

you will discover that all my doubts have been confirmed and that the whole system for the education of the blind is a failure, and as the ~~act~~ fund appropriated for the act of 1849 has been long since applied to the payment of the principal and interest of the public debt, it is stated there remains but one resort to prevent the withdrawal of the pupils now at the institution while it will be impossible to enlarge the number until the legislature shall assemble and correct the error which has occurred. I allude to the contingent fund placed at my disposal to meet such charges and expenses as cannot be foreseen or provided for by legislation. I have determined to apply that fund to the payment of the expenses of the pupils now at the institution and have accordingly enclosed you a draft in payment of your semi-annual account.

I am very respectfully
 your obt. servt.
 Philip F. Thomas

William Chapin Esquire
 Principal of the
 Maine Institution for the
 Instruction of the Blind

State Department
 Annapolis 16 November 1850

Sir:
 The Treasurer has reported to me that the returns of the Tobacco Warehouse of which you are Inspector for the quarter ending on the first instant, have not been received at the Treasury.

It became, therefore, my duty to remind you that under the law Inspectors are allowed but few days beyond the close of each quarter for making their returns, and to request that you will forthwith cause your account to be forwarded to the Treasury.

I am very respectfully
 your obt. servt.
 Philip F. Thomas

Wm. A. Smith Esquire
 Collector of Tobacco
 Warehouse No. 1