

the sum of \$30,453 71. This is the first assistance which our schools have ever received from the common school grant.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

I recommend that there be provision of law for the election of a Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Constitution provides that the Governor shall perform the duties of this office, but that the Legislature, after the term of five years from the adoption of the Constitution, may provide for a separate officer, fix his compensation and prescribe his powers and duties.

As to the amendments to the common school law, there are several which may well be adopted, but they can better be explained to a committee of your honorable body than to be discussed in general message.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

I recommend the passage of an act providing for the more efficient organization and support of the State Agricultural College. The State, in receiving the grant made by Congress for this institution, places itself under obligations to maintain a school of agriculture and the mechanical arts.

The report of the President of the Agricultural College, also a report of the Board of Commissioners appointed by the last Legislature to revise rules, regulations and by-laws and a course of study for said institution are hereby submitted.

STATE UNIVERSITY.

Of the 45,080 acres of land constituting the University grant, about 20,000 acres remain yet unsold. The fund accumulated from sales and interest, is nearly \$42,000 00. As the lands yet to be disposed of are not as favorably located as those first sold, the whole fund to be realized from this grant will hardly exceed one hundred thousand dollars.

I will suggest in organizing this institution, if this fund be not added to the Agricultural College Fund, as suggested by me two years ago, that the University be located in the county, appropriately situated, which will donate the most valuable site, and erect the best buildings, free from charge to the fund, so that the public fund may be kept invested, on interest, for the current support of the University.

SCHOOL FOR MUTES AND THE BLIND.

The School for Mutes, provided for two years ago by resolution, appropriating \$2,000 per annum for its support, has proved a striking success, and under the tuition of a most competent instructor, the pupils have made good progress. With this small beginning as an example, a permanent State Institution for Mutes may be organized, with no misgivings as to the mode of undertaking the same or as to the probability of successful progress in learning by this unfortunate class in a school of our own.

I recommend that a further appropriation be made for the support of the School for Mutes, and that also that appropriation be made for the establishment of an Institution for the Blind. We will be unable to establish such large and expensive endowments for these purposes, as are witnessed in older states, but economical provisions for a beginning in the proper way, what humanity and the best interests of the State demand, should be made now.

APPORTIONMENT.

As this is the first session of the Legislative Assembly after the official publication of the United States census of 1870, it will be proper to make a new apportionment of the members of the Senate and House of Representatives, based on said census, according to the provisions of our State Constitution. I will suggest, that in apportioning the Senate, every county having sufficient number of population is entitled to one Senator and cannot constitutionally be districted with any other county in the election of a member

to which she is entitled alone; and no county can be districted with another county except on account of fractions of the number of population making the amount required for one Senator.

CANAL AND LOCKS AT WILLAMETTE FALLS.

This work of constructing a canal and locks for the passage of steamboats and other water craft, over the falls of the Willamette river at Oregon City, provided for at the last session of the Legislature, has been prosecuted by the company who undertook the same, with vigor and success, although the construction of these works will prove a much more expensive enterprise than was at first estimated; yet the dispositions of the company are such as give warrant to state that the undertaking will be completed within the time required by law, and in the most substantial and durable manner. The importance of this project cannot now be estimated.

WAGON ROADS.

The Coast range of mountains is twice crossed by military wagon roads. The Cascade range is also crossed at two different points by wagon roads from the Willamette valley to eastern Oregon. There yet remain two important points of the Cascade range demanding wagon roads. A road should be constructed from the Rogue River valley to the Klamath Lake basin, and another from Portland to the Dalles, along the left bank of the Columbia river.

The Meacham toll-road over the Blue Mountains should be purchased by the State and made free, on condition that the neighboring counties shall keep it in repair. The toll road running through the canyon of the Umpqua Mountains, in Douglas county, should also be purchased by the State, and made free on the same condition.

The expenditure on account of all these projects need not exceed \$200,000, and the funds might be provided from moneys arising from sales of swamp and tide lands.

In case provision should be made for constructing these wagon roads, the act should provide that they be built under contract with the State directly, and that the roads, when built, should be free from toll.

INSANE ASYLUM.

I lay before you, also, the official report of Dr. J. C. Hawthorne, physician in charge of the insane. Ever appealing to the best sympathies of our nature for aid and protection, this unfortunate class of our citizens has not been left without assistance. Our State Asylum still maintains its former high reputation for good management, sanitary arrangements, and successful treatment of its inmates. Nearly forty-three per cent. of those sent to the Hospital have been cured. Those permanently insane are humanely kept, and all their ills alleviated to such extent as can be accomplished in institutions of this class.

The buildings of the Asylum have been greatly enlarged and improved, to meet the wants of the constantly increasing number of inmates.

I call your attention to that portion of this report referring to appropriations to cover former deficiencies, and to sufficient future appropriations to cover all contract allowances for keeping the insane. It is but just to the contractor to make his contract rate equal to cash when negotiated on a cash basis. I concur in the suggestions of the report upon this subject; also, with those made relative to an allowance for the purpose of assisting indigent patients, discharged as cured, in reaching home, or their friends.

I further lay before you, the report of Dr. A. D. Ellis, Visiting Physician to the Asylum, which is interesting in its reference to sanitary suggestions.

STATE CAPITOL.

We have reached the time when we may properly enter upon the construction of Capitol buildings. The increasing membership of our Legislative Assembly, the growing importance of our public offices, and the general facilities required for all our extending public interests, demand larger and more appropriate accommodations than we now possess. But economy and prudence should still characterize our undertakings in this respect. A reasonable appropriation to begin the structure of a State House would be commendable.

STATE GEOLOGIST.

It may safely be stated that no State in the Union surpasses Oregon in undeveloped mineral resources. Her geology is bold, peculiar, and interesting. Her wealth in the useful and precious metals is undoubted. But we do not know what are our hidden treasures. It is probable that no money could be expended more usefully to our future development than a reasonable sum appropriated to sustain a State Geologist.

IMMIGRATION.

It is customary in the younger States to offer public inducements for the immigration of new settlers within their borders. Much interest

is felt by many of our citizens upon this subject, and many inquiries are made relative to it by those in other American States and in foreign countries, who are contemplating removal to Oregon. This subject is worthy of your careful consideration.

SECRETARY AND TREASURER OF STATE.

The reports of these officers submitted to your Honorable body will be found complete and instructive, giving all the detailed workings of the accounting departments of the State. These officers have been most diligent and faithful in the execution of their several official duties, and I trust their accounts will meet with full approval.

CLERICAL FORCE.

The clerical force allowed the several departments is greatly disproportionate to the work required to be done. The Private Secretary of the Executive office, after performing all the ordinary duties of his office, has performed all the clerical labors of listing in triplicate all the public lands of the State, which have been selected and approved within the past two years. He has recorded the minutes of the Board of School Land Commissioners, kept the accounts of the Mute School, purchased supplies for the same, and performed an immense amount of general clerical labor not belonging strictly to his official duty, while his proper duties in the Executive office have been exacting and laborious.

The Agent of the Board of School Land Commissioners has written all the correspondence relative to the disposal of lands and the conflicts of titles in western Oregon, which has been voluminous and tedious, in addition to his duties touching the lands themselves.

A clerk of swamp lands has been employed in assisting to execute the swamp land act of October 26, 1870, and one also to conduct the correspondence with the Land Office at La Grande, and to keep the accounts of that office.

The services of all these gentlemen have been unremittant, and their work is well exhibited in the permanent records of the State.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, I will assure you of my cordial co-operation in all measures calculated to secure the best interests of the State, and to promote the general welfare; and I express the hope that the results of your deliberations and actions may be satisfactory to your constituents, and a lasting blessing to the whole people.

L. F. GROVER, Executive Department, Salem, Sept. 1872.

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