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REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ASYLUM FOR THE COLORED INSANE.

GOLDSBORO, N. C., Dec. 28, 1880.

His Excellency THOS. J. JARVIS,
Governor of North Carolina :

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report relative to the completion and management of the N. C. Asylum for the colored Insane, located near Goldsboro.

As has been stated in my last report, this property is located on a tract of land containing 175 acres, immediately on the North Carolina Railroad, about two miles west of the town of Goldsboro. The land was purchased for the State for the sum of \$5,000. The site upon which the Asylum buildings have been erected is elevated and in full view of the North Carolina Railway. The location is a desirable one, quite healthy, and Little River furnishes an endless supply of water.

The Board of Directors were fortunate in contracting for the building of the Asylum at a time when building materials and labor were at their lowest rate, and I feel warranted in saying that the property is decidedly cheap. The

Board has exercised all proper economy, both in the erection and completion of the building, as also in the management of the Institution since it was opened for patients. The total cost of the property is about \$42,000, which includes the Asylum building proper, kitchen, heating and cooking arrangements, water works, gas fixtures, furniture, etc.

To keep within the appropriation (\$40,000) we were forced to adopt the hot-air furnace plan for heating the building, it being several thousand dollars cheaper than the plan recommended by the architect, and does the heating well and satisfactorily, however much the other might be preferred.

Owing to unexpected delay in getting brick, the contractors failed to complete the buildings as early as was contemplated. Again, the absence of an appropriation for the support of the Institution retarded its opening, but being assured by your Excellency that the needed funds should be forthcoming, the Asylum was thrown open to patients the first of last August. As will be seen from Dr. Moore's report, (superintendent of the Asylum,) the total number of patients received and cared for up to December 1st, 1880, was 91, and there have been some received since that period, so that the Institution is filled about to its capacity, and as near as we can estimate from 75 to 100 colored insane remain to be cared for in different parts of the State. Applications for admittance continue to come in.

It is estimated (see Col. Fremont's report) that \$20,000 will erect and complete the other wing of the building, originally designed, which would double its present capacity. I hope your Excellency will recommend that the General Assembly make the needed appropriation in order that the capacity may be speedily enlarged sufficient to accommodate as many more as the number of patients now cared for, and thus relieve a number of counties of the expense and annoyance in caring for the insane, and afford to the unfortunate beings that proper care and treatment it is impos-

sible for them to receive in the jails and county poor houses.

The estimated annual cost of maintaining the Asylum at its present capacity of 100 patients may be stated in round figures to be \$16,000, and I would respectfully ask that an annual appropriation to that amount be made. This estimate is based upon the expenditures of the past five months. It is hoped that the expenses can be reduced some the coming year, relying on supplies from the farm, etc.

It may be proper here to state that we have endeavored to cultivate a portion of the Asylum lands the present year, with reasonable fair results, the fact considered that no efforts in that direction were made until the month of April, and such other drawbacks as are mentioned in the Steward's report accompanying this, and which, it is hoped will not be encountered next season. The land is now in a good state for cultivation.

The present manner of drawing the necessary funds for the support of the Asylum might be greatly improved, and I would respectfully ask that your Excellency recommend to the General Assembly some system by which the financial affairs can be more simplified and rendered less cumbersome. Under the present law the State Treasurer is the Treasurer of the Asylum, and the distance from Raleigh to Goldsboro considered, renders great inconvenience to the Directors, and especially to the State Treasurer.

I would ask that the necessary funds be placed from time to time in the Goldsboro bank by the State Treasurer, subject to the drafts of the Asylum officers, properly endorsed by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. VICK,

Ch'm'n B'd Directors Colored Insane Asylum.

