

1861

Proceedings of the Board of Education of the State of Illinois, 1861

Illinois State Board of Education

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE
STATE OF ILLINOIS,
HELD AT BLOOMINGTON, JULY 1861.
TOGETHER WITH
REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS.

PEORIA, ILL.:
N. C. NASON, PRINTER, OFFICE OF THE "ILLINOIS TEACHER."
1861.

PROCEEDINGS.

NORMAL UNIVERSITY, NEAR BLOOMINGTON, JULY 3, 1861.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS met in their office in the Normal University, on Wednesday, July 3, 1861, at 9 o'clock A.M. The President, Hon. S. W. Moulton, in the chair.

Present—Messrs. Moulton, Rex, Green, Wells, Post, Shannon, Powell, Pickett, and Bateman.

The reading of the minutes of the last meeting, being in order, was proceeded with; when, on motion, the further reading was dispensed with.

The President of the University having announced that the students composing Section A had honorably completed the prescribed course of study, it was ordered that the diploma of the institution be awarded to them.

The names of the graduating class are as follows:

Peleg R. Walker, Ogle county.	J. Howard Burnham, Cook county.
E. Aaron Gove, Lasalle “	Sophie J. Crist, McLean “
J. H. Dutton, Woodford “	H. B. Norton, Ogle “
Amanda O. Noyes, Pike “	

It having been represented that M. I. Morgan, of Section B, had also completed the prescribed course with the exception of the ‘Theory and Practice of Teaching’, of which, as the Board were assured, he had attained a satisfactory knowledge by actual service as a teacher; on motion, he was allowed to graduate with Section A, and the diploma of the institution was ordered to be conferred upon him.

The following report was presented and adopted:

To the Board of Education of the State of Illinois.

GENTLEMEN: It is known to the Board that our State Legislature, at its last session, passed an act to refund \$65,000 of the interest of the University Fund, and to appropriate the same for the benefit of the State Normal University, and authorized the issuing of bonds payable in eighteen years, bearing six per cent. interest. Soon after said act became a law, the undersigned were appointed by the Build-

ing Committee their agents to negotiate the sale of the bonds, and settle all undoubted claims against the Board. Shortly after the adjournment of the Legislature, sixty-three of said bonds were signed by the Governor, who was then on the eve of his departure from the State. He left them in the hands of the Auditor and Treasurer, to execute and deliver to the proper agents of the Board.

These gentlemen promised to have them ready at a specified time; and upon going to Springfield at the appointed time we learned that they were not yet ready for us, but received assurances that they would be ready for delivery by the 8th of March. At that time we found the bonds ready; but the officers would not deliver them to us without an order from the Governor, who was then in Washington. We wrote and telegraphed to him; but our messages failed to reach him. After waiting some time and not hearing from the Governor, we offered to the Treasurer a bond of indemnity, with any amount of security he might require, if he would deliver us the bonds; but these overtures were declined, and again we failed to get the bonds. It was not until the 11th of April that we procured the order from the Governor and obtained the bonds. In the mean time events had transpired in our national affairs which materially affected the value of all State Bonds. Had we received them early in March we could have sold them to better advantage and for more money than was possible during the financial and commercial crisis that existed in April.

We at once sold them to the banks of Bloomington, and of H. A. Tucker & Co., Chicago, at six per cent. premium, which enabled us to pay \$65,580 of our indebtedness, and left a balance of \$1200 to the credit of our Treasurer in the Bank of Bloomington. A few days ago we received the remaining two bonds, of \$1000 each, which are still in our hands; and if they can be sold on as favorable terms as the others we shall have paid near \$69,000 indebtedness with the \$65,000 worth of bonds.

One word as to the character of the funds that we received from the Bank of Bloomington and the Bank of H. A. Tucker & Co. for the bonds. They were such as were perfectly good at the time, and were gladly received and receipted for by the best business houses in Chicago and Bloomington, to whom we were indebted; and it should be a source of congratulation to the Board that the bonds were sold to so good advantage under such unfavorable circumstances. To-day they could be sold in New York only at twenty-six per cent. discount, while ours were sold at an advance of nearly \$4000.

JULY 3, 1861.

S. W. MOULTON, } Agents of
GEO. P. REX, } Building Committee.

Dr. Rex, on leave, read a communication from some of the students, reflecting in severe terms upon the conduct of Mr. Ira Moore, one of the teachers of the University, for alleged unwarrantable bitterness of reproof, and gross injustice, in recording undeserved demerit marks against Mr. M. I. Morgan and others. The petition for redress at the

hands of the Board was signed by some twenty-five students of the University, and accompanied by separate written statements from different students. The papers were ordered to be placed on file, and the whole subject was referred to a special committee of three, consisting of Messrs. Post, Green, and Rex.

The Treasurer of the Board presented the following report, which was referred to the Auditing Committee :

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

The undersigned, your Treasurer, begs leave to present to your honorable body the following account of receipts and disbursements of the State Fund since June 1860, as follows, to wit :

1861.			
Jan. 10.	To amount rec'd from State Treasury in Auditor's Warrants,	\$10,362 94	
	CONTRA, Cr.		
	By amount of balance due me June 1860.....	\$6 49	
	“ Expenses advanced for the meeting of Board June 1860, as follows:		
	Paid P. Bass	12 50	
	“ W. H. Powell.....	12 00	
	“ W. H. Wells.....	9 75	
	“ N. Bateman.....	11 00	
	“ S. W. Moulton.....	20 00	
	“ S. Wright.....	22 50	
	“ Geo. P. Rex.....	20 75	
	“ Expenses advanced for meeting of the Board in December 1860, as follows:		
	Paid S. Wright.....	25 50	
	“ N. Bateman.....	8 50	
	“ C. B. Denio.....	21 00	
	“ A. R. Shannon, for two meetings.....	66 00	
	“ S. W. Moulton.....	20 00	
	“ Geo. P. Rex.....	21 50	
Jan'y.	“ Expenses to Springfield.....	7 00	
“ 6.	“ Paid C. E. Hovey.....	500 00	
“ “	“ Vercilius.....	75 00	
“ 4.	“ A. Reeder.....	50 00	
“ “	“ A. M. Scott.....	4 50	
Feb. 7.	“ John Daily.....	24 00	
“ “	“ John Daily.....	12 00	
Jan. 24.	“ Geo. P. Rex.....	12 00	
“ “	“ W. H. Powell.....	7 00	
“ “	“ S. Wright.....	24 00	
“ “	“ J. S. Post.....	36 00	
“ “	“ P. Bass.....	10 00	
“ “	“ S. W. Moulton.....	20 00	
“ “	“ C. E. Hovey.....	1000 00	
“ “	“ C. E. Hovey.....	1000 00	
“ “	“ C. E. Hovey.....	600 00	
“ “	“ C. E. Hovey.....	600 00	
“ “	“ C. E. Hovey.....	250 00	
“ “	“ E. Rogers.....	36 75	
“ 12.	“ I. Vercilius.....	187 50	
	<i>Amounts carried forward.....</i>	\$4733 24	\$10,362 94

		<i>Amounts brought forward.....</i>	\$4733 24	\$10,362 94
Jan. 12.	By paid	Ira Moore.....	70 00	
Feb. 9.	" "	Ira Moore.....	140 00	
" "	" "	C. E. Hovey.....	500 00	
Jan. 12.	" "	Miss Peterson.....	20 00	
" "	" "	Miss Peterson.....	40 00	
" 24.	" "	E. Rogers.....	269 00	
" "	" "	J. W. Maxwell.....	200 00	
" "	" "	E. C. Hewett.....	520 00	
" "	" "	C. E. Hovey.....	500 00	
" "	" "	C. E. Hovey.....	200 00	
" "	" "	L. H. Potter.....	50 00	
" 6.	" "	F. T. Mathews.....	234 60	
" "	" "	J. A. Sewall.....	80 00	
" "	" "	L. H. Potter.....	205 00	
" "	" "	Ira Moore.....	340 00	
Feb. 9.	" "	E. C. Hewett.....	130 00	
" "	" "	J. A. Sewall.....	40 00	
Jan. 4.	" "	L. H. Roots.....	24 50	
" "	" "	A. B. Reagle.....	24 75	
" "	" "	J. Little.....	13 25	
" "	" "	Hair.....	15 00	
" "	" "	John Hope.....	30 00	
" "	" "	J. A. Sewall.....	80 00	
" "	" "	J. A. Sewall.....	50 00	
" "	" "	C. E. Hovey.....	300 00	
" 1.	" "	L. H. Potter.....	100 00	
" "	" "	Ira Moore.....	50 00	
" "	" "	Ira Moore.....	100 00	
" "	" "	J. A. Sewall.....	100 00	
" "	" "	L. H. Potter.....	100 00	
" "	" "	J. A. Sewall.....	50 00	
" "	" "	E. C. Hewett.....	65 00	
" "	" "	Ira Moore.....	140 00	
" "	" "	L. H. Potter.....	65 00	
" "	" "	Miss Peterson.....	140 00	
" "	" "	L. H. Potter.....	130 00	
" "	" "	Bryant.....	42 00	
" "	" "	N. C. Nason.....	9 00	
" "	" "	C. W. Holder, for Hovey.....	500 00	
				10,400 84

Amount due me..... \$37 40

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed)

J. E. McCLUN, Treasurer.

JULY 3d, 1861.

Mr. Post offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Officers and Teachers be requested to report at this meeting of the Board the number of officers and teachers and their several salaries; also, whether a reduction of the number could not be made without impairing the efficiency of the institution; and also, whether a reduction of salaries is advisable.

On motion, the Board proceeded to the election of officers for the next two years. Hon. S. W. Moulton was reelected President on the first ballot.

Moved by Mr. Wright, and carried, that, to avoid confusion, it be adopted as a rule of the Board that the standing committees on duty at the close of each biennial period make their final report at the last meeting of the term for which they were appointed, and that the new committees begin their duties at the next meeting.

On motion, Dr. Goudy was appointed to act with Mr. Wright upon the Committee on Text-Books.

Mr. Powell, from the Auditing Committee, reported as follows:

The Auditing Committee, having examined the report of J. E. McClun, Treasurer, and compared the same with the accompanying vouchers, find the same correct.

(Signed)

W. H. POWELL,
Of the Auditing Committee.

The report was adopted.

On motion, the Board adjourned until 4 o'clock P.M.

FOUR O'CLOCK P.M.

The Board met, pursuant to adjournment.

Dr. Rex, from the Committee on Officers, offered the following report:

The Committee on Officers would respectfully report that they recommend that Mr. H. B. Norton be appointed Principal of the Primary Department, assisted by Miss Peterson, transferred from the Normal School, and Miss Washburn, continued: that Mr. Bryant be employed in the department of Drawing for six months, at a salary of \$400; also, that Mr. Wilber be employed to lecture in the department of Natural History; also, that the department of Music be dispensed with during the next term.

They would also recommend that Dr. Sewall be the custodian of the apparatus of the institution. They would also recommend that no change be made in the salaries of the teachers.

(Signed)

GEO. P. REX, }
S. WRIGHT, } Committee.

The report was adopted.

Adjourned till 8 o'clock P.M.

EIGHT O'CLOCK P.M.

The Board having convened, agreeable to adjournment, Mr. Wright, from the Committee on Text-Books, presented the following report, which was adopted :

The Committee on Text-Books have had the subject under advisement, and recommend the use of the *Spencerian System of Penmanship*, *Bryant & Stratton's Book-keeping*, *Bryant & Stratton's Commercial Law*, *Bryant & Stratton's Commercial Arithmetic*.

(Signed)

SIMEON WRIGHT,	} Committee on Text-Books.
CALVIN GOUDY,	

The following report of the Building Committee was read by Mr. Powell, and *adopted* by the Board :

The undersigned, members of the Building Committee, respectfully report that the chairman of the committee, Hon. C. B. Denio, without consulting with any other member of the committee, and without any authority from the Board or the committee, on the 31st day of May last, assumed to make a settlement with Mr. T. H. Soper, and paid that gentleman \$1032.05 in good notes, and also accepted his orders on the Board of Education in favor of a number of Mr. Soper's workmen, to the amount of \$2403.53, and signed the same as chairman of the Building Committee: all of which action of said Denio was without the knowledge of your committee or the Board of Education, and wholly unauthorized.

In view of the fact that the Board of Education was not indebted to Mr. Soper to any considerable amount, at the time the notes were paid and the orders drawn, as the committee believe, and of the further fact that the other members of the committee were never consulted in the matter by the chairman, the undersigned recommend that the Board estop the payment of the notes, and refuse to pay the orders accepted by Mr. Denio, as above referred to.

Your committee would add that, while they are clearly of the opinion that the workmen of Mr. Soper have neither any legal nor equitable claim upon the Board for the payment of various amounts due them by Mr. Soper, they fully recognize the unjust hardships through which they have passed in the erection of the building, and the straitened circumstances in which they are now placed by the failure of Mr. Soper to pay them, as he expressly agreed to do when the last payment was made him by the Board.

(Signed)

W. H. POWELL,	} Of the Building Committee.
S. W. MOULTON,	
A. R. SHANNON,	

On motion, the sum of \$71.41 was ordered to be paid to R. Darlington and others, carpenters, for work done upon the building, as per bills rendered.

On motion, Mr. C. W. Holder, of Bloomington, was unanimously chosen Treasurer of the Board for the next two years.

Dr. Rex, from the special committee appointed to consider the charges against Mr. Moore, presented the following report :

The committee appointed to investigate the charges of Mr. Morgan and others against Mr. Moore would respectfully report that they have investigated the same by hearing the parties; and while they are unwilling to interfere with the discipline of the school by ordering the removal of the misdemeanor marks against Mr. Morgan and others, they are at the same time clearly of opinion that the treatment of Mr. Morgan by Mr. Moore, and other acts of the latter, in the premises, were much harsher than the circumstances required or justified.

(Signed)

W. H. GREEN, } Special
GEO. P. REX, } Committee.

The President announced the following as the Standing Committees for the next two years :

Committee on Buildings and Grounds—Geo. P. Rex, W. H. Powell, T. J. Pickett, C. Goudy, A. R. Shannon.

Committee on Course of Study—W. H. Wells, W. H. Green, N. Bateman.

Committee on Text-Books—S. Wright, C. Goudy, J. S. Post.

Committee on Officers and Teachers—A. R. Shannon, Geo. P. Rex, P. Bass.

Committee on Rules and Regulations—W. H. Green, A. R. Shannon, Geo. P. Rex.

Auditing Committee—W. H. Powell, T. J. Pickett, S. Wright.

Mr. Wells offered the following resolution, which was adopted by the Board :

Resolved, That the chairman of the Building Committee be requested to make a careful examination of all the accounts of this Board from its organization, and make the proper entries in the books of the Board, with authority to employ such assistance as he may deem necessary, and report the result at the next meeting of the Board.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Board hereby approve the action of their agents, Messrs. Rex and Moulton, in negotiating the bonds lately appropriated by the State, at six per cent. premium, and in disbursing the proceeds of the same, at par, in payment of the debts on the University building.

On motion, the Board adjourned till 9 o'clock A.M.

JULY 4 — 9 O'CLOCK A.M.

The Board met, pursuant to adjournment.

Present— Messrs. Moulton, Shannon, Rex, Wright, Goudy, and Bateman.

Dr. Rex offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That we entertain a high estimate of the manner in which our Model School has been conducted during the past term, by Mr. Burnham, Miss Baker and Miss Washburn, and that we cheerfully indorse them as good and faithful teachers.

On motion of S. Wright, it was

Resolved, That our agent be empowered to make such arrangements with the janitor as he may think advisable, and, if thought expedient, place the engine under the janitor's care: if not, to make other arrangements for running the engine.

On motion, bills to pay traveling expenses of members in attendance at this meeting were allowed as follows :

N. Bateman.....	\$12 00
W. H. Wells.....	15 25
S. W. Moulton.....	20 00
T. J. Pickett.....	20 00
Calvin Goudy.....	22 00
Geo. P. Rex.....	22 50
W. H. Green.....	32 00
A. R. Shannon.....	33 00
Simeon Wright.....	33 00
W. H. Powell.....	39 55

Moved and carried, that the bills for incidentals be referred to Dr. Rex, to be audited and settled.

On motion, S. W. Moulton was added to the Building Committee.

On motion, the Board adjourned.

S. W. MOULTON, President.

N. BATEMAN, Secretary.