

**CATALOGUE OF THE
LIBRARY OF THE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF THE STATE
OF MONTANA. IN TWO PART**

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Catalogue of the Library of the Historical Society of the State of Montana. In two Part by W. F. Wheeler

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W. F. WHEELER

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SOCIETY OF THE STATE
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CATALOGUE
OF THE
LIBRARY
OF THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF THE
STATE OF MONTANA.

Also the Report of the Librarian for the Years 1891-92, being the First
Biennial Report and Catalogue Ever Published
by the State or Society.

IN TWO PARTS.

PART 1...The Publications of this State and of Other States and General History.
PART 2...Publications of the United States which Have Been Received at this
Library to November 30, 1892.

PREPARED BY WM. F. WHEELER, LIBRARIAN.

HELENA, MONTANA:
C. K. WELLS CO., PRINTERS AND BINDERS.
1892.

118

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY
240053
ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS
1901

NEW YORK
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

HISTORICAL SOCIETY }
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA. }

HELENA, MONTANA, Dec. 3, 1892.

GOV. JOS. K. TOOLE,

Mem. State Ex. Com. Hist. Soc. of Montana.

SIR: I have the honor to herewith transmit the first biennial report of Wm. F. Wheeler, our very efficient and painstaking librarian, which includes a well arranged Catalogue of all books, pamphlets, manuscripts, etc., in the Library of the Society.

I heartily concur in the recommendations made by him, and especially the one in reference to transferring the Miscellaneous Division of the State Library, to the care of the Historical Society, as under the present arrangement it cannot be properly assorted, catalogued, and cared for.

The present salary of the librarian is entirely inadequate for the large amount of intelligent and valuable work performed by him. The next session of the Legislature should increase it to \$1,800 a year.

The thanks of the Society are due to the Board of Commissioners of Lewis and Clarke County for giving it, free of cost, good rooms in the attic of the Court House.

Very Respectfully,

GRANVILLE STUART,

President.

Dist. Exch. Montana L. L. 12 April 1901

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MONTANA

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN FOR 1891-92.

To His Excellency, Joseph K. Toole, Governor of Montana, and Ex-Officio Member of the Executive Committee of the Historical Society of the State of Montana; also,

To Hon. Granville Stuart, President of said Society:

GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor to present this, my first biennial report, of the collections of this Society enumerated in the catalogue following hereafter, which is the first catalogue of this Society or its predecessor, "The Historical Society of Montana." The report also includes an appeal to the friends of the Society, stating definitely its purposes and objects; and also gives a statement of its receipts and expenditures since its transfer to the State, on the 1st day of April, 1891, to December 1st, 1892, the close of the fiscal year. This statement is taken from the books of the State Auditor and Treasurer, where said accounts are kept and where all vouchers are filed.

The catalogue is not strictly an alphabetical one, but more one of subjects grouped under the proper headings, which I consider more practical. *First*, the books and pamphlets relating to general historical subjects are given, together with State exchanges from other Historical Societies and our own State publications; and *second*, Part 2 embraces all the publications of the United States which have been received at our Library.

The Society hereby acknowledges with gratitude the generosity and liberality of the Commissioners of Lewis and Clarke County in giving it the splendid rooms in the Court house which it has occupied for its Library since July 5, 1887, without cost or charge; also, to the noble and public-spirited editors and proprietors of the newspapers of Montana, who have donated free of charge over 400 volumes of their publications to it since 1864 to the present time; also to the many citizens who have given diaries, letters of historic value

and many manuscripts which will in the future be of great worth in illustrating our history.

I wish to make two or three suggestions which I think necessary for the good of the Library and its management. The Miscellaneous Department of the State Library consists almost entirely of State and United States public documents, which are essentially books of reference and should be transferred to the Historical Department, as they are entirely of historical value. This will not interfere with the Law Library, which is for the sole use of the courts, and which should be left to a separate librarian, as at present. It gives enough work for one person to do.

The *second* suggestion is that all publications made under the authority of the State, of every description, should be deposited by the person printing the same, to the extent of at least five copies of each in the Library of this Society, for reference only, and not to be removed therefrom. As it is, we have an incomplete set of laws, journals of the Legislature, and but few reports of Territorial or State officers, except those the Librarian has collected under great difficulties.

The *third* suggestion is that there should be a small contingent fund set apart upon which the Librarian can check for the payment of postage, drayage, janitor work, for shelving and other small items of expense for the use of the Library, which he has now to pay for first out of his own pocket and then wait for reimbursement from the State. From three to five hundred dollars would be sufficient for this purpose, and the Librarian should give bond in double the amount so set apart.

The *fourth* suggestion is that whereas there is now in the Library a large number of letters and many valuable diaries and other contributions of great historic value which are poorly written—many in dim pencil marks—which need to be re-written and properly edited, the Librarian should be allowed to employ an assistant—a copyist or typewriter—to put this valuable matter in good shape for preservation or for the printer. Six hundred dollars would be a moderate estimate for this work for the next year.

The *fifth* suggestion is in relation to securing Indian relics, as all in the State will soon be beyond purchase, and never will be reproduced. The old Society, for want of funds, never did or could purchase any, or even pay for preserving the forms of the wild animals, birds or fishes native to Montana. This should be done now, as far

as possible. There has been deposited in the Library rooms a large case of fine and valuable Indian hand work, which the Society can buy at reasonable cost. I know of but one other collection in the State that can be purchased.

My *sixth* and last suggestion is that the Library and everything contained in it should be insured to, I think, the amount of \$10,000. It will be for a committee of the Legislature to consider the above suggestions and examine the condition, needs and wants of the Libraries of the State.