

MARINE HOSPITAL AT PORT TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON
TERRITORY.

MAY 10, 1882.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

Mr. McLANE, from the Committee on Commerce, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 5875.]

The Committee on Commerce, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5875) authorizing the purchase of a marine hospital at Port Townsend, Washington Territory, beg leave to report the same to the House with the recommendation that it do pass.

This recommendation is based upon the examination and report to the Treasury Department of a board of officers; the favorable views of the Surgeon-General of the Marine Hospital Service; the indorsement of the Secretary of the Treasury; and especially upon the representation that to build a marine hospital will cost the government much more than to purchase this one, which is substantially new.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
February 24, 1882.

SIR: Referring to the communication of your committee of the 21st instant, inclosing bill H. R. 3164, of the present session, "authorizing the purchase of a marine hospital at Port Townsend, Washington Territory," and requesting a report thereon, I have to invite your attention to the inclosed copy of letter from this department to the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations of the 5th of April, 1880, when the subject of the purchase of the hospital was first presented to Congress, containing the approval of the department in regard to the purchase. It will be seen from the letter referred to that copies of all papers in the case were transmitted for the consideration of the committee, together with the report of Dr. John B. Hamilton, Surgeon-General of the Marine Hospital Service, as to the advisability of the purchase.

A copy of Dr. Hamilton's report is inclosed herewith, and papers and memorandum returned.

Very respectfully,

CHAS. J. FOLGER,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Hon. FRANK HISCOCK,
Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., April 5, 1880.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of your committee, copies of papers presented by the Surgeon-General of the Marine Hospital Service in regard to the purchase of the hospital at Port Townsend, Washington Territory, for the accommodation of marine hospital patients, as follows:

2 MARINE HOSPITAL AT FORT TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON TER.

A. Original proposal of Dr. Minor, of Port Townsend, the proprietor of the hospital, to sell or lease the same to the United States.

B. Order of the Treasury Department of September 18, 1879, convening board to investigate Dr. Minor's proposition.

C. Report of board of officers convened to examine the purchase of the hospital.

D. Second proposal of Dr. Minor to lease or sell the property to the United States.

Attention is invited to the indorsement of Dr. Hamilton, Supervising Surgeon-General Marine Hospital Service, of the 2d instant, upon the accompanying papers, from which it will be seen that the purchase of this hospital is recommended in view of the present necessities of the service at Port Townsend and the rapid increase in its commerce, and for the additional reason that there is no marine hospital on the Pacific coast except that at San Francisco, more than 1,000 miles distant.

The views of Dr. Hamilton are approved, and an appropriation of \$18,000, to purchase the hospital, is recommended.

I am, very respectfully,

JOHN SHERMAN,
Secretary.

Hon. J. D. C. ATKINS,
Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SURGEON-GENERAL MARINE HOSPITAL SERVICE,
April 2, 1880.

Respectfully referred to Hon. H. F. French, Acting Secretary * * *. The purchase of this hospital is recommended in view of the present necessities of the service at the port and the rapid increase in its commerce that has developed within the last year. There is no marine hospital on the Pacific coast except that at San Francisco, more than 1,000 miles distant. Should this building be sold by its present owner for other than hospital purposes, the government would be obliged to erect a hospital at a much greater expense.

It is therefore respectfully recommended that the papers in the case be transmitted to Congress, with your recommendation that the sum of \$18,000 be appropriated to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase the hospital.

JOHN B. HAMILTON,
United States Marine Hospital Service.