

# MINNESOTA SCHOOL FOR FEEBLE-MINDED.

Faribault, Minn.

*This School is one of three Departments of the Minnesota Institute for Defectives which is under the following*

## Board of Directors:

His Excellency, A. R. MCGILL, Governor of Minnesota,.....Ex-Officio.  
 Hon. D. L. KIEHLE, Supt. of Public Instruction,.....Ex-Officio.  
 R. A. MOTT, of Faribault,.....1863 to 1888.  
 HUDSON WILSON, of Faribault,.....1866 to 1888.  
 T. B. CLEMENT, of Faribault,.....1875 to 1890.  
 GEORGE E. SKINNER, of St. Paul,.....1876 to 1891.  
 GEORGE B. WHIPPLE, of Faribault,.....1882 to 1892.

## Officers of the Board.

T. B. CLEMENT, President.  
 GEORGE B. WHIPPLE, Vice President.  
 R. A. MOTT, Secretary.  
 HUDSON WILSON, Treasurer.  
 H. E. BARRON, Steward.

*The three Departments of the Institute are School for Deaf, School for Blind, and School for Feeble-minded. Each School has its own buildings and distinct administration.*

# General Description of the School for Feeble-Minded.

## LOCATION.

THE school is situated upon the east bluff of Straight river, overlooking the city of Faribault, which lies to the west of the river. It is about two miles from the railroad depots, and forms the southern terminus of a line of six public institutions, which are arranged in the following order from the north, viz: Shattuck Military School (Episcopal), School for Deaf (State), St. Mary's Ladies' Hall (Episcopal), Seabury Hall (Episcopal), School for Blind (State) and School for Feeble-minded (State).

## OBJECTS.

THE school has for its objects the training of such feeble minded children as are capable of improvement, and the care and comfort of such as cannot be improved. The former is accomplished by regular school and industrial work adapted to this class, the ultimate aim being to make each child self-supporting, or as nearly so as possible. To accomplish this, all of the training is of the most practical nature.

## METHODS OF TRAINING.

THE children are under the guidance of refined teachers, who, while they endeavour to impart the simple elements of an English education, are constantly on the alert to correct improper habits, develop the sense of right and wrong, teach acts of courtesy, and to keep all hands busy at something useful. About six hours a day are devoted to school-room methods and industrial occupations, which vary according to the capacity of the child, from stringing buttons and beads or matching color blocks, to recitations in reading, penmanship, numbers, geography, orthography, composition and other elementary work of the common schools. Music, dancing and calisthenics occupy a large portion of the time, and are of primary importance in arousing and maintaining the interest of the sluggish minds, and strengthening their feeble wills.

## INDUSTRIES.

THE girls learn plain and fancy sewing and all kinds of house work, and as they manifest ability for the same are detailed to assist in different parts of the house.

The boys learn to do work on the farm and in the garden during the summer, while in winter they are engaged at such industries as are adapted to individual cases or classes. Brush making, mat weaving, scroll sawing and carpentering occupy a portion of the time every school day. Quite a number of the boys and girls have learned to hammer brass and copper. This very fascinating occupation has been found to be well adapted to training this class of children.

Quite a good assortment of articles made by the pupils can be seen at the school at any time.

ALL children are under the care and supervision of an attendant when not in school.

A Gymnasium is provided, where such pupils as require it are given special Physical training under a competent trainer.

#### CUSTODIAL OR ASYLUM CASES.

Such children as are not capable of improvement <sup>or but slightly so</sup> are cared for separately from those in school, and every effort is exerted to make their lives as comfortable and happy as possible. (1)

#### MEDICAL CARE.

The School is under the care of a Medical Superintendent and the needs of such as require ordinary medical aid are supplied.

#### EPILEPTICS.

EPILEPTIC children whose minds are weak, or in whom this condition is threatened, are assigned a place in the Institution and given medical treatment and physical training <sup>must and</sup> adapted to <sup>their requirements</sup> their requirements.

#### TERMS OF ADMISSION.

ALL feeble-minded persons residents of the State of Minnesota, who, in the opinion of the Superintendent, are of suitable age and capacity to receive instruction in this school, and whose defects prevent them from receiving proper training in the public schools of the State, and all idiotic and epileptic persons, residents of the State, may be admitted to their respective departments, and receive the benefits of the school free of charge subject to such rules and regulations as may be made by the Board of Directors.

Application should be made to the Superintendent for blank forms, from which, when filled out and returned, a decision can be made as to admission.

#### EXPENSES.

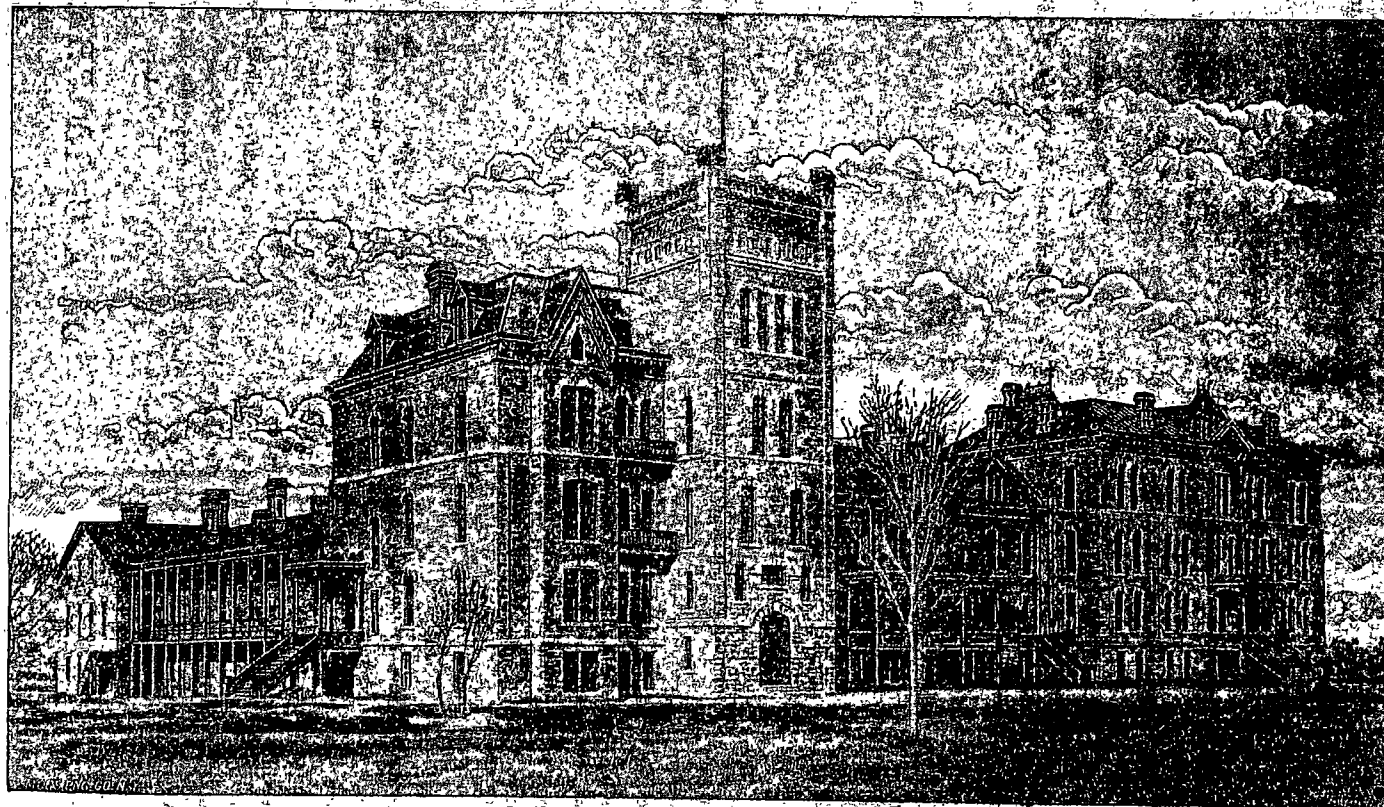
A DEPOSIT, not exceeding forty dollars (\$40) per annum, as fixed by the Board of Directors, is required in advance for the clothing and traveling expenses of each child. Relatives of children are required to file with the Superintendent a duly and properly executed bond for the subsequent payment of funds for clothing and traveling expenses, as may be required, not to exceed forty dollars (\$40) per annum. When the parents or legal supporters of the child are not able to pay the clothing and traveling expenses, application should be made to the county through the Commissioners or Judge of Probate.

A certificate from the county, signed by the Judge of Probate, asserting the fact of indigence must be filed in lieu of a bond. (See Chapt. 205, Laws of 1887.) For further information, address:

DR. A. C. ROGERS,

Superintendent.

FARIBAULT, MINN



School for Feeble-Minded