

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL

FOR

Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Youth.

OCTOBER, 1863.

BOSTON:

WRIGHT & POTTER, STATE PRINTERS.

No. 4 SPRING LANE.

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council :

I have the honor to transmit herewith the Sixteenth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Massachusetts School for Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Youth.

Very respectfully,

S. G. HOWE, *President.*

BOSTON, October 15, 1863.

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

Massachusetts School for Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Youth, }
BOSTON, October 1, 1863. }

To the Corporation :

The school has enjoyed another year of gratifying prosperity. By the blessing of that benevolent Providence, that ever watches over the sparrow in its fall, that it may not suffer, these feeble and dependent children have been protected and preserved.

The family, though crowding the house much more closely than ordinary dwellings are filled, has yet been saved from epidemics, although composed of children of the weakest constitutions, which bear, with the least impunity, the destructive agencies that every where hover around childhood. Yet very little sickness, and, except in one case which proved fatal, no severe sickness, has visited them. And they have enjoyed as high an average of health as they have in any former year, and higher than they would have enjoyed at their homes.

The whole discipline and management of these children is adapted with the most careful attention to their peculiarities of constitution and habits. Their diet, their regimen and exercise, their sleeping and ablutions, are all determined with this view, and the plan so selected is carried out in regard to every pupil in all his training, education and nutrition.

Under this plan, so carefully adopted and faithfully administered, the children there improve in health and gain in strength. But if, from any cause, this discipline slackens, if the children are allowed to eat food less simple and digestible, or if they are indulged in undue quantities, their health suffers.

APPETITES.

Idiotic children are generally prone to eat largely.

By careful investigations that have been made of the habits of these unfortunates, it is found that they average eating much greater quantities than other children; many are very gross eaters, and some are gluttonous. Most of the children, when brought to this school, have these morbid appetites, varying from the average of other children downward to gluttony; and these have been so indulged as to establish habits difficult to be controlled, and wants hard to be restrained. These are often connected with a blunted sensibility, and a low and perverse taste, that induce the idiot to eat indifferently whatever he can lay hands upon. Some will even devour the food that is left for the swine, even the filthy garbage that others reject with loathing, providing it will only fill the stomach.

DIET.

The first and most prominent matter, to be attended to by the managers of the school, is to restrain and regulate this appetite, and save the digestive organs from the burdens, and some from the oppressive burdens, which had previously been cast upon them. This change from large or excessive to moderate diet is done without violence, but carefully, cautiously, and tenderly, so that none suffer in the transition, but all are safely brought to the new and healthier system of nutrition, and are easily, comfortably, and satisfactorily kept thereon afterwards. On this system, adapted to their digestive powers, they are better nourished, their energies of body are better developed and sustained, and their moral and mental forces allowed better opportunities of coming into action, and thus the first bar to their improvement is removed.

The diet of the idiots is not low. They need and have good nutriment as well as other children. They do not thrive well on any thing approaching to starvation. With the foolish as well as with the wise, hunger is not the means to overcome the effects of surfeiting. Low diet and insufficient food are unfavorable to the energetic action of the brain as well as of the muscular system, in all persons of every age, in both childhood and manhood, and of every grade of mental power, from the dullest to the brightest. Corresponding to their low constitutions and

imperfect development, idiots have weak digestive organs to convert their food into blood, and feeble nutrient arteries to convert that blood into living flesh.

The proper diet, therefore, of these children is good and sufficient, even generous, very digestible and nutritious, and very cautiously adapted to the power and condition of each one. Not only is the food thus carefully selected and given, but its effects on their systems are constantly watched, and any evil effects, or any absence of the expected good effects, is observed, and then the diet is changed to meet the wants and the liabilities of the suffering child.

EFFECT OF ERROR IN DIET.

This discipline of diet and regimen needs to be constant and unrelaxing. The feebly-endowed child, although obedient to and thriving under the law thus applied to him, is not a law unto himself. His appetite remains long after it has been under restraint; and if away from the faithful guardians that watch him in the school, he is not only not sure to be directed and fed by others who have the same ideas of dietetic discipline, but he is in danger of falling among affectionate but indiscreet friends, who find a pleasure in indulging him in his appetites, or at least find no pleasure in restraining him.

Proofs of this, more abundant and manifest than is desirable, are seen, when the children return from their homes, after occasional though rare visits, or at the end of the infrequent vacations. They sometimes return with physical disturbances, digestive troubles, bowel complaints, increased torpor of the cerebral and nervous system, and waywardness, which plainly show that the stomach has been tampered with.

With such children, then, the teachers have to begin their work anew. They must again repress the propensities that had been put to sleep in the term before, but awakened in the vacation. They must again quicken the sluggish intellect, that had before been roused to some action, but relapsed into comparative torpor while absent from the school and among their friends.

NEED OF CONSTANT WATCHFULNESS.

The idiot child is a law unto himself no more in all other matters pertaining to life, than he is in regard to nutrition. He

does not go to bed and get up, nor wash and dress and comb himself, and put his person into healthy, comfortable, and commendable order, nor attend to his natural wants, nor instinctively and certainly regard the proprieties of life, as other children do. They are not all alike, but they vary in these respects as they do in regard to appetite and food. Some of the lowest grade are as thoughtless and negligent as the beasts in these matters, and others of the higher grade attend to them in great degree like weak and slovenly children at home; but all require to be watched, most to be aided, and some need to have every thing thought of and done for them, as much as a babe of yesterday's birth. In the management of these children, nothing is to be taken for granted as with ordinary children, who know these things by instinct, or learn them by observation, or for whom a lesson once learned is knowledge for life.

NEED OF STIMULATION.

After all this done, after the idiot child is fed, washed, dressed, and combed, and apparently fitted for action, he is still in a state of entire, partial, or comparative passivity, his muscles are soft and flabby, his movements are feeble and uncertain, his brain is inactive, his senses are dull, his mind is torpid, his thoughts are few and limited to the physical objects about him, or to his sensations within him. He lacks power of concentration; he may see, but he does not understand; he may hear, but he does not comprehend. His causality or reasoning faculty, the co-ordinating powers, which combine two or more actions to produce one result, or two or more things for one purpose, seem to be dormant, and he is a creature of impulse, governed by physical sensations or animal propensities.

Here is a work almost of new creation; a normal, rational, and healthy man or woman, is to be made out of these disproportioned and chaotic elements of animality and humanity.

After attending to the natural wants, the nutritive functions, and the means of protection and preservation, the next thing is to develop the sluggish or dormant faculties, and to bring into action, as far as possible, the powers of self-care, self-direction, and self-sustenance.

MUSCULAR DEVELOPMENT.

The first part of this work is with the body, the next with the intellect, and last with the moral elements.

The children are first taken to the gymnasium, where they are taught to use their bodies, their arms, and legs, their hands and feet, in such ways and manner as will bring all their muscles into action. These movements are first simple, to meet their very narrow comprehension, and gentle, to comport with their limited force. Gradually they gain strength, and become able to use more and more exertion ; daily, monthly, or yearly, they add new exercises, and perform feats that require more and more force, until in course of time, short with some, and long, even very long with others, they reach a degree of power and of skill in these movements, that does not belong even to children of ordinary health and brightness, and they go through processes, they perform feats of strength, they walk on bars, they climb the under side of ladders, they swing by their arms and hands, and by their legs and feet, which cannot be done by others, however strong in body or mind, unless they have been trained for the purpose.

PERCEPTIVE FACULTIES.

To quicken their dormant perceptive faculties, they are trained in processes more complicated and involving observation. They are drilled with wooden muskets, in military exercises, and thus they work in concert, they march with the drum, they run, they trot, and they play together.

The perceptive faculties are so dull in some, that they cannot distinguish colors ; they cannot tell white from black, nor green from red, but to them, apparently, all colors are alike.

They have the same difficulty in recognizing other qualities of objects ; they do not distinguish square from round, long from short, nor recognize hardness, softness, height, or depth. All of these are new to many of these vacant minds, and it sometimes requires long and tedious repetition to instil the first and simplest idea into them.

Mr. Richards, the earliest and a very excellent teacher in this school, endeavored to make a little idiot understand that there was a difference between the ball and the cubic block that were on the table before him. He told him one was

square and the other round, and then asked him to take up the square; the child not comprehending this, Mr. R. repeated it, and showed him how to do it, by taking the block in his own hand, and then he put the block in the child's hand. Mr. Richards thinks he repeated this, at least, six hundred times, through many days, before the child would take up the square or the round block when he was asked to do so. But at length, after this persistent teaching, the lesson was learned, and the first and great point was gained. The idiot had acquired so much concentration and co-ordination that he could understand that objects were of different shapes, and he could combine the three ideas of square block, grasping, and lifting. Having once got hold of the boy's attention, the subsequent processes were less difficult. This is an extreme case, but all in various degrees lack the power of concentration and co-ordination, that seems to be instinctive in common boys and girls.

The two blocks, square and round, cubic and globular, are the simplest, and are used to meet the lowest element; but manifold other means are used for the same purpose; different colored objects, blocks and papers are placed before them to attract, and, if possible, to occupy their attention, and they are drilled upon them as the boy with the cube and ball.

Pictures of animals are hung on the walls before them, of men in various positions, of buildings, houses, barns, &c., to familiarize them with differences of things, and to induce them to see and then to perceive and possibly reflect.

LETTERS AND LANGUAGE.

These and similar processes and trainings take precedence of instruction in letters, language, books, and abstract ideas. Yet, at length, the pupil enters on the first stage of his education and he begins his letters. The A, B, C, &c., are printed on cards and put on his table for him to look at and play with, if he has thought enough for that. Certainly the letters are before him and he may see them; probably some perceive that they differ from each other, that O is not I, and N is not S, and some may wonder whether there is any significance in these different shapes of black marks on cards.

Then they take their second lesson in letters, and are told that A is a; that is, the sound a to the ear is connected with

the shape of a to the eye. This is not intuition, nor is it learned by one lesson, but must be repeated many times; not so many as Mr. Richards repeated the lesson of the cube and ball, yet still many times to most of these dull scholars, and very many to the slowest of these slow learners. But when the first lesson in this category is learned, and the idiot connects the sound with the shape of the letter and associates these two perceptions in one object, the next lesson is more easily acquired, and the boy ultimately arrives at the knowledge of the whole alphabet.

Another, and a new step, is to put these letters into words, beginning with the smallest and simplest. The boy spells cat, dog, pan, first, and larger words afterwards; and then he is taught the connection between written or printed and spoken language, that the words and sentences that he sees are the same as those he hears and speaks. Thus education begins, by the most careful and oftentimes the most unpromising and even discouraging results, and it is carried on by slow and with many painfully slow steps; but most, sooner or later, learn something; some to read, some geography, some write, some obtain ideas of numbers and their combinations. Several learn to sing imitatively, with others and with the piano; they sing songs, hymns, and keep good time and make correct sounds.

LABORS.

Thus far the education is to put the body, its organs and its functions in a healthy and normal condition, and make the physical man as complete as possible, and next to quicken the perceptions and intellectual faculties as much as they can be, and thus prepare them for the application of their powers to some useful purpose.

The girls are put to work, as far as they can be, in various ways; they are taught to sweep the floors, to sew and to knit, are put to learn any work within the reach of their capacity and at the command of the managers of the school.

MECHANICAL TRADES.

The boys are taught trades as far as they can be. They braid coir, and some make this braid into mats. Some make brooms and several bottom shoes. All these works,

braiding, mat making, broom making and shoe making, occupy all the larger boys some hours in each day in the workshop.

It is gratifying to the hopeful and convincing to the hopeless, to see these boys working in the shop quietly, regularly and attentively as apprentices work in other shops. Some of the Trustees have visited the shops in the working hours, when the overseer was accidentally out, and found these boys all engaged each in his own occupation and at his own bench or place, without noise or confusion, or any more conversation than might be heard among any other working boys of similar age. These mechanical employments have been satisfactory and successful. They develop the powers of the boys, and aid very greatly in their training and education. And the work they do is acceptable. The work is not of the best kind; that is not to be expected here, and is never expected of apprentices any where, even under the most favorable circumstances. Nevertheless, the shoes, brooms and mats find a good market, and were last year sold for enough to pay the cost of the materials and superintendence, within eighteen dollars and fifteen cents.

The institution loses very little in money by this adventure, but gains very greatly in the purposes of its creation and continuance, a higher and better development is given, and the physical and mental powers are better trained, almost without cost, for the labor pays nearly the expense of the teaching.

GENERAL RESULTS.

By all these means, by labor, by study, and by play, each at its appointed hour, under the appropriate teachers and in the place arranged for it, the torpid powers of these children are developed, trained, disciplined and kept in action; and most of the children are improved by these influences. A few have been found unimprovable; some improve to a certain extent, and there they stop and remain. As this is strictly an educational school and not an asylum for custody of the feeble and unimprovable, both of these classes have been sent to their homes.

Yet there are not many that have not gone away in better condition than they came.

HIGHER CLASS.

There are all grades of mental deficiency, from one who is merely of weak understanding, down to him who manifests nothing above the animal. To most of these, the doors of this school are open, and they are invited to come and enjoy its advantages. There are some who seem to be not far below the rest of the world in common understanding, but yet cannot be influenced and trained by usual aids of family and home, nor comprehend and be taught by the usual instructions and discipline of common schools. Some of these have been sent to this institution, where, by the extraordinary but appropriate means, they have been developed and educated so far, that they can be taught by the ordinary domestic influences, and by the usual teachers in public schools. These, then, have been sent back to their homes, where, and in public schools, they grow up to be ordinary men and women, with power and intelligence sufficient to sustain themselves, and take some part in the affairs of the world and society. These are not strong men, and they never can be; but they are stronger in intellect, in skill, in power to apply themselves to useful purposes, than they would have been without the teaching and the training, that here first turned them out of the path that led to idiocy, toward that of the world's average common sense.

OTHERS IMPROVED.

There are many others that were neglected, and some utterly neglected, for want of appropriate means of development and training before they came here, but have been so educated that, under the guardianship of discreet friends, they earn their living, and some can earn more, and all of these add somewhat to the comfort of others and partake, in some degree, of the comforts of common life. Almost all of the others have been improved so far as to be made tolerable members of families, instead of disgusting nuisances, and painful burdens on their friends and objects of ridicule and contempt to the idle and thoughtless.

Some have been blessed with a conception of their immortal destiny, of God and of religion, which were unknown and incomprehensible before. One youth came in a benighted state, and, after two or three years of training, returned to his home,

and soon after died. His mother wrote, full of gratitude that her son, who before had not risen above his animal appetites, had come to comprehend that he had a soul and a heavenly destiny—that there was a Divinity to whom he could look and pray, and could hope to join when separated from the body.

PROGRESS OF THE SCHOOL.

The growth and increase of this school have been gradual, but constant, from the beginning. In May, 1848, the legislature appropriated twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500) a year, for three years, to try the experiment of educating ten idiots, in order to test the question of the improvability of this class of children.

In 1851, the Committee on Charitable Institutions, after very careful inquiry and examination, reported to the legislature that the experiment was successful and satisfactory, and recommended that five thousand dollars (\$5,000) a year be granted to this corporation, on condition “that the said institution shall gratuitously receive and educate thirty idiotic persons, to be designated by the governor.” This was done.

This number of thirty State beneficiaries were almost immediately offered and admitted into the school; and more soon applied for admittance on the same foundation, and were received and taught. Beside these wards of the Commonwealth, private pupils were taken. They paid a price greater than the cost of their support and training, and the profits derived from these were then, and have been from that time to the present, devoted to the board and education of the poor children whom the governor recommended. By this means, this corporation has always exceeded the requirements of the law.

Notwithstanding this aid from the profits on the private pupils, the demand for admission increased beyond the means of the institution to support the applicants. To meet this growing want, the legislature, in 1857, increased the annual grant to seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500), on the condition that forty-five State beneficiaries should be received and educated.

This, with the profits on private pupils, was, for a short time, sufficient for the support of all that offered. But the demand for the advantages of this school went on increasing. There is

no evidence of any increase of idiocy among the people; but there are many in this, and in every other community, who are imperfectly organized and imperfectly endowed, and who have not been, and cannot be, developed by the ordinary influences and appliances of home, nor educated by the usual means of common schools. These have been hitherto suffered to grow up in ignorance, without knowledge of themselves, of the world, and of things about them. Neglected, untaught, uncared for, and sometimes maltreated and even abused, they seemed destined to grow up idiotic or feeble-minded, and every year tended to confirm them in their hopeless condition.

GROWING INTEREST IN EDUCATION OF IDIOTS.

The experiments of this school, and of similar institutions in Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Kentucky, showing that something may be done for these poor and feeble children, have produced a great change in public opinion; and that change is going on rapidly, as is proved by the increase of earnest and urgent applications for the admission of the pupils into this school. Every year more and more of the families manifest a desire to obtain for their feebler, as well as for their stronger children, the appropriate means and opportunities of development and education which the intelligence and philanthropy of the age have devised, and the justice and generosity of the Commonwealth have provided.

Thus the demand for admission into the school still increased, and soon it again exceeded the means of the corporation, even with the seven thousand five hundred dollars a year and the profits on private pupils. The legislature, in 1861, increased the annual appropriation to nine thousand dollars (\$9,000), on condition that fifty-five State beneficiaries should be received and educated. This large and liberal grant from the Commonwealth seemed, two years ago, to be sufficient for all the wants of this class of children. But the influences which were then at work still continued to operate, and excite among the people of the State more and more interest in this kind of education, and more and more applications are made from parents for the admission of their children into this school. There are now in the school—

State beneficiaries,	68
Beneficiaries of Rhode Island,	2
Private pupils,	6
	<hr/>
	76

The institution has been greatly aided in the support of the excess of State pupils over the requirements of the law—thirteen at the present time—by having the gratuitous services of the General Superintendent and of the Physician from the beginning, which would otherwise cost from a thousand to fifteen hundred dollars a year, beside what is now paid for the support of the school. Beside these now in the school, there are many candidates waiting for vacancies, whose friends are impatient and even urgent for their early admission. The limit of the number of those who need, and whose friends desire that they shall enjoy the benefits of such a school as this, is not yet reached in this State. And, judging from the facts in respect to idiocy, discovered and reported by the Commissioners on Idiots in 1846, and by the Commission on Lunacy in 1854, and also from the history of the growth and progress of this school, the demand for such education as is here offered will increase, until all the feebler and less endowed, as well as her more favored children, shall receive all the education as their powers and capacities admit.

COST OF EDUCATING THESE CHILDREN.

It will readily be seen, from a knowledge of the nature and condition of these children, that it must require more labor and cost more money to take care of and train them than other and ordinary children, who do most of their own thinking, get their own lessons, and occupy themselves in play and work continuously without constant and momentary superintendence.

In the care and training of these 76 children, 20 persons are employed, 19 under pay; and, as the material, on which these are to work, is of a lower grade, it requires more attention and more skill to work upon it. It is, therefore, needful that all the teachers, attendants, &c., should be superior, in tact and faithfulness, to those elsewhere employed. A master of an ordinary shoe shop, who would be passably successful in teaching ordinary apprentices, would fail here among these dull scholars in

the art. He must be, not only a sufficiently skilful workman and know how the shoe is to be made, but he must have tact, patience, gentleness, tenderness and aptness to teach, that would, elsewhere, make him a good schoolmaster.

Similar moral and intellectual elements are needed in all the others who are employed, and these elements must be paid for as well as the mental and physical powers which are usually given to common labors and affairs, and which must not be absent here.

The whole corps of officers and attendants consists of twenty persons, who receive salaries and wages as follows :

General Superintendent, (without pay.)	
Resident Superintendent,	\$500 00
Matron,	300 00
Assistant Matron,	144 00
Two Teachers, each,	250 00
Superintendent of shoe shop,	480 00
Superintendent of broom and mat shop,	360 00
Male Attendant of large boys,	216 00
Female Attendant of small boys,	120 00
Two Attendants for girls, each,	120 00
Cook,	144 00
Assistant Cook,	48 00
Two Chamber-maids, each,	96 00
Table Girl,	96 00
Table Girl,	36 00
Fireman,	216 00
Laundress,	96 00

All the above, except the General Superintendent, board in the house, at the expense of the institution.

FINANCES.

It will be seen by the Treasurer's report that the institution had on hand October 1, 1862,	\$104 00
It received from the State,	9,000 00
From private pupils,	2,358 74
From earnings in shoe, broom and mat shop,	617 29

From sales of horse, carryall, and old materials,	\$301 15
From repayment of money advanced for clothing of pupils,	166 05
Total receipts in the year,	<u>\$12,547 23</u>

The cost of carrying on the institution, during the
year, was \$11,056 88

which, according to the bills, was expended for the following
matters and purposes :

Beef,	\$507 53	Milk,	\$451 70
Mutton,	115 90	Butter,	418 93
Lamb,	64 73	Cheese,	5 31
Veal,	23 49	Eggs,	5 02
Pork,	23 66		—\$880 99
Fowls,	15 38	Salt,	\$9 26
Tripe and Liver,	3 27	Sugar,	308 53
Total Meats,	—\$753 96	Molasses,	116 38
Fish,	77 89	Vinegar and Cider,	6 07
Bread,	\$796 61	Small Groceries,	28 32
Flour,	117 30		— 468 56
Bolted and G. Meal,	24 44	Ice,	28 31
Rice,	74 02	Tea,	\$104 85
Corn Starch,	3 00	Chocolate and Coffee,	13 98
Sago,	2 60		— 118 83
	—1,017 97	Water,	102 13
Potatoes,	\$113 05	Medicines,	8 95
Beans,	24 00	Fuel,	1,393 95
Corn, green,	19 68	Light,	107 70
Squash,	16 14	Soap and Potash,	28 39
Peas,	12 58	Household articles,	33 29
Turnips,	6 94	Labor and Wages,	2,249 27
Tomatoes,	7 15	Salaries,	1,207 22
Cabbage,	1 14	Furniture,	201 34
Rhubarb,	53	Repairs,	578 87
Asparagus,	2 73	Fire-works,	3 27
Beets,	3 71	Shops,	479 45
Carrots,	42	Cost of Horse and Feed,	334 58
Greens,	10 14	Carriage and Harness,	310 48
Other vegetables,	96	Car Fare and Toll,	8 60
Total Vegetables,	— 219 17	Express,	6 35
Apples,	\$57 42	Telegram,	50
Other fruit,	22 98	Stamps,	15 20
Berries,	19 14	Books and Stationery,	30 92
Total Fruit,	— 99 54	Printing Reports,	15 70

Travelling and incidental expenses, \$162 50	Interest, \$21 00
Insurance, 50 00	Board of children in vacation, 24 00
Rent of Land, 18 00	
	Grand Total, \$11,056 88

Money was also advanced for clothing of scholars, \$316.12 of which \$156.30 has been repaid, and the remainder probably will be.

Besides what appears in the Treasurer's account, there are due to the institution :

Debts supposed to be good,	\$718 97
Cash in the hands of the Treasurer,	1,742 12
	<u>\$2,461 09</u>

And there are outstanding debts due from the institution, 1,665 00

Balance of available means, \$796 00

Moreover the institution has clear possession of the lands and buildings, furniture, apparatus, a quantity of provisions and material of life, and stock in the shop as shown in the following inventory :

INVENTORY OF PROPERTY.

Furniture, \$3,889 33	Carryall, wagons, harnesses	
Provisions, 397 96	and stable tools,	\$386 99
Other stores, 24 02	Horse and donkey,	175 00
Fuel, 750 00	Hay and grain,	5 50
Light, 31 90	Boats, &c.,	140 00
Books and stationery, 51 78	Carpenter's shop, tools,	
Furniture and apparatus	lumber, paint, &c.,	67 10
in school-rooms, 368 84	Workshop, tools and ap-	
Gymnasium, 162 27	paratus,	116 31
Caloric engine and blower, 390 00	Broom stock,	262 06
House and farming tools, 61 75	Mat stock,	59 77
Medicines and chemical	Shoe stock,	39 19
apparatus, 10 90		
	Total,	<u>\$7,390 67</u>

STATE GRANTS AND PRIVATE GIFTS.

For the purchase and creation of the establishment, the State in 1856 gave \$25,000.

This sum was expended in the purchase of the land, in the purchase and removal of the two buildings, and in the enlargement and finishing of the main or north building.

In 1859 the State gave \$4,000 to finish the south building. But, as these grants were insufficient for these purposes, the corporation borrowed \$3,000, and completed the work. In 1861, the State gave \$3,000, with which that debt was paid, making \$32,000, the gifts of the Commonwealth, all of which is invested in the real estate of the institution.

Beside these State gifts, generous individuals in 1857 gave \$5,100 for the purchasing of the buildings, and others at other times have given \$300. The rest has been paid for out of earnings of the institution. All the repairs and renewals of buildings, fences, furniture, tools, apparatus, &c., the grading and improvement of the grounds, have been paid for out of these earnings.

ADMISSIONS.

Since the present corporation took charge of this school, there have been admitted :

State beneficiaries,	232
Private pupils,	54
Total,	— 286
Discharged,	202
Died,	8
	— 210
Now remaining,	76

Pupils in the School in the last six years.

Y E A R.	Entered.	Average No. through the year.	Y E A R.	Entered.	Average No. through the year.
1857-8, . .	25	-	1861-2, . .	22	$61\frac{2}{2}$
1858-9, . .	24	-	1862-3, . .	27	$65\frac{0}{2}$
1859-60, . .	26	$56\frac{1}{2}$	Four years,		$65\frac{2}{2}$
1860-61, . .	15	$68\frac{1}{2}$			

The cost of support has been :

YEARS.	Total cost.	COST FOR EACH PUPIL.	
		Per year.	Per week.
1859-60,	\$9,624 71	\$170 13	\$3 26
1860-61, :	11,380 81	165 14	3 18
1861-2,	10,489 55	171 49	3 29
1862-3,	11,056 88	167 95	3 23
Four years,	\$42,551 95	168 41	\$3 24

In 1861 the epileptic pupils, who could not be benefited in the school, and were injurious to the others, beside being a great burden upon the institution, without advantage to themselves, were sent to their homes; but their places were soon filled, and there are as many in the house as can be accommodated.

OFFICERS AND MANAGERS.

Dr. Howe, being called by the national government to serve as a member of the Freedman's Inquiry Commission; has resigned his office of General Superintendent, and Dr. Jarvis temporarily occupies the place, and has the general care of the school. But the Trustees are now in search of some suitable person to be the permanent superintendent, to live in the house and give his whole time and energy to the management of the institution. In order to meet this additional cost, it will be necessary to curtail the expenses, which can be done only by reducing the number of State beneficiaries to the requirements of the law.

Mr. Albert L. Norris has had the immediate charge of the school through the last six months, and has faithfully, discreetly and satisfactorily discharged the duties of his office. But being called upon to attend to his studies as a medical student, he has resigned his office, which the Trustees hope, however, to fill at an early day with a permanent Superintendent.

Mrs. Maedonald, who has been matron for twelve years, still acceptably and successfully manages the affairs of the house with economy, dignity and grace, as she has done through her long period of service.

The teachers, attendants, superintendents of the shops, and the other co-operators in this work, have performed their several parts faithfully.

By the united efforts of all who are and have been here engaged in developing, training and teaching these lower and less favored children of humanity, they have made good and satisfactory progress, and the success of the school in the last, as well as in previous years, justifies all the efforts and expenditures that have been made in its behalf, and encourages the legislature to continue its generous support and fostering care, and the people to continue their sympathy and confidence.

The field of usefulness for the coming year opens as widely as it has in the past, and it promises to grow larger and larger with the progress of time. To meet these present and increasing wants of the people, and to educate those that are now in the school, and as many as possible of those that may be offered to its care, the Trustees ask the Commonwealth to make, at least, the same grant that was made last year, and with this they hope to accomplish a similar work.

Respectfully submitted.

JOSIAH BARTLETT,
FRANCIS W. BIRD,
JAMES B. CONGDON,
JOHN C. DALTON,
JOHN FLINT,
SAMUEL G. HOWE,
EDWARD JARVIS,
FREDERIC W. G. MAY,
WILLIAM O. MOSELEY,
ROBERT B. STORER,
EMORY WASHBURN,
STEPHEN M. WELD,

Trustees.

April 1,	To sales of brooms, \$2.25; J. Hoffmeyer, \$213 53,	\$215 78			
1,	Mrs. Mead, \$10; J. T. Brown, \$62.50; .	72 50			
1,	Gideon Haynes, \$110.25; L. W. Anthony, \$70.19,	180 44			
1,	William Ross, \$100; J. Boardman, \$30,	130 00			
1,	J. N. Stevens,	12 00			
July 3,	Commonwealth of Massachusetts,		\$4,686 14		
Aug. 31,	William Ross, on account of son,		2,250 00		
			150 00		
			<u>\$12,190 14</u>		
					<u>\$12,190 14</u>

STEPHEN FAIRBANKS, *Treasurer.*

Boston, September 30, 1863.

Boston, September 30, 1863.—The undersigned have examined the books and accounts of STEPHEN FAIRBANKS, Treasurer of the Massachusetts School for Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Youth, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched, with a balance in the Globe Bank of \$951.92.

ROBERT B. STORER, }
 FRED. W. G. MAY, } *Auditors.*

Dr. SUPPLEMENTAL ACCOUNT OF STEPHEN FAIRBANKS, Treasurer of Massachusetts School for Idiots, &c. Cr.

1863.		1863.		By cash paid—	
Sept. 30,		Sept. 30,		J. T. Brown, amount overpaid on account of son's board,	\$66 89
30,		Oct. 1,		Balance to new account,	1,742 12
To balance of principal account,	\$27 25	\$951 92			
Samuel M. Albro, on account of son,	5 00				
Robert B. Storer, clothing for Ellen Derry,	4 25				
Nancy Reed, clothing for daughter,	50				
Jacob Rowell, clothing for son,	100 00				
Jones Hofmayer, board of J. Fleishman,	13 50				
J. D. Stevens, board of son,	62 50				
J. T. Brown, " " " " " "	99 75				
R. C. Smith, " " " " " "	10 00				
Mr. Fielding, " " " " " "	299 50				
State of Rhode Island, for beneficiary,	163 45				
Proceeds of workshop,	6 80				
Sale of old iron,	64 59				
Proceeds of workshop,		857 09			
		\$1,809 01			

(E. E.)

STEPHEN FAIRBANKS, Treasurer.

Boston, October 13, 1863.

Boston, October 13, 1863.—The undersigned have this day examined the above Supplemental Account and find it correct, showing a balance of cash in Globe Bank of seventeen hundred forty-two dollars and twelve one-hundredths.

ROBERT B. STORER, }
FRED. W. G. MAY, }
Auditors.

MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION.

NATHAN ALLEN, Lowell.	JAMES LODGE, Boston.
JOHN A. ANDREW, Boston.	GEORGE B. LORING, Salem.
JAMES M. BARNARD, Boston.	JOSIAH LORING, Boston.
JOSIAH BARTLETT, Concord.	SAMUEL K. LOTHROP, Boston.
CHARLES BECK, Cambridge.	JOHN LOWELL, Boston.
FRANCIS W. BIRD, Walpole.	JOHN R. MANLEY, Boston.
GEORGE S. BOUTWELL, Groton.	THEOPHILUS R. MARVIN, Boston.
J. INGERSOLL BOWDITCH, Boston.	FREDERICK W. G. MAY, Dorchester.
CHARLES R. BRADFORD, Roxbury.	SAMUEL MAY, Boston.
THOMAS M. BREWER, Boston.	WILLIAM MINOT, Boston.
SIMON BROWN, Concord.	WILLIAM O. MOSELEY, Boston.
CHARLES E. BUCKINGHAM, Boston.	WILLARD NYE, New Bedford.
EPHRAIM W. BULL, Concord.	GEORGE OSBORNE, South Danvers.
WILLIAM B. CALHOUN, Springfield.	JONATHAN PRESTON, Boston.
GEORGE CHANDLER, Worcester.	SAMPSON REED, Boston.
WILLIAM CHAPIN, Lawrence.	JOSEPH REYNOLDS, Concord.
HENRY H. CHILD, Pittsfield.	GEORGE R. RUSSELL, West Roxbury.
GEORGE C. S. CHOATE, Taunton.	G. HOWLAND SHAW, Boston.
OTIS CLAPP, Boston.	NATHANIEL B. SHURTLEFF, Boston.
HENRY G. CLARK, Boston.	BENJAMIN B. SIESSON, Westport.
JAMES B. CONGDON, New Bedford.	INCREASE S. SMITH, Dorchester.
CHARLES E. COOK, Boston.	CHARLES H. STEDMAN, Boston.
JOSEPH COOLIDGE, Boston.	CHARLES STODDARD, Boston.
URIEL CROCKER, Boston.	CHARLES S. STORROW, Lawrence.
WILLIAM CROCKER, Taunton.	CHARLES SUMNER, Boston.
JOHN C. DALTON, Boston.	INCREASE SUMNER, Great Barrington.
GEORGE M. DEXTER, Boston.	JOHN WINGATE THORNTON, Boston.
SAMUEL DOWNER, Dorchester.	ALBERT TOLMAN, Worcester.
GEORGE B. EMERSON, Boston.	JAMES TOLMAN, Roxbury.
STEPHEN FAIRBANKS, Boston.	THOMAS B. WALES, Boston.
CALEB CLESSON FIELD, Leominster.	AMASA WALKER, North Brookfield.
JOHN FLINT, Boston.	CHARLES H. WARREN, Boston.
TIMOTHY GILBERT, Boston.	EMORY WASHBURN, Cambridge.
WILLIAM A. GORDON, New Bedford.	STEPHEN M. WELD, West Roxbury.
JOHN W. GRAVES, Chelsea.	JOHN WELLS, Chicopee.
EDWARD E. HALE, Boston.	JAMES M. WILLIAMS, Taunton.
DANIEL N. HASKELL, Boston.	SAMUEL WILLISTON, Easthampton.
GEORGE S. HILLARD, Boston.	HENRY BARNARD, Hartford, Ct.
E. ROCKWOOD HOAR, Concord.	PHINEAS BARNES, Portland, Me.
SIDNEY HOMER, Boston.	NATHAN BISHOP.
ROBERT W. HOOPER, Boston.	SAMUEL ELIOT, Hartford, Ct.
SAMUEL G. HOWE, Boston.	WILLIAM HAZARD, Rhode Island.
WILLIAM J. HUBBARD, Boston.	ELISHA R. POTTER, Rhode Island.
EDWARD JARVIS, Dorchester.	ISAAC RAY, Providence, R. I.
AMOS A. LAWRENCE, Boston.	BARNAS SEARS, Providence, R. I.
WILLIAM RAYMOND LEE, Roxbury.	HERVEY B. WILBUR, Syracuse, N. Y.

OFFICERS FOR 1863-4.

<i>President,</i>	. . . . .	SAMUEL G. HOWE.
<i>Vice-President,</i>	. . . . .	EMORY WASHBURN.
<i>Treasurer,</i>	. . . . .	STEPHEN FAIRBANKS.
<i>Secretary,</i>	. . . . .	EDWARD JARVIS.

TRUSTEES.

JOSIAH BARTLETT.	EDWARD JARVIS.
FRANCIS W. BIRD.	FREDERICK W. G. MAY.
JAMES B. CONGDON.	WILLIAM O. MOSELEY.
JOHN C. DALTON.	ROBERT B. STORER.
JOHN FLINT.	EMORY WASHBURN.
SAMUEL G. HOWE.	STEPHEN M. WELD.

VISITING COMMITTEES.

1863. November,	. . . . .	Messrs. DALTON and MOSELEY.
December,	. . . . .	MOSELEY and FLINT.
1864. January,	. . . . .	FLINT and HOWE.
February,	. . . . .	HOWE and WASHBURN.
March,	. . . . .	WASHBURN and STORER.
April,	. . . . .	STORER and CONGDON.
May,	. . . . .	CONGDON and BARTLETT
June,	. . . . .	BARTLETT and JARVIS.
July,	. . . . .	JARVIS and MAY.
August,	. . . . .	MAY and WELD.
September,	. . . . .	WELD and BIRD.
October,	. . . . .	BIRD and DALTON.

A P P E N D I X .

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL FOR IDIOTIC AND FEEBLE-MINDED YOUTH.

SECTION 1. S. G. Howe, Samuel May, Stephen Fairbanks, their associates and successors, are hereby made a corporation, by the name of the Massachusetts School for Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Youth, for the purpose of training and teaching such persons, with all the powers and privileges, and subject to all the duties, restrictions and liabilities, set forth in the thirty-eighth and forty-fourth chapters of the Revised Statutes.

SECTION 2. Said corporation may hold, for the purposes aforesaid, real estate not exceeding in value one hundred thousand dollars, and personal estate, the income of which shall not exceed ten thousand dollars.—[*Approved by the Governor, April 4, 1850.*]

RESOLVE CONCERNING IDIOTIC CHILDREN.

Resolved, That there be paid, annually, out of the treasury of the Commonwealth, to the treasurer of the Massachusetts School for Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Youth, the sum of five thousand dollars, to be devoted to teaching and training indigent idiotic children belonging to this Commonwealth: *provided*, that the board of trustees, having the direction of the said institution, shall be composed of twelve persons, four of whom shall be appointed by the governor and council: and *provided*, that the governor, lieutenant-governor, secretary of state, president of the senate, speaker of the house, and the two chaplains, shall constitute a board of visitors, whose duty it shall be to visit and inspect the said institution as often as they see fit; to examine the by-laws and regulations enacted by the corporation; and, generally, to see that the object of the said institution is carried into effect: and *provided, further*, that the said institution shall gratuitously receive and educate thirty idiotic persons, to be designated by the governor: and *provided, further*, that other applicants, of proper age and condition, children of inhabitants of this Commonwealth who are not wealthy, shall be received at a charge not exceeding the actual average cost of the inmates: and *provided, further*, that the members of the legislature for the time being shall be, *ex officio*, visitors of the institution, and have the privilege, during the sessions, of inspecting the same; that the governor be

authorized annually to draw his warrant for the sum of five thousand dollars, in four equal quarterly payments of one thousand two hundred and fifty dollars each, in favor of the treasurer of the said school, whenever he shall have satisfactory evidence that the terms and conditions of the foregoing resolve have been fulfilled.—[*Approved by the Governor, April 30, 1851.*]

RESOLVE IN FAVOR OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL FOR IDIOTIC AND
FEEBLE-MINDED YOUTH.

Resolved, That the sum allowed to the treasurer of the Massachusetts School for Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Youth, according to chapter forty-four of the Resolves of the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, be increased to the sum of nine thousand dollars, which shall be used and applied according to the conditions of said forty-fourth chapter: *provided*, that the said institution shall gratuitously receive and educate twenty-five idiotic persons, to be designated by the governor, in addition to the number provided for in the said forty-fourth chapter: and *provided, further*, that six of the trustees shall be appointed by the governor and council.—[*Approved by the Governor, March 21, 1861.*]

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I. *Title.*—The corporation shall be composed of the persons named in “An Act to incorporate the Massachusetts School for Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Youth;” of such persons as may be elected members by ballot at any legal meeting; and also of all such persons as shall pay the sum of twenty-five dollars or upwards; and of such persons as shall annually pay the sum of five dollars.

ARTICLE II. *Meetings.*—There shall be an annual meeting of the corporation on the first Thursday of October in every year, at which the following officers shall be chosen by ballot, namely:—A President, a Vice-President, eight Trustees, a Treasurer, and a Secretary, to serve until the next annual meeting, or until others are chosen and qualified in their stead: *provided, however,* that if, from any cause, the officers should not be elected at the annual meeting, they may be elected, or any vacancy filled, at any other meeting regularly notified for the purpose.

ARTICLE III. Notice of the annual meeting shall be given by the secretary, by sending a written or printed notice to each member of the corporation, and by publication in one or more of the newspapers printed in Boston, at least seven days previous to the day of meeting.

ARTICLE IV. The president, or in his absence, the vice-president, shall preside at all meetings of the corporation; and in the absence of both, a president shall be chosen for the meeting.

ARTICLE V. The secretary shall call a special meeting of the corporation on the requisition of the board of trustees, or of any ten members of the corporation—notice being given as for the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VI. *Trustees.*—The board shall be composed of eight persons chosen according to the second article, and of six persons appointed by the governor and council of the State of Massachusetts as provided in the resolve passed by the legislature and approved March 21, 1861.

It shall be the duty of the board of trustees to meet once a month. Three shall form a quorum for ordinary business, but a majority of the whole shall be required for a quorum, at any meeting, to act upon the transfer of real estate or other property. They shall have power to take any measures, which they may deem expedient, for encouraging subscriptions, donations, and bequests to the corporation; to take charge of all the interests and concerns

of the school; to enter into and bind the corporation by such compacts and engagements as they may deem advantageous; to make such rules and regulations for their own government and that of the school, and not inconsistent with these by-laws, as may to them appear reasonable and proper, subject, however, to be altered or annulled by the corporation. They shall annually appoint a superintendent, who shall nominate for their acceptance all necessary officers, assistants and servants, with such compensation as they may deem proper. They shall cause a fair record to be kept of all their doings, which shall be laid before the corporation, at every meeting thereof; and at every annual meeting, they shall make a report in writing on the treasurer's accounts, and on the general state of the institution; comprising a statement of the number of persons received into and discharged from the same, the condition of the pupils, and an inventory of all the real and personal estate of the corporation.

ARTICLE VII. *Secretary.*—It shall be the duty of the secretary to notify and attend all meetings of the corporation, and to keep a fair record of their doings, and to furnish the treasurer with a copy of all votes of the corporation or of the trustees, respecting the payment of moneys to be made by him.

ARTICLE VIII. *Treasurer.*—It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive and have the custody of all moneys and securities belonging to the corporation, which he shall keep and manage under the direction of the trustees. He shall pay no moneys but by their order, or the order of their committees, duly authorized. His books shall be open to the inspection of the trustees. He shall make up his accounts to the first day of October, in each year, together with an inventory of all the real and personal estate, and of the debts due to and from the corporation, and present the same to the corporation at their annual meeting. He shall give such bonds for the faithful discharge of his duties, as the trustees shall, from time to time, require.

ARTICLE IX. *Alterations.*—These By-Laws may be altered at any annual meeting of the corporation, by vote of two-thirds of the members present.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Trustees.—A meeting of the trustees shall be held monthly.

Quorum.—The presence of three members shall constitute a quorum.

Visiting Committee.—Two of the trustees taken in rotation, shall form a committee, one at least of whom shall visit the institution each week, during the space of two months. These shall be so arranged, that one shall go out and another go into the committee, at the beginning of each month.

This committee shall examine the state of the institution; the condition, &c., of the pupils; and of all the rooms in the establishment, and receive and examine any report of the superintendent, and make a record of their visit and impressions.

This committee may report on the state and condition of the institution at any monthly meeting of the trustees.

Auditors.—The trustees shall appoint annually two of their number as auditors. They shall examine all the accounts of the institution and treasurer. They shall aid the treasurer in the investment of any funds belonging to the institution. And no money shall be paid out by the treasurer without their order.

Superintendent.—It shall be the duty of the superintendent to reside at, and give his whole time to, the service of the institution.

He shall select and employ all subordinate officers, assistants, servants of the institution, subject to the rejection of the trustees.

He shall have the general superintendence of the whole institution, and have charge of all the pupils and direct and control all the persons therein, subject to the regulations of the trustees.

He shall regulate the diet, regimen, exercises and employments, and the whole course of education and training of the pupils.

He shall, from time to time, give to all persons employed in the institution such instructions as he shall deem best to carry into operation all the rules and regulations of the same, and he shall cause such rules and regulations to be strictly and faithfully executed.

He shall make a record of the name, age, and condition, parentage, and probable causes of idiocy, or deficiency of each pupil, and of all the circumstances that may illustrate his or her condition, or character; and also keep a record, from time to time, of the progress of each one.

He shall purchase fuel, provisions, stores, and furniture, and shall be responsible for the safe-keeping and expenditure thereof: *provided, however*, that if the trustees think it best to appoint a steward, he shall perform these duties with the concurrence of the superintendent.

He shall collect and receive all the moneys due from the pupils, and deposit the same with the treasurer.

He shall keep a separate account with each one of the pupils, or with the parents or guardians of such of the pupils as are not beneficiaries of Massachusetts, charging them with all expenses of board, instruction, &c., and with all the moneys expended for clothing, and other necessaries, or proper indulgences.

He shall make monthly reports to the trustees of the condition of the institution, and make such suggestions as he may think the interests of the institution require.

He shall prepare for the trustees and the corporation, an annual report, in which he will show the history, progress, and condition of the institution, and the success of the attempts to educate and improve the idiotic or feeble-minded youth.

The teachers, assistants, and pupils, shall be under the immediate direction of the superintendent, and no orders shall be given to them except through him.

No officer, assistant, or pupil can absent himself from the institution without the permission of the superintendent.

The hours for work, for exercise, for study, and for recreation, being established by the superintendent, each teacher, assistant, and pupil will be expected to conform strictly to them.

Visitors.—Persons may visit the institution under such regulations as the trustees and superintendent shall establish.

Tobacco.—The use of tobacco, either in smoking or otherwise, is prohibited in the institution.

Beneficiaries.—Candidates for admission must be over six, and under fourteen years of age.

Beneficiaries must produce a certificate from the selectmen, or the overseers of the poor of their town, stating that their parents and immediate relatives are unable to defray the expenses of their education.

They must be provided with suitable changes of raiment for winter and for summer, and especially with thick shoes or boots.

The boys must have at least six good cotton shirts, and six pairs of socks or stockings; two coats or jackets, two pairs of trousers, two waist-coats, and an overcoat, two pairs of shoes or boots, six pocket handkerchiefs, and a good cap or hat.

The females must be provided with at least the same quantity of linen, and with three gowns and dresses. The clothing must all be of good serviceable material.

It must be renewed from time to time, as may be necessary—by the parents; any thing more than common mending will not be done at the expense of the institution.

All the articles of clothing must be marked with the name of the owner—*at full length.*

Pupils not Beneficiaries.—Any suitable persons may be admitted to the institution, on presenting to the superintendent sufficient evidence of their fitness for it, on such terms as he or the standing committee shall determine, according to the responsibilities and difficulties in each case. Payments are to be made quarterly in advance, or sufficient security therefor given.

Private pupils must be provided with at least two decent suits of clothing, and sufficient changes of garments of all kinds, for winter and also for summer.

They will be required to observe strictly all the Rules and Regulations of the institution.

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED

By the Parents or Friends of Applicants for Admission to the School.

1. What is the applicant's name and age?
2. Where was he born?
3. Was he born at the full period of gestation?
4. Were there any extraordinary circumstances attendant upon the delivery? If so, describe them.
5. What has been the general health and the bodily condition of the applicant?
6. At what period was it first observed that there was any thing peculiar about him?
7. Has there been observed, at any time since birth, any thing peculiar in the shape or condition of his head?
8. Does the head now differ in shape or condition from the head of an ordinary person of the same age?
9. What is now the general health of the applicant?
10. Is he now subject, or has he ever been subject, to epilepsy, or fits of any kind?
11. Describe the fits, if any.
12. What is now his weight?
13. What is now his height?
14. Is there any infirmity of body, or any striking peculiarity?
15. How is his appetite for food and drink?
16. Is he active and vigorous? Does he run about and notice things, or the contrary?
17. What is the state of the sense of sight? Is the eye bright or dull?
18. What is the state of the sense of hearing? Is it quick or sluggish?

19. Does the applicant show any sensibility to musical sounds ?
20. What is the state of the sense of smell ?
21. What is the state of the sense of taste ? Is he particular about what he eats ? or will he swallow things, without regard to taste ?
22. Is he gluttonous ?
23. What are his habits with regard to personal cleanliness ?
24. Can he talk ?—that is, can he make a regular sentence, containing nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs, &c. ?
25. Does he use understandingly such words as *or* and *if* ?
26. Please give several specimens of his mode of talking, and be careful to put down the words exactly as he uses them.
27. Can he dress and undress himself ?
28. Can he feed himself ?
29. Does he use a spoon, or knife and fork ?
30. Can he tie his shoe-strings in a regular knot ?
31. Can he do any work ? and what kind ?
32. What are his personal habits ?
33. Does he hide, break, or destroy things ?
34. Does he get up in the night, and wander about ?
35. Is he obedient ?
36. Does he come when called ?
37. Does he go astray ?
38. Is he passionate ?
39. Is he given to self-abuse, or masturbation ?
40. Has there been such watchfulness, that you can be sure he is free from all habits of self-pollution ?
41. Please state any facts that may show the peculiar character of the applicant.
42. Of what country was father of the applicant a native ?
43. What was the general bodily condition and health of the father ? Was he vigorous and healthy, or the contrary ?
44. Was the father of the applicant scrofulous, or was he subject to fits ?
45. Were all his senses perfect ?
46. Was he always a temperate man ?
47. About how old was he when the applicant was born ?
48. Was there any known peculiarity in the family of the father of the applicant ?—that is, were any of the grand-parents, parents, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, or cousins, blind, deaf, or insane, or afflicted with any infirmity of body or mind ?
49. If dead, at what age did the father die, and of what disorder ?
50. Where was the mother of the applicant born ?
51. What was the general bodily condition of the mother of the applicant ?—strong and healthy, or the contrary ?
52. Was she scrofulous, or ever subject to fits ?
53. Were all her senses perfect ?
54. Was she always a temperate woman ?

55. About how old was she when the applicant was born ?
56. How many children had she before the applicant was born ?
57. Was there any thing peculiar in the bodily or mental condition of the other children ?
58. What was the state of the mother's health during the time she was pregnant with the applicant ?
59. Was she subject to any bodily injury or severe sickness, or to any extraordinary mental emotion or fright, great sorrow, or the like ?
60. Was she related by blood to her husband ? If so, in what degree ?—first, second, or third cousins ?
61. If dead, at what age did she die, and of what disorder ?
62. Was there any known peculiarity in her family ?—that is, were any of her grand-parents, parents, uncles, aunts, sisters, brothers, children, or cousins, either blind or deaf or insane, or afflicted with any infirmity of body or mind ?
63. What are the pecuniary means of the parents or immediate relatives of the applicant ?
64. How much can they afford to pay towards the support and education of the applicant ?
65. What are the names of the father and mother ?
66. What is their residence ?
67. What is the post office address of the parents or other responsible friends ?

TERMS OF ADMISSION, &c.

The best age for admission is between six and twelve years.

The institution is not intended for epileptic or insane children, nor for those who are incurably hydrocephalic or paralytic, and any such will not be retained, to the exclusion of more improvable subjects.

Children will be received upon trial for one month, at the end of which time a report upon the case will be made to the parents.

Children must come well provided with plain, strong clothing, and stout shoes for walking in any weather. They must be renewed as often as is necessary, at the expense of the applicants. Those who tear and destroy their clothing must be provided with garments made expressly for them, and of such form and texture as not to be easily torn.

The children of indigent parents, in Massachusetts, will be received gratis. For others, a charge will be made proportionate to the trouble and cost of treating them.

Sufficient surety will be required for the clothing of the pupils, for their board and care in vacation, and for their removal whenever they may be discharged.

Persons applying for the admission of children as beneficiaries of Massachusetts, should address the governor. They must also fill out certain blanks, the form of which is as follows :—

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR BENEFICIARIES IN MASSACHUSETTS.

18 .

To his Excellency the Governor:—

SIR,—The undersigned, citizen of Massachusetts, and inhabitant of the town of _____, respectfully represents that his son [or daughter],* named _____ and aged _____ years, is so deficient in intellect that he cannot be taught in the Common Schools, as other youth are; and he therefore requests that your Excellency would recommend him for admission as a pupil to the Massachusetts School for teaching and training Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Persons, as a State beneficiary.

Respectfully yours, _____

The application should be accompanied by two certificates, in the following form:— †

I.

18 .

I, _____, one of the selectmen of the town of _____, hereby certify, that, in my opinion, _____ is not wealthy, and could not well afford to pay \$150 per year for the instruction of _____ at the School for Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Persons.

(Signed,) _____

II.

18 .

I, _____ citizen of Massachusetts, physician, and practitioner in the town of _____, hereby certify, that I have examined _____ and find that he is not insane, but is so deficient in mental ability that he cannot be taught in the Common Schools, as others of his age are.

His bodily health is _____, and he has no cutaneous or contagious disorder.

(Signed,) _____

N. B. The physician is earnestly requested to state, in writing, his opinion of the *cause* of the person's mental deficiency; to state whether he is or has been epileptic; also, to mention any organic or functional peculiarity that he may have observed. It may be greatly for the advantage of the person, that the physician should send in writing a full and minute account of the case with his own thoughts and suggestions in regard to it.

If the applicant is admitted as a beneficiary, he must be provided with a paper signed by two responsible persons, in form of a guaranty for removal, as follows:—

* If a town pauper, the overseers of the poor may apply as for their ward.

† The same may be used in Rhode Island.

18 . . .

We, the undersigned, citizens of Massachusetts, and householders in the town of _____, respectively pledge ourselves, that, should be received into the Massachusetts School for teaching and training Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Youth, he shall be kept properly supplied with decent clothing, that he shall be removed during vacations, (if his removal be required,) and that, whenever he shall be discharged, he shall be removed at once, and the institution relieved from all responsibility for his support.

(Signed,)

_____.

For further particulars, address Dr. S. G. HOWE, or Dr. EDWARD JARVIS, 20 Bromfield Street, Boston.

