

the Legislature, but this expectation owing to circumstances not foreseen at that time, was not realized; and on the 7th of May, 1869, the Building Committee knew that the amount of the appropriation in their hands was exhausted, and the Mansion far from completion, nevertheless they directed the work to be carried on with dispatch in order, if possible, to have it completed by the 1st October, 1869. But no one who had carefully examined the matter can for one moment doubt that the gentlemen who constituted the Building Committee acted from beginning to end, with the most perfect good faith, and were actuated solely by an earnest desire to secure for the State a building which, in their judgment, would be suitable for a Governor's Mansion. And in order to accomplish this result, the members of the Building Committee for nearly two years, and without any pay, gave a great deal of time in directing and superintending this work, and while there may be a difference of opinion as to the suitability of the Governor's Mansion, which the Building Committee has had erected, it should be borne in mind that the last Legislature selected the square upon which the Governor's Mansion has been erected, thereby at once consuming nearly one-third of the entire amount appropriated, and ordered and directed the erection of a *Mansion* to be in keeping with the large public buildings in the immediate vicinity. Your Committee beg leave to add that it is justice to those who have had charge of the work, to say, they have discharged every duty entrusted to them by the direction of the Building Committee, skilfully and honestly.

As your Committee is fully satisfied that the various mechanics and others are justly and equitably entitled to the compensation which they claim for the labor which they have done, and for the materials they have furnished in the erection of the Governor's Mansion, enclosing and improving the grounds surrounding the same; and moreover, as the State, through its Building Committee, has accepted the Mansion and improvements, and is now in possession thereof, we beg leave respectfully to refer to you the accompanying bill in order that the necessary appropriation may be made in payment of the same.

N. BROWNE,
Chairman of the Senate Committee.
ALFRED SPATES.

JOHN R. BLAKE,
Chairman of House Committee.
WM. WHITE,
W. T. MARKLAND,
JOHN H. COOPER.