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Seventh Biennial Report of the Trustees of the Southern Illinois Normal University, Located at Carbondale, Jackson County

Southern Illinois State Normal University Board of Trustees

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OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS NORMAL UNIVERSITY,

LOCATED AT

CARBONDALE, JACKSON COUNTY.

OCTOBER 1, 1886.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.:
H. W. ROEKER, PRINTER AND BINDER.
1886.

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 ELI BOYER, Olney, THOS. M. HARRIS, Shelbyville,
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MARTHA BUCK,

Teacher of Grammar and Etymology.

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ESTHER C. FINLEY, A. M.,

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INEZ GREEN,

Teacher of Geography and Algebra.

MATILDA F. SALTER,

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Teacher of Algebra and Arithmetic.

CHARLES HARRIS, PH. D.,

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ANN C. ANDERSON,

Assistant in Training Department.

2D LIEUT. JAMES F. BELL, U. S. A.,

Teacher of Military Science and Tactics.

MARY A. ROBARTS,

Assistant in Arithmetic, Reading and Writing.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
NORMAL UNIVERSITY FOR THE YEARS OF 1884-5
AND 1885-6, MADE TO THE GOVERNOR
SEPT. 30TH, 1886.

HIS EXCELLENCY, RICHARD J. OGLESBY,
Governor of Illinois:

SIR—It is with feelings of sincere satisfaction that we make this, our seventh biennial report of the trust given us by the people of the State.

The General Assembly which met in January, 1869, incorporated the Southern Illinois Normal University, and appointed trustees. They were instructed to build and open a school at some central place south of the line of the Alton and Terre Haute Railroad, and after careful examination they selected Carbondale as the place.

Unforeseen embarrassments delayed the completion of the building and the opening of the school till July 1, 1874.

The present Board of Trustees was constituted by the Governor, John L. Beveridge, and date their terms of office from March, 1873. Only one of the five originally appointed remains now in the Board.

Since the opening of the school, and the organization of classes in a special session July 2, 1874, when forty-one students were enrolled, the number of students has steadily increased, till at the time of writing this report the number is nearly four hundred, and the character of the young men and young women who enter has risen in scholarship and experience, and we are informed by the faculty that now the proportion of students who have come to push their studies to higher attainments, with first grade certificates, already licensed to teach, is about three to one as compared with the number of those who entered during the early terms of the institution.

The first regular term opened September 6, 1874, and enrolled just one hundred and forty-three pupils, of all ages, during the twelve weeks of its continuance. The present term, which began September 6, 1886, has already counted three hundred and ninety-six.

Such has been the success of the school, as measured by the number of students who have entered,

The total enrollment of students since the beginning of the school is two thousand eight hundred and thirteen. They have come from seventy-four counties of this State, and from the States of Missouri, Kansas, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Alabama and Tennessee, and since their departure they have gone to more than half of the States and Territories, carrying into the most active and earnest employments of life the methods of study and teaching, and the habits of discipline and duty impressed upon them by our very judicious and conscientious faculty. As many as two thousand of these students have been employed as teachers, for terms varying from five months to ten years, in some of the counties of our State and the adjoining States, and they have, as nearly all the reports say, won a good degree of success.

The larger part, or nearly seventy-five per cent. of these students, are sons and daughters of the farmers of the State, and their education has a tendency to diffuse knowledge more widely among the people, and to inspire a respect and reverence for the republican institutions of our land, and to infuse into the minds which they influence a patriotic devotion to our common country.

But the growth of our school will be seen to be more remarkable if the difficulties which it has encountered are taken into account.

In all communities there are those who do not believe in the right of the State to give higher education to the children of its citizens, even if that higher education may have a direct bearing on the schools which public taxation has established for elementary instruction. There were others who are jealous of all new means of accomplishing the work of a people, and others still who have already engaged in giving instruction.

In general the people of Southern Illinois have been highly grateful to the State for establishing the school in their midst, and have given to it not only a generous patronage but a hearty, even and enthusiastic endorsement and defense.

But a serious, and by some it was feared, a fatal, disaster happened to it when on the afternoon of November 26, 1883, the noble building which had been erected at a cost of a quarter of a million of dollars was consumed by fire.

At first all hearts were paralyzed by the magnitude of the loss.

The public sentiment soon rallied and a temporary structure was erected which has comfortably sheltered the school and has held the faculty and students together till we are nearly ready to enter a new, and we believe an improved, building, which will be reckoned a fitting monument to the wisdom, the justice and generosity of the 34th General Assembly of Illinois.

By the earnest advise of your excellency, seconded by the hearty desires of so many of the best educators and wisest statesmen of our commonwealth, the sum of one hundred and fifty-two thousand dollars was appropriated to restore the building which had been destroyed. Plans were adopted by our Board of Trustees and approved by you, and they have been carried forward so successfully that a building is now nearly ready to receive our hundreds of students, part of whom are at present on the ground and hosts of whom are waiting to rush in as soon as its doors are opened.

A detailed description of the building is not needed here. It is enough to say that the building has three stories, respectively in height fourteen, eighteen and twenty-six feet, is surmounted by a high and shapely roof, crowned by a single tower over the front center.

The first story has eight doors for entrance and egress, and has ample corridors fourteen feet wide extending the entire length, two hundred and eleven feet, and the whole width one hundred and nine feet. This story contains ten rooms, a study hall for the training department, recitations and lectures, capable of seating one hundred pupils, including an ample room for a chemical laboratory, and another for natural history, study and dissection and experiment.

In the second story are ten rooms, for the principal, for receptions, recitations and for the library. The third story contains the large study hall a hundred feet by sixty-nine, to seat five hundred students, two large rooms for the literary societies and four convenient rooms for recitations.

The total number of rooms is twenty-seven, and ten rooms for cloaks, etc., with lavatories. These rooms are all admirably lighted and ventilated and are in every way adapted to the purposes for which our school is designed, the training of young persons to become, for a time at least, teachers in our public schools.

The material of which the building is constructed is fine pressed brick, laid in red cement, with sandstone trimmings, left in the rough ashlar finish. The exterior wall of the basement or first story is the same as was used for the former building, and is of brown sandstone, obtained from the quarries a few miles south of Carbondale. The structure is an imposing one, and shows by its appearance the use for which it is designed. It has ample corridors for the movements of masses of students, and its easy grade stairways render all parts accessible and convenient to enter, and escape from in case of accident. It is divided into three sections by fire-proof walls, extending to the roof, and separated from each other by iron doors in the attic, and is believed to be so constructed that either of these sections might be burned without serious damage to the others.

The wood work of the internal finish is hard southern pine for floors, doors and wainscoting, while the walls and ceilings are sand finish, painted, with cornices and panelings tinted with soft and pleasing colors. Every recitation room is fitted with ample blackboards, and has furniture study desks, recitation chairs or seats of the most approved pattern and elegant finish.

The room for the drawing department has tables, and likewise have the laboratory and the room for natural history. It was our design, in planning, arranging and furnishing the building, to give to Southern Illinois what the General Assembly evidently intended the people of this end of the State should have, a perfect school building, such as should be at once best adapted to the work of study and teaching, and be an inspiration and a model for this section for all time to come.

While we are not disposed to declare that no improvements could be made in either design or construction, we are willing to have everything submitted to the most rigid tests of examination, and we feel confident that any intelligent study of the building and its appointments will result in a verdict of cordial approbation.

We cannot resist the impulse to congratulate the people of this part of the State on the fact that they were so fortunate as to have in the General Assembly so many lovers of popular education, men of firmness to resist all arguments of temporary economy, who were wise enough to make ample appropriation for the rebuilding of what had been so sadly wrecked by fire. Nor should we omit to record our good luck, if we may so speak, in securing so energetic and skillful builders to assume the contract, Messrs. Parry & Deal, of Peoria, who have carried the work forward thus far without an accident, and who now have a fair prospect of a speedy completion of a home for our school worthy the name and renown it has won under its learned and popular faculty, and by the diligence and zeal of its enthusiastic students.

The educational work of the two years covered by this report has been truly "the pursuit of knowledge under difficulties." There have at no time been less than three hundred students, and at most times nearly four hundred have been crowded into seventeen comparatively small rooms, with corridors only six feet wide, and few of them at that. Always two persons have been compelled to occupy the same seat, and now and then three have been crowded into space intended for one, and scarcely sufficient for his comfort.

Yet everything has moved harmoniously and profitably as we believe. Every person connected with the school merits praise and we doubt not their efforts under these disadvantageous circumstances have really tended to make all students more alert and ready in expedients, more self sacrificing and even more enterprising and persevering than perhaps they would have been had no such almost overwhelming calamity befallen us.

The principal's reports to us for each of the two years, which we send to accompany this report, will convey some information which may be of value.

The following is a summary of the number of students attending the school during the two years embraced in this report.

Summary of students, year 1884 and 1885:

Post graduate.....	1
Special students.....	4
Regular Normal students.....	50
Irregular.....	126
Preparatory department.....	198
Training.....	86

Total number..... 465

Graduates, 10.

Year 1885 and 1886:

Post graduates.....	3
Special students.....	2
Regular Normal students.....	65

Irregular	105
Preparatory department.....	215
Training.....	96
	<hr/>
Total number.....	486
Graduates, 14.	

There have been graduated in all, one hundred and four students :

Gentlemen.....	58
Ladies.....	46

Two catalogues are herewith enclosed.

We append the Treasurer's biennial report as made to this Board, by quarterly statements. This is the fiscal report of the school proper and does not pertain to the amount appropriated for the rebuilding, and which is embodied in a separate statement.

1884.		<i>Cr.</i>		
September 30	To	balance in my hands		\$167 51
October 1	"	Cash received from Auditor		44,900 00
	"	Cash received from registrar and other sources		6,996 54
1886.		<i>Dr.</i>		
October 1	By	paid officers, teachers and employes	\$38,196 22	
"	"	paid for apparatus	208 89	
"	"	paid for repairs.....	174 06	
"	"	paid for trustees' expense	888 01	
"	"	paid for care of grounds	109 47	
"	"	paid for museum	485 60	
"	"	paid for library	1,018 68	
"	"	paid for fuel.....	1,234 45	
"	"	paid for incidentals, etc.....	5,235 93	
"	"	balance in Treasurer's hands.....	4,512 74	
			<hr/>	
			\$52,064 05	\$52,064 05

(Signed)

Respectfully submitted,
JOHN S. BRIDGES,
Treasurer Southern Illinois Normal University.

We have practiced in all things the most rigid economy, and have made it a matter of principle to use the funds put into our hands with great carefulness. During the time since the fire we have not had quarters suitable for a library, a laboratory, a museum, or for apparatus. We therefore asked the last General Assembly for only the smallest possible sums for these items of expense.

Our practice has been from the first to ask appropriations for the exact sums we deem our necessities require, and not a dollar more. We have kept our integrity as public servants, and done our best to see that the best interests of the State were faithfully guarded.

At this time of making our estimates for the next two years, we have named the precise sums each interest of the university seems to us, after carefully studying the situation, to need.

The estimates below are for our *annual* expenses in all cases. Since the burning of the building we have asked only the smallest pittance for each of these, and to put them on a proper foundation they require an increase. So we ask an *annual* sum for them.

We think our estimates eminently reasonable, and even below, rather than above, the necessities of the case.

ESTIMATE

For the years beginning July 1, 1887 and ending June 30, 1889, as follows:

For teachers' salaries.....	\$21,000 00
For engineer and janitor (two men).....	1,000 00
For fuel.....	1,000 00
For apparatus.....	500 00
For museum.....	500 00
For care of grounds.....	600 00
For repairs.....	1,000 00
For trustees' expenses.....	500 00

Total yearly estimate.....\$ 26,100 00

On the 9th of July, 1885, our Board met at the secretary's office and employed Mr. Isaac Rapp, of Carbondale, a practical builder, as superintendent, and ordered him to begin at once the tearing down and cleaning away the debris.

After adoption and approval of plans work was begun repairing the first story of the superstructure. On October 21, 1885, the contract to rebuild the university according to plans and specifications submitted by Isaac S. Taylor, of St. Louis, Mo., and approved by your excellency, was awarded to Parry & Deal, of Peoria, Ill., for the sum of one hundred and seventeen thousand three hundred and thirty-seven dollars.

The contract was approved, and they have faithfully prosecuted the work of construction.

The building is now nearing completion. We have made every effort to keep within the limit of the appropriation. We have made only such alterations as the work progressed as in our judgment the appropriation warranted, that we might complete and furnish the building complete in all its appurtenances.

Our Board have, during the progress of the work, frequently visited and inspected same, and herewith submit report of superintendent for all moneys expended on building to Oct. 1, 1886:

1886.				
September	1	To paid for rebuilding and repairing walls, etc., as per reports from July 9, 1885 to Sept. 1, 1886.....	\$13,101 49	
October	1	“ Pay roll for September, 1886.....	653 84	\$13,755 33
“	“	“ Superintendent's salary and expense account, as per reports from July 9, 1885 to Sept. 1, 1886.....	\$2,187 85	
“	“	“ Superintendent's salary for September, 1886.....	150 00	
“	“	“ Expense account.....	1 30	2,339 15
“	“	“ Estimates furnished to contractors from Jan. 1, 1886, to Sept. 1, 1886, as per reports furnished.....	\$76,535 69	
“	“	“ Certificate for Sept. 1, 1886.....	7,360 67	83,896 36
“	“	“ Paid architect fees.....		750 00
		Grand total.....		\$100,740 84

Respectfully,

ISAAC RAPP, *Superintendent.*

Our expectation now is to occupy the building with our school not later than January next. We have had no accidents, and feel very thankful for this, and to your Excellency for your visit, and hope to have you with us when the building will be formally received and dedicated.

Our contracts are made for lighting, heating and furnishing, and they come within the appropriation.

Very respectfully submitted,

THOS. S. RIDGWAY, *President.*

Attest:

E. J. INGERSOLL, *Secretary.*

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS NORMAL UNIVERSITY

IN ACCOUNT WITH JOHN S. BRIDGES, *Treasurer.*

1885.		<i>Dr.</i>			
Oct.	31	To paid pay-roll officers, teachers and employes, Oct.	.....	\$1,619 85	
Nov.	30	Nov.	.....	1,635 00	
Dec.	17	Dec.	.....	1,635 15	
\$4,890 00					
INCIDENTALS.					
Oct.	5	To paid voucher No. 1389, A. H. Andrews & Co.	.....	\$12 50	
"	"	" 1390, James Moore	.....	7 50	
"	"	" 1391, The Tribune Co.	.....	28 80	
"	"	" 1392, The Missouri Republican	.....	13 50	
Oct.	27	" 1394, C. A. Sheppard	.....	58 80	
"	"	" 1397, L. M. Rumsey Mfg. Co.	.....	8 60	
"	"	" 1398, Globe Printing Co.	.....	17 00	
"	"	" 1399, Chicago Times	.....	15 75	
"	"	" 1400, E. H. Brush	.....	6 25	
"	"	" 1401, Springfield Journal Co.	.....	13 00	
"	"	" 1402, J. S. & A. F. Bridges	.....	37 47	
"	"	" 1403, Wm. L. Fisher	.....	8 75	
Oct.	30	" 1404, George Rodgers	.....	4 00	
"	"	" 1406, R. & T. A. Ennis	.....	65 00	
Nov.	5	" 1407, John H. Barton	.....	115 50	
"	"	" 1410, H. C. Miller	.....	7 50	
"	"	" 1411, Illinois State Register	.....	13 00	
Dec.	5	" 1413, Daily Monitor	.....	7 00	
Dec.	20	" 1416, Robt. Allyn	.....	74 88	
"	"	" 1422, C. A. Sheppard	.....	30 95	
"	"	" 1426, Sam. T. Brush	.....	38 00	
583 75					
TRUSTEES' EXPENSES.					
Nov.	5	To paid voucher No. 1412, R. D. Adams	.....	\$37 50	
Dec.	20	" 1414, Thos. S. Ridgway	.....	29 85	
"	"	" 1425, E. J. Ingersoll	.....	88 75	
156 10					
FUEL.					
Oct.	5	To paid voucher No. 1385, James Ennisson	.....	\$84 87	
Dec.	20	" 1423, Sam. T. Brush	.....	76 00	
160 87					
REPAIRS.					
Oct.	28	To paid voucher No. 1405, F. A. & C. F. Prickett	.....	\$32 52	
Oct.	31	" 1408, James M. Johnson	.....	35 21	
67 73					
APPARATUS.					
Dec.	7	To paid voucher No. 1418, Henry Heil	.....	\$11 88	
Dec.	20	" 1424, E. Patten	.....	16 20	
28 08					
MUSEUM.					
Dec.	5	To paid voucher No. 1417, R. Ronig	.....	\$14 15	
Dec.	7	" 1420, Geo. H. French	.....	55 52	
69 67					
LIBRARY.					
		To paid voucher No. 1419, Robt. Clark & Co.	.....	\$42 80	
42 80					
		Balance in my hands	.....	2,002 05	
\$8,001 05					
<i>Cr.</i>					
Dec.	7	By balance in my hands	.....	\$2,322 65	
Dec.	31	By cash from Auditor, \$5,590, less exchange, \$5.60	.....	5,584 40	
		By C. W. Jerome for tuition and incidentals, term Sept. 7	.....	68 00	
		" " " " " "	.....	25 00	
		" " " " " "	.....	1 00	
\$8,001 05					
By balance in my hands, \$2,002 05					
1885.					
RECAPITULATION.					
Sept.	30	Care of grounds fund overdrawn	.....	\$72 54	
Oct.	8	Repair account	.....	57 76	
Oct.	23	Salary fund on hand	.....	105 00	
Oct.	27	Library fund on hand	.....	57 81	
Dec.	15	Fuel fund on hand	.....	873 14	
		Museum fund on hand	.....	293 56	
		Trustees' expenses fund on hand	.....	70 08	
Dec.	31	Apparatus fund on hand	.....	325 81	
		Incidentals fund on hand	.....	329 65	

