

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE
STATE LIBRARY TO THE GOVERNOR.
TOGETHER OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN
TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE SAME
PERIOD, VOL. VIII, PART I**

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Report of the Trustees of the State Library to the Governor. Together of the State Librarian to the Trustees for the Same Period, Vol. VIII, Part I by Various

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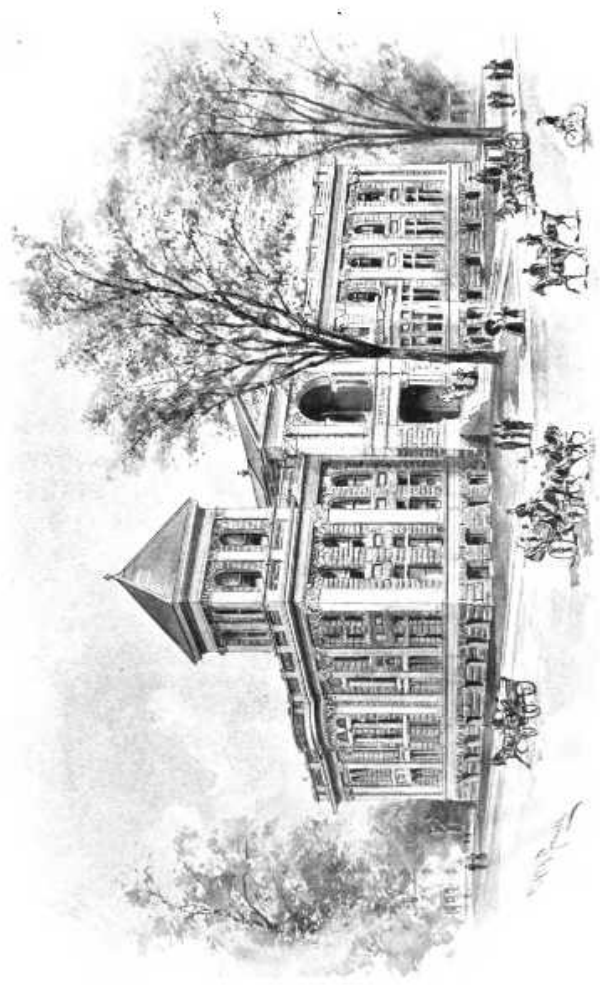
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VARIOUS

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STATE LIBRARY TO THE GOVERNOR.
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PERIOD, VOL. VIII, PART I**



REPORT
OF THE
TRUSTEES OF THE STATE LIBRARY

TO THE GOVERNOR,

FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING OCT. 1, 1894, AND ENDING
MAY 31, 1896,

TOGETHER WITH THE
REPORT OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN TO THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE SAME PERIOD.

VOL. VIII. . . . PART I.

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OFFICERS.

GEORGE C. GILMORE, *Chairman of the Board.*

Term of office ends October 13, 1897.

ALBERT S. BATCHELLOR.

Term of office ends November 29, 1898.

WILLIAM D. CHANDLER.

Term of office ends November 10, 1899.

LIBRARIAN,

ARTHUR H. CHASE.

Appointed January 1, 1895.

159573

REPORT.

OFFICE OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE STATE LIBRARY,
December 1, 1896.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR :

In compliance with the requirements of Section 7, of Chapter 24, Laws of 1895, the Trustees of the State Library submit their first biennial report.

IMPROVED ACCOMMODATION AND ESTABLISHED METHODS.

The two years past have been eventful for this institution. The spacious edifice erected by the State for the State Library and the Supreme Court was dedicated with appropriate exercises and ceremonies in January, 1895, and has since been furnished, occupied and equipped for the uses intended. Apartments not at present required for the court or the library have been assigned to the Departments of Agriculture and Education. In its structure and in its appointments the new abode of the library proves in actual use to be well adapted to the purposes for which it was designed. Until the occupation of this building it was impossible to make the large collection of books and pamphlets belonging to the state available for public use. The trustees have endeavored to meet the new era with an administration calculated to ensure the best service to the patrons of the institution. The officers and employees have been selected with reference to their special fitness for their several duties. All the classes of works included in well-considered plans for a systematic development have been strengthened and everything has been provided which would seem to promote the convenience of patrons in consulting the books, so far as available resources have permitted. As this

is not intended to be a collection of such literature as is ordinarily the principal feature of a popular town or city library of issue, the funds provided by the state have been principally applied to the assembling of works of value for reference, and more particularly of such as are not usually provided elsewhere. In variety and completeness, the books, pamphlets and periodicals which may be classified as distinctively the literature of New Hampshire now gathered in the state library, will compare favorably with the results of similar undertakings in other states. Such works as are the standard authorities in the family, local and general history of New England have been carefully selected and placed upon the shelves with special reference to the calls of the very large number of patrons who are making investigations in those fields of research. Many valuable series of New Hampshire newspapers have been obtained and the state is specially indebted to several public spirited persons who have presented the library with well preserved sets, some covering continuously a long period of time. It is difficult to estimate the value of complete files of influential and long-established journals as the sources of information on the political, industrial, religious and general progress of the state and, in short, to everything that enters into its recorded annals. The steady progress of this library in usefulness to the public is attributable to the wise and liberal policy of the state in making provisions for its maintenance according to requirements of permanence and stability. Upon this basis the administration has been moving by methods deemed at the same time progressive and conservative, and satisfactory results are assured.

A SAFE DEPOSIT FOR VALUABLE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS.

In these days of many books, not a few individuals, interested in general or special branches of literature, have devoted their efforts to the collection of rare and valuable works. At some time it inevitably becomes a reason for solicitude to them that the results of a lifetime of careful and