

HOUSE...No. 159.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 9, 1856.

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the Order of Mr. Bliss, of Worcester, that said Committee report to this House "the items of expenditure incurred in the furnishing of the State House; and, so far as they can be ascertained, the causes of the excess of expenditure over the appropriations." have considered the same and

REPORT:

That a literal compliance with the Order would swell this Report to an unreasonable length, and would fail to show any reliable basis for estimating some of the items of expenditure referred to. A copy even, of each and every bill, would not furnish accurate information, inasmuch as some of the carpenters' bills are for labor done and material furnished, and it is not easy to determine how much of the one or the other was expended in the manufacture, by days' work, of many of the elaborate articles of furniture, which were supplied to the different Heads of Departments.

The accompanying Schedule will show the amount of all bills for repairs and furniture for the State House, under the

Resolve of 1855, chapter 87, and the Joint Order of February 14, of the same year, both those which have been audited and paid, and those which are unaudited and outstanding; this amount, as appears by a previous Report of this Committee, under date of 7th of March last, is \$32,018.36. An analysis of this sum, as appears by the Schedule, shows all the expenditure under different heads, and it will be perceived that the amount of liability for furniture is \$10,022.71. To this there is to be added whatever may have been the cost of the various articles of furniture, in the several departments, manufactured as before stated, of which, in the opinion of your Committee, no satisfactory estimate can be made.

These bills are all on file in the Auditor's office, where they are open to examination by any member of the House who desires further information.

Among the principal causes of the excess of expenditure over the appropriations, the Committee find :—

1st. That the appropriation for the Enlargement of the State House, under Resolve of 1855, chapter 59, was insufficient, and consequently that the Commissioners left the new building unfinished, and in a condition not fit to be occupied for the transaction of public business.

2d. That the Committee on Public Buildings for 1855, in asking for an appropriation for the objects contemplated by the Resolve of 1855, chapter 87, named a sum which was known by them at the time, as stated to your Committee, to be inadequate for those purposes.

3d. Under an erroneous construction of the Resolves of 1846, chapter 75, large expenditures were made by requisition of the Heads of Departments, for which there had been no appropriation, and which were not contemplated by the spirit of those Resolves.

4th. The appropriations for the new building having been exhausted, and the use of the Committee rooms therein being indispensable for the accommodation of the legislature, and the despatch of the public business, it became necessary, at a very considerable expense, to construct covered galleries for communication between the old and new parts of the State House.

5th. In making the authorized alterations in the rooms occupied by the governor and council, the floor of the green-room was found to be decayed and unsafe; the consequence of which was a large incidental expenditure, which was not anticipated and not provided for.

6th. No provision had been made for the introduction and distribution of gas in the new building, and the necessity of doing this after the floors had been laid, involved another considerable expenditure.

There were many other incidental expenses, growing always out of the repair and alteration of an old building, not necessary to enumerate, which served to swell the excess of expenditure over the appropriations.

In reviewing the causes of this large expenditure, your Committee are of opinion that, while to some extent the excess over the appropriations grew out of an absolute necessity, it arose, to a much greater extent, from a divided responsibility among the several parties who, in a greater or less degree, exercised a supervision over the matter, viz.: the Commissioner for the Enlargement of the State House, the Committee on Public Buildings for 1855, the Sergeant-at-Arms, and the Heads of Departments. Such a supervision is manifestly inconsistent with economical results.

In conclusion, from a careful examination of the subject, your Committee cannot doubt, that while the expenditures for the repair and furnishing of the State House have been greater than a just and even liberal economy would sanction, the articles of furniture are, with some exceptions, in kind, such as are suited for the convenience of the various Departments, the safe-keeping and systematic arrangement of the public documents, and the despatch of the public business.

Per order of the Committee,

JAMES W. SEVER, *Chairman.*

Statement of Bills contracted for Repairs and Furniture of State House, under Resolve 1855, chapter 87, and Joint Order of the Legislature of 14th February, 1855.

	Audited.	Not audited.	Total.
CARPENTERS.			
G. B. Wheeler, Carpenter,	\$1,792 30	-	-
Robert Cowdin, Lumber,	41 49	-	-
Asa Lewis, Carpenter,	6,144 76	\$7,978 55	-
Asa Lewis, Carpenter,	-	\$4,006 32	\$11,984 87
PAINTING.			
Haven & Dexter, Painting, &c.,	451 05	-	-
C. H. Knox, Painting, &c.,	1,137 85	1,588 90	-
C. H. Knox, Painting, &c.,	-	1,714 68	3,303 58
MASONRY.			
Sayward & Lothrop, Masons,	918 83	-	-
John Mack, Plastering	316 75	1,235 58	-
Sayward & Lothrop, Masons,	318 43	-	-
Jno. Borrowscale, Slate and Lime,	90 55	-	1,644 56
HARDWARE, ETC.			
Smith, Lovett & Co., Hardware,	73 02	-	-
Charles Brooks, Hardware,	37 37	-	-
G. W. Haven, Hardware,	93 63	-	-
S. W. Fuller, Bell Hanger,	2 50	-	-
Daniel Thaxter, Locksmith,	9 72	-	-
James Perkins, Blacksmith,	119 40	335 64	-
James Perkins, Blacksmith,	89 50	-	-
Sergeant & Wise, Metal Roofing,	140 34	-	-
H. N. Hooper & Co., Stair Plates,	103 96	-	333 80
PLUMBING.			
J. G. Loring & Co., Lead, Labor, &c.,	39 83	-	-
Leonard & Pollard, Plumbers,	584 79	624 62	-
Leonard & Pollard, Plumbers,	-	61 39	686 01
HEATING APPARATUS.			
Chilson, Gould & Co., Furnaces, &c.,	542 63	-	-
A. Wentworth, Chimney-pieces,	84 00	626 63	-
Chilson, Gould & Co., Stovepipes, &c.,	188 60	-	-
Walworth & Co., Grate Bars,	28 50	-	217 10
GAS FITTINGS.			
N. W. Turner, Gas Fittings,	-	358 27	-
N. W. Turner, Gas Fittings,	-	-	2,430 69
J. R. Richards, Plans,	-	-	75 00
FURNITURE.			
John H. Pray, Cloth,	15 88	-	-
T. P. Durant, Upholstery and repairing,	487 30	503 18	-
T. P. Durant, Upholstery and repairing,	779 56	-	-
F. Crosby, Window Shades,	60 00	-	-
G. W. Chipman, do. and fixtures,	146 93	-	986 49
			1,489 67

STATEMENT—Continued.

	Audited.	Not audited.	Total.
Parker Fowle & Sons, Carpets, . . . \$889 64	-	-	-
Hannah N. Baxter, work on carpets, . . 77 05	\$966 69	-	-
Parker Fowle & Sons, Carpets, . . . 2,716 90	-	-	-
Hannah N. Baxter, work on carpets, . . 230 61	-	\$2,947 51	\$3,914 20
J. G. Blake, Chairs, 52 00	-	-	-
J. C. Hubbard, Chairs and Settees, . . . 272 00	-	-	-
Doe, Hazelton & Co., Sofa-bed, chairs, &c. 108 50	-	-	-
Stephen Smith, Tables, Desks, &c., . . . 195 00	627 50	-	-
J. C. Hubbard, Chairs, &c., 543 75	-	-	-
Phelps & Dimmock, Chairs, &c., 20 00	-	-	-
J. G. Blake, Furniture, 2,427 75	-	-	-
Stephen Smith, Furniture, 972 00	-	-	-
Blind Asylum, Mats, 27 84	-	3,991 34	4,618 84
Excess of Expenditure in 1854, allowed this year,	154 44	-	154 44
	15,000 00	17,173 30	32,173 30

CHICAGO, ILL., MAY 11, 1911

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE

The Committee on the Practice of Medicine, organized in 1907, has the honor to report to the Association the results of its work during the past year. The committee has held numerous conferences and has received many suggestions from the members of the Association. It has also conducted extensive research into the various phases of the medical profession and has endeavored to bring about a more uniform and ethical practice of medicine throughout the United States.

In the Committee

L. W. BRYAN