

37TH CONGRESS,
3d Session.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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MESSAGE

OF THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TO THE

TWO HOUSES OF CONGRESS

AT THE

COMMENCEMENT OF THE THIRD SESSION

OF

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

DECEMBER 1, 1862.—Read, and ordered that the usual number of the message and documents be printed.

VOLUME II.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1862.

REPORT
OF
THE COLUMBIA INSTITUTION
FOR
THE DEAF AND DUMB AND THE BLIND.

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.
Master of the Cabinet Shop.—JOHN R. WRIGHT.
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COLUMBIA INSTITUTION FOR THE INSTRUCTION OF THE DEAF AND
DUMB AND THE BLIND, *November 3, 1862.*

SIR: It becomes my duty to report the progress of this institution during the year ending with the 30th June, 1862.

The number of deaf and dumb and blind pupils receiving instruction on the 1st of July, 1861, was.....	35
Received during the last year.....	6
Total	41
Left during the year.....	3
Remaining on the 1st July, 1862	38

Of these 6 were blind, and 32 deaf and dumb.

There has been no death among the pupils of the institution since its establishment.

The ordinary receipts and expenditures of the institution were, during the last year, as follows, viz :

Received, as per treasurer's account, marked A, attached to this report, from private subscriptions	\$400 00
Received from United States for maintenance and tuition of pupils.	3, 746 60
Received from same for salaries and incidental expenses	3, 000 00
Received from the State of Maryland	1, 530 93
Received from paying pupils	175 29
Received for stove sold	10 67
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	8, 863 49
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Expended, as per treasurer's account	20 18
Expended, as per superintendent's account	8, 588 39
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Total	8, 608 57
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For details of expenditures see treasurer's account, aforesaid, and superintendent's account, marked B 1.

The terms on which the funds of the Washington Manual Labor School and Male Orphan Asylum were turned over to this institution require that they shall be accounted for separately.

Happy to have some means, however limited, to instruct a portion of our pupils in some kind of manual labor, without which their mental culture will be comparatively of little use to them, the board of directors directed the superintendent to establish a shop and employ a competent teacher to instruct such of the male pupils as could be accommodated and showed an aptitude to learn the art and trade of cabinet-making. He accordingly rented a building near the institution, and successfully carried into effect the instructions of the board.

The treasurer's account, marked C, shows that the cash which originally came into his hands amounted to \$623 48, of which \$600 were invested in United States treasury notes, which were afterwards sold at an advance, and the proceeds, with other smaller sums, amounting in all to \$764 23, were, with the exception of \$14 23, turned over to the superintendent.

The superintendent's account, marked B 2, shows for what objects this money was expended.

It will be seen by the treasurer's account that \$129 90 had been received into the treasury on account of the shop, which, however, had been returned into the business through the superintendent. It was not expected that this operation would prove pecuniarily profitable, but the remarkable progress made by the pupils since its commencement induces the hope that it may be made self-sustaining.

Immediately after the grant by Congress, at their last session, of nine thousand dollars to extend and improve the buildings belonging to the institution, steps were taken to carry into effect their benevolent design.

The superintendent was appointed disbursing agent of the government, under suitable bonds, to draw from the treasury and apply the moneys appropriated, not only for these purposes but for payment of salaries and incidental expenses. Only \$1,900 of the building fund was drawn prior to the 1st day of July last, and the account of the superintendent and agent, marked B 3, shows for what purposes \$1,367 25 of that sum was expended, leaving \$532 75 on hand.

All the superintendent's accounts have been kept with remarkable accuracy and rendered with great promptitude.

It has been a leading principle in the management of this institution to incur no responsibility predicated on future grants of aid from Congress. Our plans

of improvement, as well as management, have been carefully limited to the means already procured, so that we have no occasion to ask either from public or private charity for moneys to pay debts or complete unfinished buildings. To show that charity has not bestowed her gifts in vain upon this institution, we confidently appeal to the report of the examining committee, hereto attached, marked D, as well as to similar reports of former years. But we cannot do these children of misfortune the good we would, for want of additional grounds for cultivation and more extensive and convenient shops for the exercise of mechanical talent. Nor have we in our buildings the conveniences of water and gas enjoyed by other institutions of like character, and, wherever accessible, now deemed almost indispensable in private dwellings.

I cannot, in justice to our superintendent and his assistants, and the teachers in the institution, omit paying a just tribute to their talents, industry, fidelity, and skill, which have so soon raised it from humble beginnings to an elevated position among the charities of the country. It was deemed by the board of directors due to our superintendent, on account of his eminent services and signal success, to raise his salary, out of the means furnished by Congress at their last session, from one thousand dollars per annum to fifteen hundred.

For a more detailed exposition of the progress of the institution, its condition and wants, I respectfully refer to the superintendent's report, hereto annexed, marked B.

By order of the board of directors.

AMOS KENDALL, *President.*

Hon. C. B. SMITH, *Secretary of the Interior.*

