

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

BOARD OF EDUCATION

OF THE

STATE OF ILLINOIS.

REGULAR MEETING:

HELD AT NORMAL, DECEMBER 16TH, 1868.

PEORIA, ILLINOIS:

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1869.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF REGULAR MEETING,

DECEMBER 16TH, 1868.

NORMAL UNIVERSITY,
NORMAL, ILLINOIS, DECEMBER 16TH, 1868. }

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS met at their rooms, in the University Building, on Wednesday, December 16, 1868, at ten o'clock A. M.

PRESENT—MESSRS. S. W. Moulton, Henry Wing, T. R. Leal, Jesse W. Fell, J. H. Moore, W. H. Wells, B. G. Roots, Walter L. Mayo, W. H. Green, Calvin Goudy, W. M. Hatch, Newton Bateman—12.

ABSENT—E. C. Dupuy, John H. Foster, C. P. Taggart—3.

Hon. S. W. Moulton, President of the Board, in the chair.

On motion of Dr. Wing, the reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with.

The regular order of business was taken up: whereupon the report of the Treasurer of the Board was presented and referred to the Auditing Committee.

Reports of special committees being next in order, Mr. B. G. Roots submitted the following report upon the subjects embraced in the resolutions offered by him at the last meeting of the Board.

The resolutions above referred to were as follows:

Resolved, That the standard of qualifications for admission to the Normal University should be materially elevated.

Resolved, That appropriate diplomas or certificates should be awarded to such as desire them, when they are considered qualified to organize and teach primary or common district schools; and diplomas of a higher grade to those who are qualified to become principals of Grammar and High Schools.

Resolved, That the policy of the University should be so modified as to enable persons who already possess the necessary scholarship, but who desire a special course in the Theory and Art of Teaching, to pursue such special course, and to graduate as soon as the same shall have been fully accomplished.

"The foregoing resolutions were received, and, on motion, laid over till the next stated meeting of the Board; and Mr. Roots was requested to prepare a written report thereon, to be submitted at that time."

[The above resolutions, and the action of the Board in regard to them, are copied above from the proceedings of the last meeting, in order that the object and bearings of Mr. Roots's paper may more readily be perceived.—SECRETARY.]

R E P O R T .

To the Board of Education of the State of Illinois.

GENTLEMEN: My main object in offering the resolutions submitted at the last meeting of the Board, and upon which I was desired to report in writing at this meeting, was to invite the attention of the Board to the importance of endeavoring to carry out more directly and fully, if possible, the true intention and wise purposes of those through whose efforts and agency this beneficent University was founded. What the special objects contemplated in the establishment of the institution really were, and how it was proposed to realize those objects, will be apparent from an examination of the proceedings of the Board of Education first appointed. The true aims, objects and instrumentalities of the University, as understood in the light of the wide and exhaustive discussion of the whole question, while the act (which had then been in force but a few months) was pending in the legislature, are so clearly and forcibly set forth in the report of Messrs. Rex and Hovey, submitted to the Board June 23, 1857, and to be found on the ninth and tenth pages of the published proceedings of that meeting, that I beg leave respectfully to refer you thereto, rather than to attempt a restatement of them in my own language. Suffice it to say, upon that point, that the true intent and scope of the institution are, in my estimation, correctly indicated and developed in that report of the first Board, and that by reference to it we may readily see if there has been any material divergence from the great practical aims of the University.

I have no fault to find with what has been done by the present Board, or the present Faculty, or by the predecessors of either. No man more highly appreciates their sincerity of purpose, and their faithful and judicious labors, than myself. I am well aware, too, that the depressed condition of general public education in Illinois, when this University was first opened, rendered it absolutely necessary for it to do much work which should have been done by the common schools and academies. But I think that that necessity has now

passed away. It is not intimated that the region of the state which I have the honor to represent, in part, in this Board has better educational facilities than other portions of Illinois; yet I know whereof I affirm, when I say that in every county in the 13th Congressional District there is at least one school, and in nearly every one there are several schools, in which pupils can acquire all the knowledge necessary to entitle them to a first-grade certificate, except a theoretical and practical acquaintance with the complicated and responsible duties of the professional teacher.

Hence I hold that the Normal Department of this University should no longer be, either in fact or in seeming, a rival or a competitor of the ordinary high schools, academies and colleges of the state, but strictly a *professional school* for teachers. In my estimation, its only proper province now is, not to impart a knowledge of any of the common branches of study, but rather to instruct and train the students in the theory, art and methods of *teaching* those branches in the most effective manner. If obstacles to this policy have heretofore existed, they have now ceased to exist; for, without doubt, the institution can be filled with students who have ample scholastic acquirements to enable them to enter at once upon a course of purely professional study. I think, therefore, that the requisites for admission to the junior class should at once be so increased as to embrace all that is necessary to obtain a first-grade certificate from a county superintendent under the general school-law — saving, as already remarked, merely *professional* knowledge, which is the special and particular thing that students should come here to learn. If I am right in this view, the first year of the normal course, under the new policy, would be mainly devoted to a rapid review of the branches required for admission, with the special object, not of increasing and perfecting a knowledge of them, but of showing how they can best be handled, taught, learned, and applied. In arithmetic or grammar, for instance, the supposition is that all members of the junior class would be familiar with those branches when they enter, but not familiar with the best methods of learning, teaching, illustrating and explaining them. And so of other branches. Hence, the main object of the first year would be to impart the true theory, art and methods of acquiring and communicating knowledge already possessed. In the second year of the course, the chief object should be mental discipline: to give breadth and strength of thought with precision and force of expression; to map out the teachers' work and duties, in their higher and wider relations, and thus furnish them with the elements and instrumentalities of success in all the varied departments of professional work and duty.

I am of the opinion that a two-years course, aiming at, and substantially restricted to, the attainment of these objects, will better meet the chief end of the University and the actual needs of the state, in

the great majority of cases, than a longer course. During the eight years that have elapsed since the first regular normal class was graduated, no graduating class has ever exceeded twenty, while but a small proportion of the pupils have remained longer than two years. Want of means and of time causes most of the students to withdraw before the present four-years course can be completed, and, hence, many courses of study which they had commenced have to be abandoned unfinished, and they fail to receive the very instruction which the institution was specially intended to bestow, since the distinctive professional culture and training are placed toward the close of the course. I speak of the present course as a four-years course, because in fact it is such. Only a small proportion of those who begin the present course can complete it in three years.

My especial desire is, and has been, to see such a modification of the present plan as will enable students who desire it to pursue a briefer course, having particular reference to positions in the primary and common district schools; and when duly qualified for such subordinate positions, I would have such students receive certificates of graduation in such briefer course—the terms of the certificate according with the actual facts of the case. I express no adverse opinion as to the adaptation of the present normal curriculum to those who desire a more extended course, with a view to qualify themselves to take charge of grammar schools and high schools in the cities and larger towns of the state. It is doubtless well devised to secure that end. Let all who have the disposition and the ability to pursue the more extended course do so, by all means, and upon graduation let them receive diplomas of corresponding grade.

I would also respectfully submit the opinion that the practical benefits of the University would be much promoted by an arrangement whereby the graduates of our best public high schools, and others who are able to pass a thorough examination in all the branches usually taught in such schools, may be permitted to enter the University for the express purpose of receiving, in the shortest practicable time, a course of professional training in the theory, art and methods of education—that being all that such persons really need to fit them for the actual duties of the school-room. That such special facilities are not now offered is evident from the whole arrangement of studies in the Normal Department, and from the fact that only a very small number of this class have ever availed themselves of the benefits of the institution. Very many find it much more convenient and economical to obtain the necessary amount of merely scholastic knowledge at schools nearer their homes, who would gladly repair to the University for the purpose of receiving a strictly professional course, if the way were open for them to do so; but who do not feel able to spend the time or incur the expense rendered necessary under the ex-

isting arrangement. Should the proposed change be made, I believe many of this class would enter the Normal Department every year, so well advanced in all preliminary studies as to enable them to graduate with credit in a single year, thus greatly multiplying the practical benefits of the institution, and strengthening the public estimation of its usefulness.

Entertaining these views, I respectfully submit the following resolutions.

R. G. ROOTS, *Committee.*

The resolutions submitted by Mr. Roots are as follows:

Resolved, 1. That one requisite for admission to the Normal Department of the University shall hereafter be such proficiency in the various branches of learning as is required by competent county superintendents of schools for a certificate of the first grade.

2. That the Committee on Course of Study, in connection with the Faculty of the University, are requested to arrange a two-years course of study, adapted to the needs of those who propose to become teachers in the common district schools of the state; and that they also prepare a form of diploma to be awarded to those who shall complete such course, and report their action, upon each of the points embraced in this resolution, to this Board at its next meeting.

3. That the Committee and Faculty aforesaid are further requested to consider and report to this Board, at its next meeting, what arrangements, if any, can be made to facilitate the acquisition of professional knowledge and skill in the management and instruction of schools, by those who already have the necessary literary attainments.

After remarks by various members of the Board, the report and resolutions of Mr. Roots were laid upon the table for further consideration.

The President of the Board here submitted the stated biennial report of the Board to the legislature; and when that part of the report relative to a Boarding Hall was reached, Miss Emaline Dryer appeared, by request, and read a paper upon that subject, which, on motion, was adopted by the Board as expressing its views on that question, and ordered to be incorporated into and printed with the biennial report of the Board.

Mr. Bateman moved that the thanks of the Board be tendered Miss Dryer, for her very forcible, interesting and impressive address, and the motion was unanimously adopted.

President Edwards appeared and read his stated semi-annual report.

[This report, and also the biennial report of the Board, will be found in the appendix to the Seventh Biennial Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.—SECRETARY.]

On motion of Mr. Bateman, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the Auditing Committee of this Board be required to procure a proper set of books wherein the receipts, expenditures, accounts, and all the financial acts of the Board, shall be properly entered, so as to present a clear and detailed statement of the financial transactions of the Board.

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Auditing Committee shall have the control and custody of said books.

A joint petition from the Wrightonian and Philadelphian Literary Societies was presented, as follows:

NORMAL, DECEMBER 16, 1868.

To the Honorable Board of Education.

GENTLEMEN: We, the undersigned, a joint committee appointed by the Wrightonian and Philadelphian Societies, beg leave to present the following petition:

We ask to have the heating apparatus in our halls taken out, and one similar to that now in Dr. Sewall's room put in. We give the following reasons for asking the change:

1st. Our halls are crowded every Saturday evening, and the air becomes very bad and unfit to breathe.

2d. The apparatus asked for would give us an abundant supply of pure air.

3d. The expense of warming the halls with the present apparatus (when they are warmed) is from five to ten dollars per evening.

4th. The expense of warming with the apparatus asked for will be not more than from two to four dollars per evening.

5th. The cost of the apparatus complete will not exceed \$300.00 for both halls.

6th. The iron pipes could be sold to defray a part of the expense.

We might add that the expense of keeping the present apparatus in repair amounts to considerable every winter.

If from three to six dollars can be saved each evening by this change, we hope you will not only regard it as a great favor to us, but as a good and safe investment for the Board to make this change.

Yours very respectfully,

J. A. SEWALL, } *For the*
JOHN W. COOK, } *Wrightonian*
W. H. SMITH, } *Society.*

J. CARTER, } *For the*
B. W. BAKER, } *Philadelphian*
GRATIOT WASHBURNE, } *Society.*

The petition was referred to the Building Committee.
The following invitation was received and accepted:

To the Honorable Members of the Board of Education.

GENTLEMEN: You are respectfully invited to be present at the Contest Meeting of the Philadelphian and Wrightonian Societies this evening.

Very respectfully,

J. CARTER, *Chairman Joint Committee.*

NORMAL, DECEMBER 16, 1868.

On motion, the Board adjourned till 2 o'clock P. M.

DECEMBER 16, 1868, 2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Board met pursuant to adjournment; attendance the same as in the forenoon.

Dr. Goudy offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Treasurer, C. W. Holder, be authorized and requested to receive and receipt for the annual installment, \$12,445.99, of the College and Seminary Fund due January 1st, 1869.

The resolution was adopted.

Judge Green made a verbal statement of what he had done in respect to the lands belonging to the Board and lying in Jackson county.

The following resolution, offered by Dr. Goudy, was adopted:

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars, and be placed at the disposal of the President of the Normal University, as a Contingent Fund, to defray incidental expenses already accrued, and those of the ensuing six months; and that he report the items of expenditure, with vouchers therefor, to the next meeting of the Board.

Dr. Wing, by request, read a brief report of the operations of Prof. Powell's party of scientific exploration in the region of the Rocky Mountains, up to the time when he (Dr. Wing) left the party; whereupon, on motion, Dr. Wing's paper was ordered to be printed with, and as a part of, the biennial report of the Board.

W. M. Hatch, Chairman of the Auditing Committee, reported that the Committee had examined the following accounts and, finding them correct, recommend that they be paid:

FROM THE STATE FUND.

To N. C. Nason, for 500 Proceedings of this Board, June, 1868...	\$44.15
“ W. L. Pillsbury, for postage.....	3.00
“ “ for one set classical maps.....	30.00
	-----\$33.00

To Pantagraph Co., for printing and envelopes.....	\$49.00
“ James Davis, for books.....	240.87
“ Geo. & C. W. Sherwood, for books.....	133.70
“ James P. Taylor, for printing circulars and envelopes, and catalogues, for 1868.....	258.00
“ W. G. Parr, for janitor’s supplies.....	29.05
“ N. Bateman, for money paid to H. W. Rokker, for binding in 1867.....	6.75
“ J. W. Smith, for books and stationery.....	87.65

FROM THE BUILDING FUND.

To Ira Lackey & Bros., for glass.....	\$8.50
“ Champion Bros., for materials and repairs on the building	13.75
“ Geo. & C. W. Sherwood, for furniture.....	277.30
“ John F. Ross, for lumber, hardware and glass, and painting for two privies.....	487.28
“ J. N. Larrimore, for making abstract of title to Normal lands	13.00
“ Mr. Phelps, for cleaning out well.....	3.00
“ C. Shultz, for drawing castings.....	1.00

FROM HEATING FUND.

To Bloomington Manufacturing Co., for labor and materials in repairing the heating apparatus.....	\$144.14
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All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. M. HATCH,	} Auditing Committee.
C. GOUDY,	
T. R. LEAL,	

The report was approved by the Board.

Mr. Hatch, from the special committee appointed by request of Mr. Fell to examine his (Fell's) report, reported as follows:

To the Honorable Board of Education of the State of Illinois.

GENTLEMEN: Your committee to whom was referred, at the special request of J. W. Fell, Esq., his report and the vouchers therewith, showing the number and character of ornamental trees set out by him upon the grounds of the Normal University during the spring of 1868, and other necessary work and material furnished for said grounds, beg leave to report:

That we have carefully examined that report, with the vouchers, and find the same correct.

The following is a synopsis of his report:

Balance in hand December 18, 1867.....	\$334.25
Amount received since, from all sources, up to June 24, 1868.....	2,162.63
	<u>\$2,496.88</u>
Whole amount paid out by him, from Dec. 18, 1867, to June 24, 1868, for trees, for setting them out, for labor and wire to protect them.....	\$2,251.73
Balance in hands, June 24, 1868.....	245.15
	<u>\$2,496.88</u>

He has also paid,

For lumber, etc., for the fence around the grounds..... \$31.18

Which sum we recommend be paid to him out of the Building Fund.

There is also due him,

For trees furnished us in 1864..... \$54.99

And for trees furnished in 1866..... 11.00

Making a total of..... \$65.99

Which last sum we recommend be paid him out of the Building Fund, or indorsed on his note which the Board holds.

Your committee find the whole number of trees set out by Mr. Fell, in 1868, to be 1,470, furnished as follows, to wit: By J. W. Fell, 864; by F. K. Phoenix, 392; taken from the University grounds, 214.

Mr. Phoenix's bill for the above trees, amounting to \$343.80, is still unpaid.

This Board holds his note, or notes, to a considerable amount, payable in nursery stock, and we recommend that the note, or notes, be handed to Mr. Fell, and that the above bill be adjusted in connection therewith, and that Mr. Fell report his doings in that behalf at the next meeting of this Board.

Of the trees furnished as above, there is a good variety, both evergreen and deciduous. They have been set, in the main, to conform to the original plan for these grounds, furnished by William Saunders, Esq., landscape gardener, of Philadelphia.

Sixty-nine of those furnished by Mr. Fell are large evergreens, averaging from 13 to 20 feet high, and warranted by him to live. The price charged, \$10 each, is not high, if we consider the practical fact that he might have sold them all in this county and at a higher price, and without any warranty. Indeed, we consider the Board fortunate in getting them at that price, with Mr. Fell's assurance that if they do not live he will supply their place with trees of like kind and equal in age and size. When we examined them in September, we believe all but one were doing well.

A large mound of earth around the roots, in the shape of a segment of a sphere, was removed with each of the large evergreens, thereby not only securing the life, but preventing stagnation in the growth of the trees.

Of the other trees, some have died. This, of course, was to be expected, taking into account the large number set out and the dryness of the season. A larger percentage of the trees furnished by Mr. Fell lived than of the others. This is due to careful handling. It would not be improper to add that we submitted the whole list of trees, with the prices, to O. M. Coleman, Esq., a practical nurseryman

of this county, by whom we were assured that the prices were reasonable.

Much more needs to be expended, in the way of setting out trees and shrubbery on these grounds. In the spring of 1867, the entire grounds were thoroughly plowed and subsoiled, at a large expense. This was considered indispensable, in order to secure a thrifty growth of the trees to be set thereon.

Respectfully submitted.

WALTER M. HATCH, }
J. H. MOORE, } *Committee.*
B. G. ROOTS, }

NORMAL, DECEMBER 16, 1868.

The report was approved.

Dr. Goudy, on behalf of the Auditing Committee, reported that they had examined the report of President Edwards, in regard to his disposition of the "contingent fund," and find the same correct.

The following is a synopsis of said report:

To amount appropriated by Board, June 24, 1868.....	\$250.00
“ “ due President Edwards, at this date, to balance	209.95
	-----\$459.95

Contra.

By amount disbursed on 34 orders.....	\$416.66
“ “ due Mr. Edwards at last report.....	43.29
	-----\$459.95

The report was approved.

The report and resolutions of Mr. Roots were here taken from the table and further discussed, after which, on motion of Mr. Wells, the report was referred to the Committee on Course of Study, with request to report thereon at the next meeting of the Board.

On motion of Judge Green, it was

Resolved, That President Edwards be instructed to issue an address during the present month, to the county superintendents of those counties not fully represented in the Normal University, requesting and urging them to fill the representation of such counties; and that a similar address be directed to each member of the General Assembly.

Dr. Wing here made a statement, concerning the boats that Prof. Powell desired the Board to have made and forwarded to him, to enable him to descend the Grand Cañon of the Colorado, which was one of the special objects of the expedition; whereupon, on motion of Mr. Wells, the whole subject was referred to a special committee, consisting of the President, Secretary, and Dr. Wing, with power to act.

Mr. Fell, from the Building Committee, to which was referred the petition of the Literary Societies of the University, presented the following report and resolution, which were adopted:

The committee to which was referred the petition of the Philadelphian and Wrightonian Societies, praying for a change in the mode of heating the rooms occupied by said societies, have had the same briefly under consideration, and beg leave to submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That said committee be requested to confer with the President and Faculty in relation to the proposed change, and if, in their opinion, the same can be done advantageously with the means at their disposal, they be authorized to make the same during the coming recess.

The following resolutions were also offered and adopted:

Resolved, That C. W. Holder, Treasurer of this Board, is hereby authorized and requested to draw, and receipt for to the Treasurer of the State of Illinois, \$1,500, the salary for the Curator of the Museum of the Natural-History Society, and also \$1,000, necessary expenses of improving and enhancing the value of the Museum for the year 1869, in accordance with the act approved February 28, 1867.

By Dr. Wing:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Board, the cause of science and of education in this state would be promoted by extending the scientific survey of the state, which has been provided for in the departments of Geology and Entomology, to include the subject of Botany; that for that purpose we would approve of provision being made for the appointment of a State Botanist, who should be required to deposit in the Normal University and in the Industrial University each a complete collection of the plants and grasses of this state.

Mr. Hatch, on behalf of the Auditing Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Treasurer, reported that they had examined the same and compared it with the accompanying vouchers, and find the same correct.

The following is an abstract of said report:

STATE FUND.

To cash on hand, as per last report.....	\$1,637.94
“ “ received from Model School.....	1,258.00
“ “ “ “ District School.....	1,300.00
	\$4,195.94

Contra.

By cash disbursed on forty-eight orders.....	\$4,019.96
“ “ on hand.....	175.98
	\$4,195.94

FUND FOR ORNAMMENTING GROUNDS.

To cash balance on hand, as per last report.....	\$180.08
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Mr. Hatch presented the following report of his operations in selling real estate belonging to the Board:

To the Board of Education of the State of Illinois.

GENTLEMEN: Since the last meeting of this Board, I have sold Lot 5 in Block 2, for \$100.00, and Lots 14 and 15 in Block 23, for \$500.00, both being in the Western Addition to the City of Bloomington. On the first sale all cash was paid, and a deed from the Board delivered. On the second sale \$250.00 cash was paid, and a note for a deed delivered to the purchaser. The money I have paid to the Treasurer of this Board, except the small expense of sale, conveyancing and stamps.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. M. HATCH.

The committee for providing fuel for the use of the University the current year reported as follows:

The undersigned, having been directed by this Board, at its last meeting, to purchase fuel for the ensuing year, beg leave to report that we have procured 212 tons of coal, at \$3.85 per ton,

Amounting to.....	\$816.20
And.....cords of wood.....	10.00
Advertising for coal bids.....	7.00
	-----\$833.20

Respectfully submitted.

JESSE W. FELL,
W. M. HATCH.

And then, on motion, the Board adjourned.

S. W. MOULTON, President.

NEWTON BATEMAN, Secretary.