

CHAP. 739

for by annual appropriations on the part of the State, and a per capita contribution from the respective counties and the city of Baltimore ; and

Preamble.

WHEREAS, The buildings are now supplied with very little more than sufficient water for the daily consumption, and the lives of these poor unfortunates are constantly imperiled, and the State's handsome buildings are in hourly jeopardy of destruction by fire for the want of a proper supply of water ; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable, and will be a source of great saving and economy, and will add greatly to the efficiency of the institution to have a track or switch connection with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Sykesville, over which the fuel, supplies, products of its farm, buildings, material, etc., as well as its employes, inmates and visitors can be transported either by a small steam or electric equipment, and

WHEREAS, The proximity of the Patapsco river and Piney falls to said institution makes it feasible, by the use of its water power and the construction of a reservoir and a small electric light and power plant near said river, to furnish the institution with all the water and electric current it needs, and also to operate therewith as aforesaid a short railway switch track or connection between the institution and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, thus at a comparatively small cost accomplishing the following general results : first, it would secure sufficient water to protect the lives of the people and the large and handsome buildings owned by the States ; second, it would secure sufficient electric current to furnish light and to drive any and all machinery necessary at the institution and to operate the electric railroad track, siding or switch in addition ; third, the electric railroad would save the enormous expense now incurred for hauling, etc., as well as save more than one-half the coal of the institution ; fourth, it would avoid the need of owning and keeping a large number of horses, wagons, carts, harness, etc., and reduce the number of laborers employed ; and lastly, the establishment of this plant, combining all these features, would make this institution one of the most up-to-date and complete in the country and add to its usefulness and its opportunities for public good ; therefore,