

ASYLUM FOR DISABLED SOLDIERS.

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R E P O R T

OF THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE NATIONAL ASYLUM FOR DISABLED  
VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS.

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JULY 18, 1867.—Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

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*To the honorable the Senate and the House of Representatives in Congress assembled.*

The board of managers of the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, in obedience to the directions of the act of Congress founding the establishment, beg leave to report :

Immediately upon the passage of the act of March 21, 1866, the managers were called together by notification from Benjamin F. Butler, one of the managers selected, to each member of the board, and a meeting was had on the 16th of May following, at which, a majority of the members being present, the act was accepted by a vote of all present, and the absent members, not being *ex officio* such, signified their acceptance of the positions assigned them, and an organization was effected by the choice of Benjamin F. Butler, of Massachusetts, as president, and Hon. Lewis B. Gunckel, of Ohio, secretary. A committee was chosen to prepare a code of by-laws for the government of the asylum, and at a subsequent meeting such by-laws were established, a copy of which is appended to this report.

Active measures were taken to bring before the board proposals for sites of the branches of the asylum, by copious advertisements, which would serve a double purpose of bringing the establishment to the notice of the disabled volunteers, so they might apply for relief to the board, and to enable the board to ascertain the most desirable location for such sites.

It was determined by the board, after much discussion and deliberation, that there should be three branches of the asylum, one in the northwest, one in the northeast, and one near the geographical centre of the loyal States which furnished large bodies of troops to extinguish the rebellion, preferably in as low a latitude as might be. After a careful examination by a committee, consisting of Governor Smyth of New Hampshire and the Hon. Lewis Gunckel of Ohio, a very desirable location was selected for the northeastern branch, about four miles from Augusta, the capital of the State of Maine. The board obtained title to something more than a thousand acres of land, with very valuable buildings thereon, very well adapted to the purposes of the asylum. The purchase was a remarkably cheap one, more than three times the amount paid having been

expended upon the land and buildings by the former proprietor. Jurisdiction over this property was ceded to the United States by an act of the legislature of the State of Maine, a copy of which is hereto annexed.

This establishment was without delay fitted up, and on the 1st day of November began receiving disabled soldiers and officers.

The lady managers of the Soldiers' Home at Milwaukee early offered their funds and land, designed for a site of a State charitable institution of like kind, to the board, for the use of our asylum. This donation exceeded in cash value the sum of one hundred and ten thousand dollars.

The only expressed or implied condition to this magnificent gift was that a branch of the national asylum shall be located near the city of Milwaukee. The board, through its president and a committee, examined the places designated for a branch asylum in the northwest, and found no objection to the proposition, except the high price of land near that city; but as the donation to be received more than covered that objection, the board determined to place a branch of the asylum near that city.

The other site in Ohio has not been yet determined.

By the 12th section of the act of establishment the property of the United States at Point Lookout, Maryland, was to become the property of the asylum, as soon as a satisfactory title to three hundred (300) acres of the land, on which such property was situated, was given to the asylum.

Miss Delphine T. Baker, a lady largely engaged in caring for the wants of soldiers during the war, who claimed to have a right to the title to such land, offered the same to the board as a donation, to do with it what we chose to do. The board, however, found insuperable objections to Point Lookout for a site of one of the branches of the asylum. To say but little of its inaccessibility, and other objections of neighborhood, the fact that it had been for a large part of the war a depot of rebel prisoners seemed to render it repulsive to American soldiers. The board found difficulties enough in the minds of the soldiers at the thought of leaving their homes and families to go to what seemed to them erroneously a hospital life, to determine the rejection of a place having such unsavory recollections.

It was suggested by Miss Baker that the board might accept the Point Lookout property, and then sell it and use the proceeds for the benefit of the asylum if best not to have a branch there, but it being shown to the board that the property had not been in fact paid for, and that Miss Baker relied upon the generous benevolence of those interested in the welfare of our wounded and disabled soldiers to buy it by their contributions, it was not deemed just or proper to permit Miss Baker to appeal to the generous public to obtain the means of paying for Point Lookout, as a soldiers' home, when in truth the board had decisively determined against it for such purpose, and would only receive it as another form of cash donation. Therefore all concern with the Point Lookout property was rejected by the board.

A system of organization of officers and soldiers at the eastern branch had been devised and partly carried out, giving to soldiers who are inclined and able to work a portion of their earnings. This has been found to work admirably, but the small number of those seeking the benefits of the institution has prevented the experiment from being fully tried.

A great difficulty has been found in inducing disabled soldiers to go to the asylum. Their principal objection is that they will be separated from their families. This objection is so strong as to obtain where the soldier had become so far reduced as to be relieved as a pauper by the county town in which he resided.

By the act of incorporation the board are not allowed to receive the wives or children of soldiers, so that of necessity his being received into the asylum debars him from the society of his family.

The board would respectfully suggest that some further enabling legislation might well be had to allow, under proper safeguards and regulations, the wives and children of the soldier to be with him at least on the lands of the asylum. Losing a leg or an arm does not emasculate the soldier or destroy within him the parental feelings. Is it not due to those who fought our battles for us and have been disabled in the fight to give them every comfort in their declining years? Is not the society of one's wife and children the greatest of all comforts? Would it not be exceeding cruelty to an officer or soldier who might have a wife and children dependent upon him, to take him away from them, and while he was supported with comfort in the asylum, leave them to starve? The soldier who would not prefer to stay and starve with his family, if need be, would hardly be worth preserving.

The law has provided that the board may administer "out-door relief," to a limited extent, in such manner as they may judge expedient. Under this provision it has been proposed to build detached cottages on the grounds of the asylum (ample lands having been purchased in that view among other purposes) and allow disabled soldiers to occupy them with their families, to cultivate a garden attached, and thus aid themselves with the help of the asylum, at an expense not exceeding that which a soldier wholly cared for in the asylum building would cost.

This experiment it is proposed to try, and plans and estimates are being prepared for the proper constructions, and it is in contemplation to build a sufficient number of such cottages to amply test this method of relief.

While getting our own asylum building forward, we have been called upon to aid other State institutions of like character, and in each case where application has been made, just and liberal assistance has been offered.

Most active and vigorous measures have been taken to search out and remove to the asylum all disabled soldiers who were in any almshouse. In some cases relief has been afforded, and the soldier cared for outside the almshouse, where, for reasons before stated, he declined to go to the asylum. It is believed that there is no case in that section of the country for which the eastern branch has been established, where any disabled soldier now is supported in any almshouse; certainly none who chose to go to the asylum, that has been brought to the knowledge of the board. In addition, each member of the board has been authorized to expend such, reasonable relief, not exceeding the cost of supporting a soldier in the asylum, as he might see proper upon all deserving objects.

No better illustration of the benefits of out-door relief can be afforded than is shown in the admirable report of Mr. Gunckel, the secretary of the board, of his administration of such relief, which is hereto appended, and to which special attention is invited.

There is, up to the present time, little call, in comparison with the whole number of disabled soldiers, for the relief which this establishment is designed to afford. The causes for this are obvious.

The grand munificence of our people, both private and public, by voluntary associations and State institutions, is magnificently caring for the disabled soldier. In most cases also he has returned to his family, and, with that love of independence of government and self-reliance which we boast as distinctive of the American character, is supported by his immediate friends. And in many cases the soldier, although disabled, is at present able to support himself.

But time wears on. The family is separated, the supporting parent or child dies; the consequences of the hardships of the campaign or shock of the wound becomes developed in the system. Age increases, taking all capacity or will to earn, and private and public donations dwindle by the loss of the incitement of the war, or are devoted to new objects. Thus our establishment will become more and more necessary in the immediate future, and we shall hardly get our preparatiions fully completed before these accommodations will be needed to

their fullest capacity. Then it will be that the necessity for this institution will be fully seen, and the benefits of this most noble endowment most clearly appreciated.

The asylum is now administering to the necessities of more than a thousand soldiers in the several modes of relief above stated. Many of these beneficiaries are entirely helpless and fit subjects for a hospital only.

The benefits of the asylum are becoming known, and the indications are that the board will need to act with energy and rapidity in repairing the necessary buildings to keep up with the demands likely to be pressingly made upon the establishment.

The attention of Congress is requested to the provision as to the assets for the support of the institution.

While ample funds have been provided from the fines and forfeitures and loss of pay occurring during the war, yet the manner in which it is to be got from the treasury is not so apparent.

Besides, the examination of the accounts is necessarily so slow, because of the want of clerical force in the Auditor's office, that it may be many years before the amount of funds actually due to the asylum can be ascertained, and thus much loss of the interest which ought to accrue to this fund will be suffered. Besides it is respectfully suggested that it should be provided by law that the funds appropriated to the institution should, as soon as the amounts are ascertained, be passed to the credit of the institution in the treasury of the United States. Now, by the rules of the Treasury Department, they can only be drawn by a requisition of the Secretary of War, thus putting at the discretion of that officer an institution of which he is only *ex officio* one of the twelve managers.

It is not impossible that in the future there may be a Secretary of War from one of the States lately in rebellion, who will not appreciate the sacrifices of our disabled veterans as does the present incumbent, who has never failed to attend a meeting of the board, and to give every aid and facility to our operations; or, more possible still, one who will be more interested in those who fought on the other side.

In such case the power of thus controlling this great fund for relief would be dangerously invested.

The board of managers have been called upon to mourn the loss by death of one of their members, Colonel George H. Walker, of Wisconsin. Our deceased friend, even in the short time in which we had been associated, had endeared himself to us by his genial kindness of character and active benevolence, which prompted him at the greatest possible sacrifice of personal comfort, and health even, to come from his distant home to attend every meeting of the board, and to aid in setting on foot the enterprise. Appropriate resolutions of sympathy with his bereaved family were unanimously placed on our records.

Another member of the board, General P. Joseph Osterhaus, being called into the public service abroad, resigned his position. The vacancies in both cases have been filled.

The board submit a certified copy of their records, appended hereto, so that every corporate act of the asylum may be seen and understood by Congress, and be subject to its revision or approval.

A statement of the amounts drawn from the treasury on account of the asylum, and expended for its use up to the sixth day of March, is hereto appended.

With the earnest hope and belief that the action of the board merits and will receive the approbation of Congress, this report is respectfully submitted.

For the board of managers :

BENJ. F. BUTLER,  
*President.*

WASHINGTON, D. C. *March 6, 1867.*

*Proceedings of the board of managers of the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.*

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., May 16, 1866.

Pursuant to a call made by Major General Benjamin F. Butler, the following gentlemen, appointed as managers of the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers by a joint resolution of Congress approved April 21, 1866, to wit, Chief Justice Chase, Mr. Secretary Stanton, Major General B. F. Butler, Honorable George H. Walker, Governor Frederick Smythe, Major General P. J. Osterhaus, Jay Cooke, esq., and Lewis B. Gunckel, met at the office of the Surgeon General of the United States, in the city of Washington, D. C., on the sixteenth day of May, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, at 12 o'clock m., and organized temporarily by calling General Butler to the chair, and appointing L. B. Gunckel as secretary.

Telegrams were read from Governor Richard J. Oglesby, Reverend Horatio G. Stebbins, and Major General John H. Martindale accepting their appointment as managers of the asylum, but regretting their inability to be present at the meeting of the board, which were ordered to be placed on file.

On motion of Chief Justice Chase it was resolved that the act entitled "An act to incorporate a national military and naval asylum for the relief of the totally disabled officers and men of the volunteer forces of the United States," approved March 3, 1865, and the act amendatory thereto, approved March 21, 1866, be, and the same are hereby, accepted.

On motion of Governor Smythe, a committee of three was appointed, consisting of General Butler, Governor Smythe, and Mr. Gunckel, to prepare and report by-laws, rules, and regulations for the government of the board and the asylum.

On motion of Chief Justice Chase, it was

*Resolved*, That the president and secretary of the board advertise for proposals, by donation or purchase, for lands upon which to locate one or more asylums, the same to be located in one of the loyal States, and to contain not less than two hundred acres of land.

The board then proceeded to the election of its regular officers, with the following result:

President, Major General Benjamin F. Butler.

First vice-president, Major General P. J. Osterhaus.

Second vice-president, Honorable George H. Walker.

Secretary, Lewis B. Gunckel.

Chief Justice Chase offered the following resolution, which was agreed to:

*Resolved*, That the president and secretary of the board be, and are hereby, instructed to obtain from the governors of the several States such information as is possible as to the probable number of persons entitled to relief under the law creating the asylum, and report the same to the next meeting of the board.

On motion the board then adjourned, to meet on to-morrow at 12 o'clock at the same place.

BENJAMIN F. BUTLER, *President*.

LEWIS B. GUNCKEL, *Secretary*.

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WASHINGTON, *Thursday, May 17, 1866.*

Board met pursuant to adjournment; President Butler in the chair.

The committee appointed to prepare and report by-laws, rules, and regulations for the government of the asylum reported, and the report was read, considered section by section, amended, and ordered to be printed.

The president presented a communication from Miss Delphina P. Baker, tendering certain lands at Point Lookout in the State of Maryland for the location of the asylum, upon certain conditions therein named.

Whereupon Governor Smythe offered for adoption the following resolution, which was not agreed to:

*Resolved*, That the property at Point Lookout, named in section 12 of the amended act of incorporation, and tendered through Miss D. P. Baker, be accepted by the managers, provided a good and sufficient title to the lands therein named be given to the asylum on or before July 15, 1866.

Mr. Secretary Stanton then offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That in the judgment of the board Point Lookout is not a fit or proper place to establish the asylum, or any branch thereof, and that it is not expedient to negotiate for, or accept, any title to lands or property with a view to the location of the asylum at that place.

Governor Smythe offered for adoption the following resolution, which was agreed to:

*Resolved*, That the sum of ten thousand dollars be appropriated for contingent expenses, and that the president of the board be authorized to make requisition on the treasury of the United States for said amount, from the funds appropriated for that purpose, and place the same to his credit for use as the necessities of the asylum may require.

On motion of Mr. Cooke, the president of the board was authorized to employ a clerk at a salary not exceeding fifteen hundred dollars per annum.

On motion of Mr. Gunckel, the president was instructed to require all proposals for sites to be sent him on or before the twentieth day of June next, and that after receiving such proposals, the president direct one or more of the managers to visit, inspect, and report upon each place so offered, so that one asylum may be located at the next meeting of the board, to be held in Washington on the 12th day of July next.

Governor Smythe offered for adoption the following resolution, which was agreed to:

*Resolved*, That the president be authorized to advertise for plans, specifications, and estimates for asylum buildings, to be presented to the managers for approval or rejection, no compensation to be allowed for any plans unless adopted by the board.

On motion of Mr. Walker, it was

*Resolved*, That the president and secretary of the board correspond with the several railroad companies of the United States with the view of arranging a system of transportation for disabled soldiers to and from the asylum at half the usual passenger fare, upon passes countersigned by one of the managers, and report the result thereof at the next meeting of the board.

On motion, the board then adjourned to meet again at the office of the Surgeon General, in the city of Washington, on Thursday, July 12, at 12 o'clock m.

BENJAMIN F. BUTLER, *President*.

LEWIS B. GUNCKLE, *Secretary*.

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WASHINGTON CITY, July 12, 1866.

**Board** met pursuant to adjournment. Present: General B. F. Butler, Chief Justice Chase, Mr. Secretary Stanton, Governor Smythe, General Martindale, Colonel Walker, and Mr. Gunckel.

The minutes of the last two meetings were read and approved.

The president laid before the board communications received from the governors of Vermont, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania, in reply to inquiries as to the number of persons in said States needing the relief designed by the law creating the national asylum. Also from most of the railroad companies of the United States, agreeing to convey soldiers admitted to

and from the asylums at one-half the usual passenger rates, also from several architects offering plans, specifications, &c., for asylum buildings, and from sundry persons offering sites for the location of the asylum. All of which papers were, on motion, ordered to be placed on file.

The report of the committee on by-laws was then read, considered article by article, amended, and recommitted to a committee consisting of the president and secretary of the board and General Martindale.

\* The board then proceeded to fix the salaries of the officers of the asylum, with the following result :

The salary of the governor shall be the pay allowed by law to a colonel of infantry.

The salary of the deputy governor shall be the pay allowed by law to a major of infantry.

The salary of the treasurer shall be the pay allowed by law to a major of infantry.

The salary of the secretary shall be that allowed by law to a captain quartermaster.

The salary of the chaplain shall be that allowed by law to a chaplain in the army.

The salary of the surgeon shall be that allowed by law to an assistant surgeon in the army.

Mr. Gunckel offered for adoption the following resolution :

*Resolved*, 'That for the present there be established one asylum only.

Colonel Walker moved to amend by striking out "one" and inserting "two."

Mr. Stanton moved to amend the amendment by striking out "two" and inserting "three."

After some discussion the board took a recess until nine o'clock to-morrow.

BENJ. F. BUTLER, *President*.

LEWIS B. GUNCKEL, *Secretary*.

MONDAY MORNING, *July 13, 1866.*

Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present : Same managers as on yesterday.

Mr. Gunckel, on leave, withdrew the resolution offered by him on yesterday.

Whereupon Mr. Secretary Stanton offered the following resolutions, which were adopted :

*Resolved*, 'That forty-five thousand dollars be appropriated for the purpose of the relief designed by this establishment for the ensuing quarter, under the direction of the president and secretary of the board, and the governor of the asylum, as an executive committee, and that they be authorized to cause the same to be administered through the agency of State institutions, benevolent associations, and in individual cases, in such form and manner as they may deem expedient, until further order of the board—full report of their action to be made at the next meeting.

*Resolved*, 'That State authorities, benevolent associations, and individuals be invited and requested to co-operate with the executive committee in the purposes of this establishment.

*Resolved*, 'That said committee be instructed to examine and report upon the sites offered, or that may be offered, and any other they may deem proper, and all communications on that subject are referred to the executive committee, who will make report on the subject of a site, or sites, for an asylum or asylums, at the next regular meeting.

Chief Justice Chase offered for adoption the following resolution, which was agreed to :

*Resolved*, That all moneys appropriated by the act of Congress or contributed and applicable to the use of the asylums shall be drawn from the treasury, from time to time, and invested as directed by the by-laws, and all moneys appropriated shall be deposited with the treasurer or assistant treasurer, or a designated depository of the United States, and drawn from time to time as required for the use of the establishment.

General Butler, in behalf of the committee to which was referred the by-laws, reported the same with sundry amendments, which were agreed to, and the by-laws adopted.

On motion, the president of the board was directed to have five hundred copies of the laws of Congress creating the asylum, and the by-laws of the board, printed for the use of the board.

Colonel Walker presented a communication from the lady managers of the Wisconsin Soldiers' Home, tendering \$100,000 in case the board locate the asylum at Milwaukee, and agree to properly care for the soldiers now in their home, so long as they shall need relief.

When, on motion, the following resolution was unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this board be and they are hereby tendered to the lady managers of the Wisconsin Soldiers' Home for the interest they manifest in the objects of this establishment, and that their proposition be referred to the consideration of the executive committee for report at the next regular meeting.

On motion, it was

*Resolved*, That the board do now proceed to the election of the governor of the asylum.

The president nominated Major General Edward W. Hinks.

Whereupon Mr. Secretary Stanton offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That Major General Edward W. Hinks be and is hereby appointed governor of the Military Asylum.

The president presented, in behalf of Surgeon General Barnes, a copy of circular No. 6, of the Surgeon General's office, for each member of the board.

When, on motion, it was

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the board be returned to General Barnes for the valuable documents so presented.

On motion, the board then adjourned to meet at same place on Thursday, September 6, at 12 o'clock m.

BENJ. F. BUTLER, *President*.

LEWIS B. GUNCKEL, *Secretary*.

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WASHINGTON CITY, D. C.,

*Thursday, September 6, 1866.*

Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present : General B. F. Butler, Chief Justice Chase, Mr. Secretary Stanton, General Martindale, Governor Smythe, Colonel Walker, and Lewis B. Gunckel.

The question of locating the asylums came to be considered, when General Martindale offered the following resolution, which, after some discussion, was adopted :

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this board that none of the asylums should be located within the limits of any city.

The president presented a proposition for the sale of the Togus Springs property, situate near Augusta, Maine, with the recommendation of the governor of the asylum in favor of its purchase.

Whereupon Chief Justice Chase offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the executive committee be authorized to purchase the Togus

Springs property, near Augusta, Maine, for the eastern branch of the asylum, at a cost not exceeding fifty thousand dollars;

Which was adapted.

Mr. Gunckel offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this board, the central asylum should be located in the State of Ohio, and that the executive committee be instructed to examine further for a suitable site in said State, and report at the next meeting of the board.

Mr. Secretary Stanton offered the following as a substitute for said resolution, which was agreed to :

*Resolved*, That the executive committee be instructed to examine further for a suitable site for the central asylum, giving particular attention to the following districts :

1st. The region embracing the boundaries of New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio.

2d. That portion of Kentucky contiguous to the Ohio river.

3d. The States of Ohio and West Virginia.

Said resolution was then adopted.

Colonel Walker offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the executive committee be authorized to make arrangements for the temporary relief, with the lady managers of the Wisconsin Soldiers' Home, at Milwaukee, and that they also be instructed to seek and report upon a suitable site for the northwestern branch of the asylum in the State of Wisconsin, as near as may be practicable to the city of Milwaukee.

On leave, Dr. Wishart, superintendent of the Indiana Soldiers' Home, made a statement as to the condition and wants of that institution ; when, on motion, the report was referred to the executive committee, with full authority to grant such pecuniary aid as might be found necessary, out of the funds heretofore appropriated for temporary relief.

On motion, it was ordered that the power granted to the executive committee at the last meeting of the board, as to granting temporary relief, be and is hereby extended until further order of the board.

Colonel Walker presented a claim from the ladies of Milwaukee for temporary relief of disabled soldiers at that place.

Whereupon the following resolution was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the executive committee be authorized to compensate the ladies of Milwaukee for the support of such of the soldiers kept at their Soldiers' Home as are included under the law creating the asylum, provided that such compensation be at a reasonable rate.

On motion, the board then adjourned to hold its next regular meeting at the same place.

BENJ. F. BUTLER, *President*.

LEWIS B. GUNCKEL, *Secretary*.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 6, 1860.*

Board met pursuant to the requirements of the by-laws, at the office of the Surgeon General in Washington city, President Butler in the chair; but, on motion, took a recess until to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock a. m.

LEWIS B. GUNCKEL, *Secretary*.

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FRIDAY MORNING, *December 7, 1860*

Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present: General B. F. Butler, Mr. Secretary Stanton, Governor F. Smythe, Jay Cooke, esq., Dr. Erastus B. Wolcott, and Lewis B. Gunckel.

The president announced the death of Colonel George H. Walker, one of the managers of the asylum, since the last meeting of the board.

Whereupon Mr. Secretary Stanton offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That this board lament with sincere sorrow the death of their late colleague, Colonel George H. Walker, of Milwaukee, by whose decease they have lost one whose sound judgment and enlightened humanity inspired them with respect, and whose devotion to the interests and welfare of the National Asylum was manifested at the cost of much personal suffering and exposure of health in attendance at the meetings of this board, by whom his memory will be cherished with honor.

*Resolved*, That the secretary of the board transmit a copy of these resolutions to the bereaved widow and family of Colonel Walker, with assurance of our sympathy and condolence, and that these resolutions be also entered on the minutes of the board.

Dr. Erastus B. Wolcott, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, elected by resolution of Congress, approved December 7, 1866, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Colonel Walker, appeared and took his seat in the board.

Mr. Jay Cooke offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That as the ladies of Milwaukee have tendered a donation of \$95,000 in money, and twenty-six acres of valuable land in the city of Milwaukee, as an inducement to locate one of the asylums at or near that city, and as the committee appointed at the last meeting of the board has reported favorably in regard to establishing a branch asylum in the immediate vicinity of Milwaukee, that Governor Smythe, Mr. Gunckel, and Dr. Wolcott be appointed a committee to proceed to Milwaukee and, in behalf of the board, make purchase of such property as they may deem suitable, and to complete all the arrangements for establishing the northwestern branch of the asylum at that point, as speedily as possible.

The president reported the action of the executive committee in the purchase of the Togus Springs property, near Augusta, Maine, for the sum of fifty thousand dollars, the purchase being conditioned on the cession by the State of Maine of jurisdiction and the right to collect taxes on said property, and in organizing and opening the eastern branch of the asylum at said place ; which was approved.

The president presented also the written report of General Hinks, governor of the asylum, giving the details of the repairs and improvements made on said property, and of the appointment of officers temporarily for said branch asylum, and of the opening of the same for reception of disabled soldiers, together with an estimate of the appropriation necessary for support of the asylum for next quarter ; which was ordered to be placed on file.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted :

*Resolved*, That Brevet Colonel B. B. Breed be appointed surgeon of the eastern asylum, near Augusta, Maine.

Mr. Jay Cooke offered the following, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the Rev. John Long, of Kenneth Square, Pennsylvania, be, and is hereby, appointed chaplain of the eastern branch asylum, near Augusta.

Governor Smythe offered the following resolution, which was agreed to :

*Resolved*, That Major Nathan Cutler, of Maine, be, and is hereby, appointed secretary of the eastern branch asylum, he being required to perform the duties of treasurer and steward of said asylum in addition, until otherwise ordered by the board.

Mr. Gunckel offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That Colonel B. B. Breed receive pay as surgeon from October 6, 1866, and Major Cutter as secretary from November 12, 1866, they having performed duty at the eastern branch asylum, under temporary appointment by the governor, from said dates.

The offices of first and second vice-presidents having become vacant by the

resignation of General Osterhaus and death of Colonel Walker, the board proceeded to fill said vacancies by ballot :

For first vice-president, General J. H. Martindale ; for second vice-president, Hon. Jay Cooke.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the committee, consisting of Governor Smythe, Mr. Gunckel, and Dr. Walcott, appointed to go Milwaukee, be, and are hereby, instructed to select a site for the central asylum at some suitable place in southern Ohio, and report such selection to the next meeting of the board.

Mr. Gunckel offered the following resolution, which was agreed to :

*Resolved*, That Congress be requested to so amend the act creating the asylum as to provide that a manager, when elected to Congress after his appointment as such manager, shall not be thereby disqualified from continuing as a member of this board.

On motion, the president was authorized to select a plan for buildings of the central asylum, with cottages suitable for any of the asylums, and report to the next meeting of the board.

The president presented a communication from Surgeon General Barnes, notifying the board of a donation of \$10,339 04, intrusted to him for transmission to the board, by the council of administration of the army of the Potomac, through Colonel T. A. McParlin, United States army, which was ordered to be placed on file ; and thereupon the following resolution was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the board of managers of the National Asylum be tendered to the council of administration of the army of the Potomac, June 29, 1865, for the liberal donation of ten thousand three hundred and thirty-nine dollars and four cents from the excess of accumulations of the hospital fund of that army, and that the same be received by the president and applied to the object of the asylum.

The president then made to the board the following statement, which was ordered to be placed upon the minutes :

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 6, 1866.*

GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS : In accordance with the requirements of the by-laws, I have the honor to submit the following estimates of sums probably needed for the use of the asylum for the ensuing quarter :

For payments for the buildings and lands of the eastern branch..	\$50, 000
To meet deficiencies of payment for construction and repairs and the support of the eastern branch for the ensuing three months, as per report of the governor.....	25, 000
To pay for the site and buildings thereon of the western branch..	100, 000

This appropriation will be economical, as the funds given by the ladies of Milwaukee to buy the site, say \$95,000, is invested in 7 3-10 bonds at interest, while the money in the treasury, the property of the asylum, does not bear interest ; the donation fund can therefore remain at interest for construction purposes, bonds being sold as needed.

For out-door relief and incidental expenses, and to supply amounts drawn from that appropriation heretofore applied to construction and support of eastern asylum, as per report of governor.....	45, 000
In addition there will be the donation from the army of the Potomac, say.....	11, 000
But as that is at interest, it is better that it be not disturbed.	

Total.....	<u>231, 000</u>
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BENJ. F. BUTLER, *President.*

General Martindale offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

It appearing by the report of the president, made pursuant to the by-laws, that he estimates the sum of \$220,000 as required to meet deficiencies, to supply funds for construction account, purchase of sites and buildings, and out-door relief: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the sum of two hundred and twenty thousand dollars be and is hereby appropriated for such purposes, and that the president of the board be and is instructed to make requisition upon the Treasury Department of the United States therefor.

The board then adjourned to meet at the same place at the time specified in the by-laws.

LEWIS B. GUNCKEL, *Secretary.*

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DAYTON, OHIO, *December 15, 1866.*

I do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the proceedings of the board of managers of the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, as recorded in the minutes of the board in my possession.

Witness my hand, the day and year last above written.

LEWIS B. GUNCKEL,  
*Secretary of Board of Managers.*

*Benjamin F. Butler, president of board of managers, in account with the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, showing amounts received and expended from January, 1866, to March 6, 1867.*

To whom paid and from whom received.	Current expenses of board of managers, advertising, printing, postage, office expenses, transportation, salary for clerk.	Out-door relief to disabled soldiers.	Purchase of real estate, construction, furniture, and equipment.	Expenses of several branches for clothing, subsistence, &c.	
	<i>Credit.</i>	<i>Credit.</i>	<i>Credit.</i>	<i>Credit.</i>	<i>Debit.</i>
Henry H. Bennett.....	\$5,175 00				
D. C. G. Field.....	42 86				
Hon. Frederick Smythe, manager.....		\$500 00			
Gen. E. W. Hinks, governor eastern branch.....			\$28,579 20		
Mrs. Jane A. Mickell.....			51,041 67		
Maj. Nathan Cutler, acting treas'r east'n branch.....				\$10,000 00	
Hon. L. B. Gunckel, manager.....				10,000 00	
United States treasury.....					\$10,000 00
Do.....					45,000 00
Donation army of Potomac.....					11,105 55
United States treasury.....					220,000 00
	5,217 86	500 00	79,620 87	20,000 00	
<b>RECAPITULATION.</b>					
Credit.....				5,217 86	
Do.....				500 00	
Do.....				79,620 87	
Do.....				20,000 00	
				105,338 73	
To balance.....				180,776 82	
				286,105 55	286,105 55

ASYLUM FOR DISABLED SOLDIERS.

*Out-door relief.*DAYTON, OHIO, *December 15, 1866.*

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to report that, as a member of the executive committee, I have given out-door relief to thirty-nine disabled soldiers, residing in the States of Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, and Michigan, during the last quarter. Of these, thirteen had each lost one arm and were besides suffering from other ailments, four had lost each one leg, one had lost both hands, three had become blind and one almost blind, two were in the last stages of consumption, six confined to bed by paralysis, palsy, or spinal diseases, contracted in the service. All were married men, (I have refused many applications from unmarried men,) and had dependent upon them, one a wife and five children, eight each a wife and four children, nine each a wife and three children, two each a wife and two children, one a wife and one child, two each a child and an aged invalid mother. All were very poor, without property, without money, and without any means of support. All had been mechanics or laboring men dependent for the support of themselves and families upon their daily labor. Before the war, while able-bodied and in good health they had commanded good wages and easily earned the means of comfortable support. Now, it is altogether impossible. Some will never be able to earn a living; others may do so after a while, after they have gotten well and learned some other and lighter trade. For the present, they must be helped, or suffering, and in some cases death, from the want of sufficient food and clothing will be inevitable. While a large majority of the disabled soldiers can be best cared for in asylums, I am satisfied, from my observation and experience during the past three months, that there are hundreds of married men in the west, wholly disabled, who will not, and ought not to be asked to, leave their families and go to an asylum, but who ought to be helped at home by what we term "out-door relief."

Besides the relief thus extended to individuals, I have largely aided the Indiana Soldiers' Home, an admirably conducted institution, heretofore sustained by voluntary contributions, which have of late almost wholly failed. If the legislature of that State shall fail to make an appropriation at its coming session, we shall have thrown upon us the entire burden of sustaining the Home. I have in like manner assisted several other voluntary associations in the west laboring to care for the disabled soldier, and in that way have given relief in a number of equally deserving cases.

I take the liberty of appending hereto extracts from some of the many letters received by me from soldiers asking or receiving relief, believing that they will show better than anything else the importance of the work in which we are engaged, and the grateful appreciation of its results on the part of those whom it aims to assist.

Very respectfully,

LEWIS B. GUNCKEL.

Major General B. F. BUTLER,  
*President of Board of Managers, &c.*

P. S.—I have in no case relied on the mere statements of the applicant. The facts stated are in all cases substantiated by affidavits or certificates from army officers, surgeons, county or town officers, known citizens, &c.

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*Extracts from letters.*

One writes: "I am wounded and sick in bed, with wife and three children dependent upon me, and I have no money, and no property, and can't work. Unless you or somebody help us we will all perish this winter."

Another: "Before the war I was a shoemaker and made a good easy living; enlisted twice without bounty, got wounded, and am now so helpless that I can't even mend a shoe, much less make one; and now if you would come to my house you would find my wife and four children shoeless and almost without clothing; winter coming and not a cent to my name, to buy them with. What shall we do? How can we live till spring?"

Another: "I send you my heartfelt thanks for your prompt relief. I will not need it long, but that God will bless you and all the managers of the National Asylum is the prayer of an invalid soldier, who never expects to be any better."

Another: "I was surprised to see the list of managers in your letter, and to think that our leading men are taking an interest in us poor soldiers, and trying to do something for us and our families. I lost my right arm at Vicksburg. I had nothing when I went into the service, and I've got nothing now; only I could easily get work then, but can't now; for there is little a man can do with a left arm. I'll soon get my \$15 pension, but I owe it for the corn bread we have ate, and where the winter grub is to come from I don't know."

A town trustee writes: "E—— is badly crippled for life, and utterly unable to support himself and family. He has a wife and four little children almost barefooted, and without even food enough to eat. The neighbors have helped but unless they get some other help they will suffer terribly this winter."

A soldier writes: "I was surprised to find there was such an institution as the National Asylum; that it was possible for the government to be so magnanimous to her crippled soldiers. \* \* \* I left two-thirds of my left arm on the sacred soil. Three long years have I been toiling with one arm to support myself and aged mother. Alas, what a support it has been! A poor, scanty, miserable existence. Why, sir, I begged the paper on which I write, and I have not so much as three cents to buy a postage stamp for this letter. I am a beggar, a poor pauper, and a drug to society. And why? \* \* \* \* The government might give us situations, but we have learned that we might as well apply at the Sandwich Islands as at Washington. Those big officials will walk clear around a whole square to avoid meeting a crippled soldier, for fear they will have to give him a dime. \* \* \* If they only knew what it was to be without bread and to hear their children crying for bread and not be able to give it, they wouldn't blame us for allowing our feelings to run away with us occasionally."

Another writes: "I have served four years and over, received four wounds, and lost my general health; can't half live on my pension, for I have a wife and four children, and have not earned anything since my discharge. I worked at farming work before the war, but can't now. Unless you can help us we shall all have to go to the poor-house this winter."

And another: "I hasten to return thanks for your help. It came just in time, for my wife has been very sick, and I was able to buy her some clothes and provisions. \* \* \* My family bless you for your kindness, and you will also accept my heartfelt thanks for your prompt attention in my distress, in this hour of need. This National Asylum is a noble institution; if it hadn't been for it, I would have suffered. \* \* \* My regards to the managers of the National Asylum, 'that noble work of charity,' and may God bless and prosper the institution."

*Charter and by-laws of the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, incorporated March 3, 1865.*

[S. 54 —From the official copy.]

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "An act to incorporate a National Military and Navy Asylum, for the relief of the totally disabled officers and men of the volunteer forces of the United States."

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the President of the United States, Secretary of War, Chief Justice of the United States, and such other persons as from time to time may hereafter be associated with them according to the provisions of this act, are hereby constituted and established a board of managers of an establishment for the care and relief of the disabled volunteers of the United States army, to be known by the name and style of "The National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," and have perpetual succession, with power to take, hold, and convey real and personal property, establish a common seal, and to sue and be sued in courts of law and equity; and to make by-laws, rules and regulations for carrying on the business and government of the asylum, and affix penalties thereto: *Provided,* That such by-laws, rules and regulations are not inconsistent with the laws of the United States.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the business of said asylum shall be managed by a board of twelve managers, who shall select from their own number a president, who shall be the chief executive officer of the board, two vice-presidents, and a secretary; and seven of the board, of whom the president or one of the vice-presidents shall be one, shall form a quorum for the transaction of the business at any meeting of the board.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the board of managers shall be composed of the President, and Secretary of War, and Chief Justice of the United States, *ex officio*, during their terms of office, together with nine other citizens of the United States, not members of Congress, no two of whom shall be residents of the same State, but who shall all be residents of States which furnished organized bodies of soldiers to aid in the late war for the suppression of the rebellion, (no person being ever eligible who gave aid or countenance to the rebellion,) to be selected by joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives immediately after the passage of this act. The term of office shall be for six years, and until others are appointed in their places, after the first election, which shall be of three for six years, three for four years, and three for two years, to be determined by the order in which they shall be named in the resolution. New elections shall be made by joint resolution of Congress, and vacancies by death, resignation, or otherwise, to be filled in like manner. No members of the board of managers shall receive any compensation as such member, but his travelling and other actual expenses while upon the business of the asylum may be paid. But any member of the board having other duties connected with the asylum may receive a reasonable compensation therefore, to be determined by the board.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the board of managers shall have authority to procure for early use, at suitable places, sites for military asylums for all persons serving in the army of the United States at any time in the war of the rebellion, not provided for by existing laws, who have been, or may hereafter be, disqualified for procuring their own maintenance and support by reason of wounds received or sickness contracted while in the line of their duty during the present rebellion, and to have the necessary buildings erected, having due regard to the health of location, facility of access, and capacity to accommodate the persons provided for in this act.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That for the establishment and support of this asylum there shall be appropriated all stoppages or fines adjudged against

such officers and soldiers, by sentence of court-martial or military commission, over and above the amounts necessary for the reimbursement of the government or of individuals; all forfeitures on account of desertion from the service; and all moneys due such deceased officers and soldiers which now are, or may be, unclaimed for three years after the death of such officers and soldiers, to be repaid upon the demand of the heirs or legal representatives of such deceased officers or soldiers. And the said board of managers are hereby authorized to receive all donations of money or property made by any person or persons for the benefit of the asylum, and to hold or dispose of the same for its sole and exclusive use.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the officers of the asylum shall consist of a governor, a deputy governor, a secretary, and a treasurer, and such other officers as the board of managers may deem necessary, to be appointed from disabled officers serving as before mentioned; and they may be appointed and removed from time to time, as the interests of the institution may require, by the board of managers.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the following persons only shall be entitled to the benefits of the asylum, and may be admitted thereto, upon the recommendation of three of the board of managers, namely: all officers and soldiers who served in the late war for the purpose of suppressing the rebellion, and not provided for by existing laws, who have been or may be disabled by wounds received or sickness contracted in the line of their duty; and such of these as have neither wife, child, nor parent dependent upon them, on becoming inmates of this asylum, or receiving relief therefrom, shall assign thereto their pensions, when required by the board of managers, during the time they shall remain therein or receive its benefits.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That the board of managers shall make an annual report of the condition of the asylum to Congress on the first Monday of every January, after the passage of this act; and it shall be the duty of the said board to examine and audit the accounts of the treasurer, and visit the asylum quarterly.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That all inmates of the asylum shall be, and they are hereby, made subject to the rules and articles of war, and will be governed thereby, in the same manner as if they were in the army of the United States.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That the managers of the asylum shall have power and authority to aid persons who are entitled to its benefits by outdoor relief, in such manner and to such extent as they may deem proper, provided such relief shall not exceed the average cost of maintaining an inmate of the asylum.

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted*, That so much of the act to which this is an amendment as provides for the establishment of a naval in connection with a military asylum, and so much of said act as provides that all stoppages of fines adjudged against naval officers and seamen by sentence of courts-martial or military commission, all forfeitures on account of desertions from the naval service, and all moneys due to deceased naval officers and seamen which are or may be unclaimed for three years after the death of such officers and seamen, shall be appropriated for the establishment of the asylum contemplated and provided for by this act and the act of which it is amendatory, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

SEC. 12. *And be it further enacted*, That all the property of the United States now at Point Lookout, St. Mary's county, Maryland, shall be and become the property of the asylum so soon as a title to the satisfaction of the board of managers shall be made to the asylum of at least three hundred acres of land, including that on which said property of the United States is now built and maintained or held.

SEC. 13. *And be it further enacted*, That Congress may at any time hereafter alter, amend, or repeal this act.

Approved March 21, 1866.

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[PUBLIC RESOLUTION—No. 24.]

JOINT RESOLUTION appointing managers for the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the following persons be and they are hereby appointed managers of the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, under the provisions and conditions of the third section of the act approved March twenty-three, eighteen hundred and sixty-six: Richard J. Oglesby, of Illinois, Benjamin F. Butler, of Massachusetts, and Frederick Smythe, of New Hampshire, of the first class, to serve six years; Lewis B. Gunckel, of Ohio, Jay Cooke, of Pennsylvania, and P. Joseph Osterhaus, of Missouri, of the second class, to serve four years; John H. Martindale, of New York, Horatio G. Stebbins, of California, and George H. Walker, of Wisconsin, of the third class, to serve two years.

Approved April 21, 1866.

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*By-laws of the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.*

ART. 1. *Of the seal.*—The board of managers hereby establish a common seal. The seal shall bear as the device an emblematic figure of Columbia offering relief to a disabled soldier, with the motto, "The nation to her defenders," surrounded by the title and date of the act.

ART. 2. *Of the officers.*—In addition to the officers provided for by law, there shall be for each one of the military asylums established, a surgeon, chaplain, and steward.

ART. 3. *Officers, how chosen or appointed.*—The president, vice-presidents, and secretary of the board, and treasurers of the military asylums, shall hereafter be chosen by the board, by ballot; all other officers not otherwise herein provided for shall be appointed by resolution of the board. In case of vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise, of either of the above-named officers elected by the board, in the interval between the meetings, the president may appoint a suitable person to such vacancy, who shall hold his office till the next meeting of the board.

ART. 4. *Tenure of office.*—The president, vice-presidents, and secretary of the board shall be elected annually, and hold their offices until their successors are elected and qualified. All other officers shall hold their office during good behavior, but removable at the pleasure of the board.

ART. 5. *Of suspension of officers.*—The president, for cause, may suspend any officer not a manager until the next meeting of the board, which cause the president shall then report, in writing, to the board, at which time the officer suspended, if he desire, shall be heard thereon, and the board may take such action as justice and the interest of the asylum require.

ART. 6. *Residence of officers.*—The governor, deputy governor, secretary, surgeon, chaplain, and steward shall constantly reside at or near the buildings of the military asylum for which they are respectively appointed.

ART. 7. *Salaries of officers.*—The board shall fix such stated and sufficient salaries to any officer or agent of the establishment, payable in money, as they

shall deem proper, which shall be in full for the services of the officer or agent, and not to be diminished during his term of office. No perquisites, fees, allowances, or advantages, other than his salary, or stated pay, shall be permitted to any officer, agent, or employé of the establishment, under any pretence whatever.

ART. 8. *Of the duties of the president.*—The president of the board shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the board; he shall sign all deeds of the establishment and affix the common seal, when directed or sanctioned by the board; approve all contracts, make and sign all requisitions upon any department of the government for all dues and claims of the national asylum, when so ordered by the board of managers. Such requisitions shall be countersigned by the secretary of the board, under the seal, and shall contain a copy of the vote by which they are ordered. The president shall direct all investments and designate all depositories of the moneys of the national asylum, subject to the supervision of the board, and may superintend and direct all expenditures by the other officers of the establishment, and shall transfer all moneys necessary to the several treasurers of military asylums, by his order, countersigned by the secretary of the board.

The president shall have the general care and superintendence of the several military asylums and their inmates, of their health, supplies, and comfort and condition, and for this purpose shall have supervision of all officers of the establishment; make estimates of the moneys required for its expenses for the ensuing three months, so that the board may appropriate so much as ~~may be~~ necessary therefor.

ART. 9. *Of the vice-presidents.*—If the president shall be absent at any meeting of the board, the senior vice-president present shall preside and fulfil all duties of the president at such meeting.

ART. 10. *Of the secretary of the board of directors.*—The secretary of the board shall be the recording officer of the board; shall attend the meetings of the board, and keep accurate records of the doings thereof; he shall notify all meetings of the board in conformity with the by-laws; he shall have the general superintendence and oversight of the records, papers, books, vouchers, and accounts of the national asylum, and shall direct the secretaries of the military asylums in the care and preservation of the same.

ART. 11. *Of the duties of the governor and deputy governor of the asylums.*—Under the control of the board, the governor shall be charged with the internal management of the asylum to which he is appointed. He shall be the general superintendent and commandant thereof; he shall hire or engage all persons employed in or about the same, not otherwise appointed by the president, and shall procure all articles necessary and proper for the comfort and subsistence of the inmates of the institution; he shall fix the amount of compensation to be allowed the employés, and may remove or discharge any of said employés when their services are no longer required, or for other good cause; he shall report monthly to the president a full account of his action, and the condition of the institution; he shall examine, correct, and certify all accounts for expenditures before the payment thereof; he shall from time to time make printed rules for the government of the officers, employés, and inmates of such asylum; he shall at all times be subject to the orders of the president or board. The deputy governor shall, in the absence of the governor, perform his duties, and at other times perform the duties of steward and such other duties as the governor may require.

ART. 12. *Of the duties of the surgeons.*—The surgeon shall be the chief medical officer of the military asylum, and as such shall have the sanitary care of the same, under the directions of the governor; he shall from time to time make requisitions upon the governor for such nurses and medical and surgical supplies as he may deem necessary; he shall report to the governor the condition and wants of his department.

ART. 13. *Of the duties of the chaplains.*—The chaplain shall perform all the duties incident to his profession and position, administering to the spiritual wants and comforts of the inmates of the asylum. He shall also be librarian of the asylum.

ART. 14. *Of the secretaries of the military asylums.*—The secretary shall be the recording and auditing officer of the military asylums; shall perform such duties as shall be ordered by the board; shall countersign all requisitions of the governor upon the treasurer of the military asylum, and all drafts and orders for the payment of money, and keep a record of the same.

He shall keep an accurate account of all receipts and expenditures of every description, and of all debts due, so as to exhibit at all times the exact financial condition of the military asylum to which he may be appointed; he shall audit all claims upon such asylum, settle and adjust the same, and prepare and pass them for the action of the governor.

He shall lay before the governor complete lists of all the dues, debts, and demands accruing to such asylum, so that the same may be collected and adjusted.

His books and accounts shall at all times be open to the inspection of the governor and of any manager. He shall keep and preserve in a fire-proof safe all the record-books, deeds, papers, vouchers, and accounts of such asylum; he shall keep accurate pay-rolls, showing the compensation of every officer, agent, or employé of such asylum, and prepare the same in duplicate, so that the same may be paid by the treasurer, and to aid him in his duties may employ such clerical assistance as may be recommended by the governor and authorized by the president.

ART. 15. *Of the duties of the treasurers of the military asylums.*—He shall safely keep the moneys and the cash securities of the asylum to which he is appointed; he shall deposit all moneys in his hands in such depositories as shall be selected by the president. He shall pay all orders of the governor, duly countersigned by the secretary of the asylum, to the extent of the moneys appropriated by the board for the purposes of the order, but not otherwise; he shall keep full, accurate accounts of all the moneys received and paid by him on account of such asylums, so as at all times to exhibit its monetary condition; he shall have all his books, accounts, securities, and vouchers open at all times to the inspection of any member of the board, the governor, or secretary of such asylum.

The treasurer shall give bond in the penal sum of fifty thousand dollars, payable to the national asylum, with sufficient securities, to be approved by the board, with condition that he will faithfully discharge and perform all the duties of his office, and that he will pay over and deliver all moneys and valuable things whatever, belonging to the asylum to which he is appointed, which he may have in his hands by virtue of his office, or by order of the board.

ART. 16. *Meetings of the board.*—Regular meetings of the board shall be held on the Thursday next following the first Mondays of December, March, June, and September of each year, at such place in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, as may be determined by the board. Special meetings may be called by the president, at his option, or upon the written request of any three members of the board, of which meetings each manager shall have at least (15) fifteen days' notice from the secretary, stating time, place, and object of the meeting; this notice may be sent by mail or by telegraph.

ART. 17. *Inmates, how selected and relief afforded.*—Any soldier claiming to be entitled to the benefit of the establishment may be admitted to any military asylum or receive aid temporarily, upon the presentation of a certificate of a proper medical officer, to be designated by a manager, which certificate shall be approved by one of the managers—all such cases to be reported by the governor or the manager affording such relief, to the next meeting of the board, with

such recommendations as he may deem proper; and if such person shall be recommended by any three of the managers to such meeting, he shall, upon vote of the board, be entitled to remain or continue to receive relief.

ART. 18. *Vacancies, how filled.*—In the case of a vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise in the office, or the president shall be disabled from performing the duties of his office by sickness, or absence from the country, the board shall be called together by a notification by the secretary, stating the object of the meeting, and the vacancy being declared by a vote of the board, the senior vice-president shall exercise all the powers and rights and perform all the duties of president; and in case of a like vacancy, or disability, while the senior vice-president is acting, the vacancy shall in like manner be filled by the junior vice-president.

ART. 19. *Moneys, how invested.*—All moneys, not appropriated for immediate use, shall be invested in United States securities, payable to the national asylum, transferable only upon the vote of the board, by the president, countersigned by the secretary of the board.

ART. 20. *Of the duties of the stewards.*—The steward shall be charged with the safe-keeping, preparation, and issue of provisions, the superintendence of store-rooms, kitchen, mess-rooms, dairy, sculleries, and all that pertains to the police and discipline of the culinary department; he will procure the necessary supplies under such rules and restrictions as may from time to time be adopted by the governor, subject to the approval of the president.

ART. 21. *Government of the military asylum.*—For the preservation of discipline, the inmates of the asylum will, as far as practicable, be organized into companies by the governor, who will appoint from among them, as a reward for meritorious conduct, non-commissioned officers, who shall receive such pecuniary allowances as may be determined by the board, and be subject to removal at the discretion of the governor, who is also authorized to stop the allowances of other inmates, to confine them, and, with the approval of the president, to eject them from the asylum in case of misconduct, in which case the matter shall be reported to the board.

ART. 22. *Of pensions to officers.*—Any person receiving a pension from the United States, who shall be elected or appointed to any office or place by the board, to which any salary or emolument is attached or paid, shall have the amount of pension deducted from his salary or compensation for services, during the time the same is received by him from the asylum.

ART. 23. *Of the by-laws.*—A by-law of the national asylum may be altered or amended, or a new by-law adopted, at any meeting by a unanimous vote of those present, or by a majority of two-thirds, provided, at any regular meeting, the substance of the proposed change shall have been moved in a previous meeting, or have been notified in the call of the meeting.

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STATE OF MAINE. IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVEN.

AN ACT to cede jurisdiction to the United States over a site for a military asylum for disabled volunteer soldiers.

*Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives in legislature assembled, as follows:*

SECTION 1. The consent of this State is hereby granted to the board of managers of the Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers to purchase the several tracts or parcels of land known as the Togus Springs estate, in the county of Kennebec, for the purpose of locating, erecting, and maintaining thereon an

asylum for disabled volunteer soldiers, with all proper and needful buildings and structures. The evidence of the purchase of said lands is to be entered and recorded in the registry of deeds in the county of Kennebec. And jurisdiction over said lands is hereby granted and ceded to the United States: *Provided*, That this State shall retain a concurrent jurisdiction with the United States in and over said lands, so far that all civil processes, and such criminal processes, as may issue under the authority of this State against any person or persons charged with crimes or offences committed outside of said lands, may be executed thereon in the same manner as though this cession and consent had not been granted: *And provided further*, That no change shall be made in the location of highways over said premises without the consent of the county commissioners of Kennebec county.

SEC. 2. The property of said board of managers, over which jurisdiction has been granted, and all personal property of said board used or procured for the use of said asylum, shall be exonerated and discharged from all taxes and assessments which may be laid or imposed under the authority or laws of this State, so long as such property remains in said board or in the United States.

SEC. 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage, when approved by the governor.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

January 26, 1867.

This bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

LEWIS BARKER, *Speaker*.

IN THE SENATE, January 28, 1867.

This bill having had two several readings, passed to be enacted.

N. A. BURPEE, *President*.

JANUARY 28, 1867.

Approved:

J. L. CHAMBERLAIN, *Governor*