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BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

JANUARY 12, 1870.

Read, and 500 copies ordered to be printed.

By order,

MILTON Y. KIDD,

Chief Clerk.

REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE

MARYLAND

Agricultural College,

TO THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND.

ANNAPOLIS:

WILLIAM THOMPSON OF R., STATE PRINTER.

1870.

REPORT.

BALTIMORE, January 5, 1870.

To the Honorable,

The Speaker of the House of Delegates,

Annapolis :

SIR :—In compliance with the terms of the charter, I herewith transmit to the Legislature, through you, the Report of the President and Faculty of the Maryland Agricultural College.

When it is recollected that the present President of the College entered upon his duties only at the commencement of the present session in September last, the increase of pupils, large reduction of the debt, and improvements at the College and its appendages, together with the good order, economy, elevated moral tone, and harmonious working of the Institution in all its departments, presents a very gratifying result, and a most hopeful and encouraging augury for the future.

With the continued favor and patronage of the State, the Trustees feel every encouragement to hope, and believe, that the Maryland Agricultural College will soon take rank with the first institutions of learning in the country, with the additional advantages of giving practical illustration to scientific and theoretic instruction.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees,

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

A. B. DAVIS,

President.

JANUARY 1, 1870.

Hon. A. B. Davis,
President Board of Trustees,
Maryland Agricultural College:

DEAR SIR:—As the Board of Trustees are required to make a report of the affairs of the College to the Legislature, I deem it proper to submit to you, the following statement of the condition of the Institution over which I have the honor to preside.

I herewith transmit the Catalogue of the College for the first scholastic year, from which further information may be obtained.

The finances of the College for several years past have been somewhat embarrassed, superinduced, no doubt, by a combination of unhappy circumstances which arose from the peculiar events of the period comprising their history.

At the date of the resignation of my predecessor, Admiral Franklin Buchanan, the liabilities of the College, consisting of old debts and balance on current indebtedness, amounted to \$6,000. Of these old debts \$4,000 have been paid; leaving a balance of \$2,000. Besides this amount of old debt paid off, the receipts of the College from all sources have kept pace with our current expenses, leaving a balance of a few hundred dollars in our favor.

From these facts it is safe to conclude that by the close of the scholastic year ending June 30th, our entire liabilities of all descriptions will have been paid.

We have now eighty students in attendance, with the promise of some fifteen or twenty additional by the first of February.

This is considered a good result, and justifies the hope that the Institution will realize the promise of an enlarged and permanent prosperity, of which the favoring auspices of the past College year were accepted as the sure tokens. This improvement in the condition of the College, is the product of the joint labors of the Faculty and the intelligent co-operation of the Board of Trustees.

It gives me great pleasure to state that the deportment of the students for kindly intercourse among themselves, re-

spectful and deferential regard for all in authority over them, and cheerful compliance with the rules of the College, is such as to command my highest admiration. In these respects our care for their intellectual, spiritual and moral welfare, is largely required.

Arrangements have been made by which it is proposed for the ensuing year, to give the students light and pleasant out-door exercise in practical agriculture, horticulture, &c., and thus, with seeming labor, to give a real healthful recreation, and at the same time, much useful knowledge for future improvement in the great life-work before them. When in connection with these studies and pursuits, it is remembered that our facilities are complete for imparting a thorough Collegiate education, it is not presumptuous to claim for this Institution the most favorable regard of the public.

In compliance with the condition of the land grant from the United States, the students are regularly taught the principles and practice of military drill. This department is under the efficient superintendence of Major F. A. Soper, whose fitness for the position, and fidelity to the trust, are faultless.

The U. S. Government required that the proceeds of the land scrip donated to the College, should be paid over to her without diminution—as did also the State law, and yet, through some inadvertence in the details of the bill, the College has been obliged to pay a State tax for the amount invested in Southern Relief Bonds. Likewise, in violation of what seems to be the spirit of the same law, one-tenth of the entire proceeds of the aforesaid land scrip, were put into the State Treasury. It is believed to be necessary only to call the attention of the approaching Legislature to these facts, in order to have this tax remitted, and that clause, in the law referred to, repealed.

The loss, several years ago, of a valuable Barn by fire, and the destruction of nearly \$1,200 worth of fencing and farm produce by U. S. troops, have greatly crippled the farming operations of the Institution.

The want of these is sorely felt, and 'tis earnestly hoped that, at no distant day, these important prerequisites to successful farming will be supplied.

With the continued support of the State, (by which we are enabled to put the terms of tuition, board, &c., down to exceedingly moderate rates—sufficient only to cover expenses) and the intelligent and energetic co-operation of the friends of the College, it is believed this Institution will attain a high and commanding position as a seat of learning, and become the first pride of the State.

The law requiring that sixty students be admitted on "State scholarships," has been complied with, and exceeded, there being now sixty-seven in College as State students.

Hoping the above is a sufficiently full and satisfactory report,

I have the honor to be, respectfully, &c.,

SAM'L. REGISTER,

President.