

## CHAPTER 134.

## INSANE ASYLUM.

AN ACT to establish a State Insane Asylum.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa*, That the Governor of the State, Edward Johnson, of Lee county, and Charles S. Clark, of Henry county, are hereby appointed a board of Commissioners, of whom the Governor shall be chairman, to locate and superintend the erection of a building, to be used as an asylum for the Insane of the State of Iowa, at or near Mount Pleasant, in Henry county.

§ 2. The board must not locate said Asylum on less than a quarter section of land.

§ 3. When they have fixed upon the site, and made a purchase of the land on which they locate said Institution, they shall take a deed of conveyance thereof, to the State of Iowa, and draw a warrant on the State Treasurer for the amount of the purchase money.

§ 4. The board are hereby authorized to visit the Illinois State Asylum, and any other which they deem it necessary to visit, before determining upon a plan of the building; they are further authorized to employ an Architect, to draft the plan on which they determine, and other plans afterwards, if they so determine, and to pay for the same by their draft on the State Treasurer.

§ 5. After deciding on a plan, and the location, the board are authorized to advertise for contracts for the erection of the edifice, which may be of brick, stone, or both, as the board may determine. And on their determining on the acceptance of any contract for the building, they shall bind the contractor in such manner as they deem necessary.

§ 6. The cost of the building contemplated by this act, shall not exceed fifty thousand dollars; but it is advised that the plan determined on by the board should be one that may admit of future enlargement.

§ 7. All warrants drawn on the Treasurer of State by the board hereby constituted, are to be paid by him out of any

fund specially set apart for this purpose; after the same is exhausted, out of the General Treasury of the State.

Means.

§ 8. *And be it further enacted*, That the board, in entering into a contract for a site for the location of said Asylum, and for the erection of the edifice, shall have reference to the means of payment therefor from the fund aforesaid, either already in the hands, or due to the Treasurer of State, from the lands aforesaid. But they are hereby authorized to make preliminary examinations, to examine neighboring institutions of similar character, and to procure architectural plans, without reference thereto, and to draw their warrant on the Treasury therefor.

Preliminary examination

Temporary relief.

§ 9. Until said Asylum is erected and finished, the board hereby constituted are authorized to make such temporary arrangements for the amelioration of the condition of the Insane of the State, as to them may seem necessary and prudent, and they may draw their warrant on the Treasurer for all necessary expenses of said arrangements; which warrant shall be audited by the Auditor of State, and paid by the treasurer of the State out of any moneys not otherwise appropriated. And said board are further authorized, in case the edifice hereby contemplated is finished before the next meeting of the Legislature, to make such arrangements for the admission of Patients therein, and for the government thereof, as to them may seem necessary.

Admission.

Compensation

§ 10. The board hereby constituted, shall receive their necessary expenses, and two dollars per day, while actually employed, for their services.

Report.

§ 11. It shall be the duty of said board to report their proceedings to the next session of the General Assembly.

APPROVED January 24, 1855.

The above Act was published by direction of the Governor, in the Iowa Capital Reporter the 6th of March. and Iowa Republican, 28th February. 1855.

GEO. W. McCLEARY, Secretary of State.