

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council.

We have the honor to present the tenth annual report of the Trustees of the Gardner State Colony.

At this time we may stop a moment to look back over our accomplishments. Ten years ago the State turned over to us fifteen hundred acres of what might well be called abandoned farms. The few families living there were glad to sell their buildings. The buildings upon the land were in such condition that only three of them have been found profitable to repair and occupy.

A substantial receiving group of buildings has been built, with six outlying buildings or groups of buildings. About seven hundred insane persons are now in our charge. Outside the main group the buildings are of wood, substantial but economical in construction. The patients have been largely occupied in reclaiming the land, and in farming what has been so reclaimed with somewhat remarkable results. For several years past they have raised for themselves all necessary vegetables, and in addition have raised much of the feed required by the cattle. The household arts have been developed among the women, and the mechanical arts among the men, all with much success, so that now we have a busy and largely contented community who are doing what they can to reduce the cost to the State of their care.

We are now ready, therefore, for the receipt of more patients, and can take, if desired, one hundred more as soon as the necessary buildings can be built. To this end we are asking this year for an appropriation to build two cottages, and to purchase a nearby farm, the buildings on which can be adapted to the occupation by patients at no large expense. The place also has a commodious barn which can

be utilized at once, and without which there can be little extension of the farm work.

After ten years some patients, who came to us as able bodied, are now approaching the retired list, and we must begin to prepare for infirm cases. These can be housed in our present main group, and the requisite accommodations can be provided by adding sleeping verandas to the existing buildings for the more able bodied. This we ask this year.

We believe that the demented cases which we now receive could be materially improved if sent to us at an earlier stage of the disease than that in which we now receive them. In some cases the friends of the patients may object to their removal to a distance, but we believe that in Dr. LaMoure we have a physician who is excellently fitted by training and experience for the treatment of such cases. Patients afflicted with this disease might be sent to Gardner just as other incipient cases are now sent to the Psychopathic Hospital in Boston. We are led to hope that treatment in Gardner will, in many cases, arrest the progress of this disease and in consequence lead to the restoration of the patients to their homes.

Dr. Baker is unable to sign this report owing to his absence from the Commonwealth.

Respectfully yours,

EDMUND A. WHITMAN,
GEORGE N. HARWOOD,
ALICE MILLER SPRING,
AMIE H. COES,
WILBUR F. WHITNEY,
JOHN G. BLAKE.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirteen.

RESOLVE

To provide for Certain Improvements at the Gardner State Colony.

1 *Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the
2 treasury of the commonwealth a sum not exceeding
3 thirty-seven thousand dollars, to be expended under the
4 direction of the trustees of the Gardner state colony,
5 for the following purposes:—For purchase of the
6 Hiram Ray estate and necessary alterations, nine thou-
7 sand dollars; for constructing and furnishing two cot-
8 tages for thirty patients each, twenty-four thousand
9 dollars; for constructing verandas on receiving wards,
10 three thousand dollars; and for constructing slaughter-
11 house and two sheds, a sum not exceeding one thousand
12 dollars.