

37TH CONGRESS, }
2d Session. }

SENATE.

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MESSAGE

OF THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TO THE

TWO HOUSES OF CONGRESS

AT THE

COMMENCEMENT OF THE SECOND SESSION

OF

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

DECEMBER 3, 1861.—Read, and ordered that the usual number of the message and documents be printed.

VOLUME I.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1861.

R E P O R T
OF
 T H E B O A R D O F D I R E C T O R S
OF

The Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind.

WASHINGTON, November 5, 1861.

SIR: In compliance with the acts of Congress incorporating and providing for the support of this institution, I have the honor to report its operations for the year ending on the first day of July last.

For detailed information touching the immediate management of the institution and the progress of the pupils, I beg leave to refer to the report of the Superintendent, hereto annexed, marked A., and the report of the examining committee, marked B.

The treasurer's report, marked C., shows the sources of income and the receipts for the last year, viz :

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| From private subscriptions..... | \$400 00 |
| From the United States, per act of Congress of the 16th February, 1857, for maintenance and tuition of indigent pupils.. | 3,425 94 |
| From the same, under the act of May 29, 1858, for salaries and incidental expenses..... | 3,000 00 |
| From the State of Maryland, for the support and tuition of indigent pupils..... | 1,034 25 |
| From paying pupils..... | 266 00 |
| Total receipts..... | <u><u>\$8,126 19</u></u> |

The same report shows that the whole amount received has been drawn from the treasury upon the drafts of the president, and (in his absence) the secretary in favor of the superintendent.

The superintendent's account, attached to his report, marked 1, shows for what objects the moneys drawn by him have been expended, and the balance on hand, amounting to \$128 28.

Treasurer's report, marked C., shows the receipts of the institution from the fund derived from "Washington's Manual Labor School and Male Orphan Society," applicable to the promotion of manual labor by the deaf and dumb and the blind, amounting to \$623 48. As the institution has not the buildings in which it can teach mechanical trades, nor the grounds on which it can teach horticulture and agriculture, it is proposed to invest the moneys derived from this fund until these deficiencies can be supplied.

During the year past eight pupils have been admitted into the institution and three have left, leaving the number on the 1st day of July last thirty-five, and showing an increase of five during the year. Their names and residences are given in paper marked 2, annexed to the superintendent's report.

Since June 30 there have been three admissions into the institution and one dismissal, so that the entire number under instruction is now thirty-seven.

At the end of the first year of its existence, July, 1858, the number of pupils in this institution was *seventeen*; at the end of the second year, *twenty*; at the end of the third year, *thirty*; and at the end of the fourth year, *thirty-five*; with the addition of two since and a prospect of further increase.

It thus appears that the troubles of the country have as yet had no sensible effect on the progress of this benevolent institution, and it is devoutly hoped that its claims may not be forgotten amidst the excitements of war and the clash of arms.

I cannot refrain from inviting special attention to the specimens of composition by some of the older pupils attached to the report of the examining committee. There is a beauty about them seldom, if ever, equalled by children of the same ages with all their senses, after many more years of faithful instruction. They constitute the highest testimonial to the fidelity of our superintendent and teachers.

But it is sad to reflect that, although the institution can do so much to improve the minds of its pupils, it can do so little on account of want of shops and ground to accustom the boys to manual labor, and fit them for earning a living when they leave the institution. Cannot the government even now devote a few thousand dollars to this object?

I ought not to close without paying a just tribute to our superintendent. To his judgment and skill in the selection of teachers, the discipline of the pupils and general management, the institution is mainly indebted for the high rank it has already attained among the benevolent institutions of this and other lands.

To the Rev. Dr. Samson and J. P. Ingle, esq., our thanks are due for their laborious and searching examination of the pupils of the institution at the end of the last summer term.

The regulations of the institution are hereto appended, marked D.

By order of the Board of Directors,

AMOS KENDALL,
President.

HON. CALEB B. SMITH,
Secretary of the Interior.

Officers of the Institution.

Patron.—ABRAHAM LINCOLN, *President of the United States.*

President.—HON. AMOS KENDALL.

Secretary.—WILLIAM STICKNEY.

Treasurer.—GEORGE W. RIGGS, JR.

Directors.—WILLIAM H. EDES, JAMES C. MCGUIRE, JUDSON MITCHELL, DAVID A. HALL, REV. BYRON SUNDERLAND, D. D.

Superintendent.—EDWARD M. GALLAUDET, M. A.

Instructors of the Deaf and Dumb.—JAMES DENISON, P. B., MELVILLE BALLARD, PETER BAUMGRAS.

Instructress of the Blind.—MISS MARY T. G. GORDON.

Attending Physician.—N. S. LINCOLN, M. D.

Matron.—MRS. THOMAS H. GALLAUDET.

Assistant Matron.—MRS. SOPHIA G. HUNTER.

