. They are known to be young men and women of influence in their respective communities.

They are scattered widely—

Nebraska	138
Kansas	85
Minnesota	71
Colorado	35
Dakota	86
Illinois	93
Missouri	37
California	22
Ohio	20
Texas	18
Indiana	14
Pennsylvania	14
New York	15
Wisconsin	12
Montana	11
Wyoming	9
Washington Territory	9
Connecticut	8
Michigan	6
Arkansas	6
Oregon	5
New Mexico	5
District of Columbia	4
Georgia	3

Arizona.....	2
Massachusetts.....	2
Indian Territory.....	2
New Jersey, Louisiana, Maryland, North Carolina, West Virginia, Kentucky, Prussia, Canada, Maine, Virginia, New Hampshire, Idaho and Tennessee, each.....	1

Few institutions graduate so large a proportion of their collegiate students, showing an earnest spirit in our students.

In 1882, Michigan graduated 79, with an enrollment of 513, or a little more than thirteen per cent; Iowa graduated, out of an enrollment of 272, 41, or nearly fifteen per cent; Harvard, 183 out of 986, or more than eighteen per cent; Yale, 124 out of 602, or a little more than twenty per cent. (The per cent of graduates in Iowa University for the year 1885-6 will be very nearly twenty-five, but this is exceptional, and as large as possible to make it in a four year's course.)

The character of our collegiate students for the term just closed is attested by the occupations which have been followed by the parents:

1. Orphans, sons and daughters of widows, furnish15
2. Farmers and stock-raisers.....	.38
3. Merchants.....	.13
4. Lawyers.....	.07
5. Teachers.....	.05
6. Physicians and druggists.....	.05
7. Mechanics.....	.04
8. Bankers, agents and commercial men.....	.08
9. Clergymen.....	.02
10. Miscellaneous occupations.....	.03
	100

A very large proportion comes, as will be seen, from the country homes, where thrift and intelligence go hand in hand.

It is sometimes asserted that the influence of the State University is local; that a large percentage of its students is drawn from the immediate vicinity of the school.

Our last catalogue contains 479 names. Of this number, sixty-four only register from this county, and of these twenty-eight have removed to Iowa City only because of attendance, their friends accompanying them for the purpose of making a temporary home. This

leaves only thirty-six to represent Johnson county, and eighteen to represent Polk county. Of the ninety-nine counties of the State, there were more than ninety represented in the year 1885.

Our patronage is also drawn from other States, as follows: Illinois, 20; Nebraska, 13; Minnesota, 9; Kansas, 7; Wisconsin, 5; Missouri, 4; Ohio and Montana, 3 each; Dakota and Colorado, 2 each; Connecticut, California, Indiana, Pennsylvania and New York, 1 each; Prussia, 1; or seventy-four from fifteen states and countries—more than fifteen per cent from outside the State.

Reference to the report placed in your hands will furnish a full statement of our needs. For current expenses, a proposition is made by the Board for a productive fund, sufficient to meet present needs and the future plans of the University.

Of the States near us, three—Michigan, Wisconsin and Nebraska—have a regular annual tax, not of a specific amount, but of a fraction of a mill upon the dollar, which grows as the State grows and as the demands upon her University increase. From this tax Michigan received last year, \$40,500; Nebraska, \$51,375; Wisconsin, nearly \$60,000. Iowa has a specific permanent endowment of \$28,000; Minnesota relies upon biennial appropriations.

The report also emphasizes the need of buildings. We would keep this constantly before you as a pressing need. Two items, at least, are of vital importance. We have a very large hospital established in Iowa City by the Sisters of Mercy. That it may be available to the University, a clinical amphitheatre must be provided in connection therewith. Our Dental School, also, is entitled to a much-needed appropriation for its equipment.

The first part of this memorial contemplates, not a productive fund, but an annual income fund. The most careful study leads us to ask for what is absolutely needed, in lieu of our present endowment, a tax annually of *one-eighth of a mill*.

As the avails of this tax cannot be realized until after the year 1886, and as our income for the past two years has not been sufficient to meet our current expenses, we ask that an appropriation be made to meet deficiencies of \$22,000; that, to avoid deficiencies for the future and to tide us over the year 1886, the permanent endowment be continued for the year 1886, and that there be added for 1886, \$20,000.

Should the tax asked for not be granted, it will be necessary for us