

**STATE OF NEW YORK. NO. 28; IN
ASSEMBLY, JANUARY 11, 1883;
SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR
1882**

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VARIOUS

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ASSEMBLY, JANUARY 11, 1883;
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THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR 1882**

SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY,

For the Year 1882.

TRANSMITTED TO THE LEGISLATURE JANUARY 11, 1883.

²ALBANY.

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1883.

STATE OF NEW YORK.

No. 28.

IN ASSEMBLY,

JANUARY 11, 1883.

SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE NEW YORK STATE
LIBRARY.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK,
OFFICE OF THE REGENTS, EX-OFFICIO TRUSTEES OF THE
STATE LIBRARY, ALBANY, *January 12, 1883.* }

To the Legislature :

I have the honor to transmit the Sixty-fifth Annual Report of the Trustees of the State Library, as required by law.

H. R. PIERSON,
Chancellor of the University.

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS OF THE NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY.

THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK,
EX-OFFICIO TRUSTEES.

HENRY R. PIERSON, LL.D., CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY.
GEORGE W. CLINTON, LL.D., VICE-CHANCELLOR.
GROVER CLEVELAND, GOVERNOR,
DAVID B. HILL, LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR,
JOSEPH B. CARR, SECRETARY OF STATE,
NEIL GILMOUR, SUPT. OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION. } *Ex-Officio.*

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DAVID MURRAY, Ph.D., LL.D., *Secretary.*
DANIEL J. PRATT, Ph.D., *Assistant-Secretary.*

Standing Committee on the State Library.

REV. DR. UPSON, *Chairman.*
THE CHANCELLOR, REGENT CURTIS,
THE GOVERNOR, REGENT FITCH,
REGENT BREVOORT, REGENT REID.

Library Staff for 1882.

HENRY A. HOMES, LL.D., *Librarian of the General Library.*
STEPHEN B. GRISWOLD, *Librarian of the Law Library.*
GEORGE R. HOWELL, *Assistant Librarian.*
FRANKLIN OLCOTT, *Assistant Librarian.*
BERTHOLD FERNOW, *Clerk in charge of Historical Documents.*
HARRY E. GRISWOLD, *Assistant in the Law Library.*
JAMES R. BOYNTON, *Assistant and Janitor.*

GEORGE W. CLINTON, LL.D., *Editor of the Clinton Papers.*

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REPORT.

To the Honorable the Legislature of the State of New York:

The trustees of the State Library respectfully present to the Legislature as required by law this their Sixty-fifth Annual Report.

The additions to the library during the year ending December 31, 1882, are shown in the following statement:

At the close of the year 1881:	
In the general library.....	Volumes. 83, 474
In the law library.....	33, 226
Total.....	116, 700
Added during the year 1882:	
To the general library.....	1, 553
To the law library.....	953
Total.....	2, 506
At the close of the year 1882:	
In the general library.....	85, 027
In the law library.....	34, 179
Total.....	119, 206
Of the additions to the library acquired by purchase.....	1, 395
Acquired by donation or exchange.....	1, 111
Total.....	2, 506

For the details of the additions to the library the trustees refer the Legislature to the list of books and pamphlets received by donation or exchange during the year 1882, and the catalogue of additions which are appended to the report.

The trustees also herewith transmit the reports made to them by the librarians of the general and law libraries, giving full particulars

as to the progress and present condition of the collections under their care. These reports will show how much has been accomplished with the means placed at the disposal of the trustees. The library has grown to be one of the most valuable and useful in the country, and it has become so by an expenditure so limited as to be quite disproportionate to its value. During the past two years the trustees have felt very plainly the inadequacy of the appropriation for the support of the library. It is found impossible in the law department to keep the tables supplied with the important periodicals which the courts and the lawyers call for. In the special lines in which it has been found expedient to develop the general library, the material constantly offering far exceeds the means afforded for purchase. Not only has the material in these lines become more abundant, but its cost has greatly advanced.

A supplement to the subject-index of the general library published in 1872, which has been for some time in preparation, has been issued during the past year. It forms a volume of 414 pages, and it is believed will add greatly to the utility of collection. A corresponding supplement is in preparation to the catalogue of the law library which it is hoped will be completed during the coming year.

Under laws enacted at various times, the remainders of the editions of the several volumes of the documentary and colonial histories have been handed over to the Regents of the University for the purposes of literary exchange. It is believed that all who by any law or right were entitled to these volumes by free distribution have been supplied, and that what remain may now be used for the benefit of the library. The editions of many of the volumes are completely exhausted, and it is no longer possible to make up sets. Under these circumstances the trustees have deemed it their duty to transfer the entire remaining stock of these volumes to the library to form a part of its duplicates, and to be sold or exchanged for its benefit under the laws relating thereto. In making this transfer of course the rights of those who may still have a legal claim for volumes of the set have been protected.

The trustees call the attention of the Legislature to the report herewith transmitted of the Honorable George W. Clinton, who by appointment of the trustees is engaged upon the work of indexing and editing the Clinton papers. Most satisfactory progress has been made during the year, and the value and interest of the collection of papers become more apparent as the work progresses. The trustees respectfully commend the work to the fostering care of the Legislature, and can give the fullest assurance that the material which is thus prepared for publication will prove of the utmost historical interest.

The historical documents transferred to the custody of the trustees of the State Library by chapter 120 of the Laws of 1881, have been continued during the past year in the special charge of Mr. Berthold Fernow. They still remain in one of the rooms of the State hall.

When the library is transferred to its new quarters in the capitol, the documents will then be consolidated with the other collections.

Chapter 295 of the Laws of 1882 provided that the commissioners of the capitol should prepare plans for the proper accommodation of the State Library, and should submit such plans to the trustees of the library for their approval. These plans were prepared accordingly and submitted, and after mature consideration and the introduction of suggested modifications, were duly approved. They provide quarters for the library on the west front of the building where it is believed it will have ample room not only for its present wants but for its legitimate increase.

The staff of the library has continued without change up to the end of the year and will be found prefixed to this report.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY R. PIERSON,

Chancellor.

DAVID MURRAY,

Secretary.