

**SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF
THE STATE LIBRARY, FOR THE
YEAR 1883. NO. 14: IN SENATE**

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Sixty-Sixth Annual Report of the Trustees of the State Library, for the Year 1883. No. 14: In Senate by New York State Library

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NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY

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YEAR 1883. NO. 14: IN SENATE**

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OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY,

For the Year 1883.

TRANSMITTED TO THE LEGISLATURE JANUARY 10, 1884.

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STATE OF NEW YORK.

No. 14.

IN SENATE,

JANUARY 10, 1884.

SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK,
OFFICE OF THE REGENTS,
TRUSTEES OF THE STATE LIBRARY. }

To the Legislature :

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

G. W. CLINTON,

Vice-Chancellor.

January 10, 1884.

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS OF THE NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY.

THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
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DAVID B. HILL, LIBUTENANT-GOVERNOR,
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Standing Committee on the State Library.

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

Library Staff for 1883.

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BERTHOLD FERNOW, *Clerk in charge of Historical Documents.*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

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

REPORT.

To the Legislature :

The Regents of the University, by law the trustees of the State Library, submit their Sixty-ninth Annual Report.

Although the work of the library has been in some measure interrupted by its removal to temporary quarters, its growth has not been materially interrupted. The full amount of the appropriation available for the year ending September 30, 1883, that is \$4,000, was expended. The whole number of volumes added to the general library up to the end of the year 1883 was one thousand six hundred and seventeen volumes ; and the number added to the law library was eight hundred and sixty-three volumes ; in all, two thousand four hundred and eighty volumes. Of these, one thousand three hundred and twenty volumes were obtained by purchase ; the remaining one thousand one hundred and sixty volumes were received by donation or exchange. The list of additions herewith submitted will indicate the policy which has been pursued in increasing the library. In the general library the purchases have been largely in the direction of American history, in accordance with the well-known general plan and policy adopted by the trustees in 1879. The special appropriation for the purchase of books from the Brinley sale has not yet been entirely expended, owing to the delay in holding the last of the three sales. It is expected that this will shortly now be held. A balance of \$2,065.22 remains to the credit of the library on this account. It is available, also, for the purchase of British parliamentary papers, and will be required to supply deficiencies of this class in the library.

A subject-index of the law library has been completed and is now ready for publication. It has been prepared by Mr. Griswold, the librarian of the law library, under the authority of chapter 306 of the Laws of 1881. It forms a volume of two hundred and fifty-nine pages. It covers the entire accretions of the library from its origin in 1818, down to the close of 1882. An important part of this work consists in the indexing of the large number of important articles contained in the sets of law magazines in the library. The work, it is believed, will prove of great value to the profession.

For full statements as to the work carried on in the library during the year the trustees beg to refer the Legislature to the reports of Dr. Henry A. Homes, librarian of the general library, and of Mr. S. B. Griswold, librarian of the law library, which are hereto appended.

The progress of work on the New Capitol has, during the past summer, required the demolition of the Old Capitol building and the State

library. The following communication was received from Commissioner Perry, notifying the trustees of his intention to remove the library building :

STATE OF NEW YORK, NEW CAPITOL : }
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER, ALBANY, July 13, 1883. }

To the Hon. Board of Regents :

GENTLEMEN—In order to progress with the work on the New Capitol building to advantage and with economy, it has become necessary to remove the State Library building, which I have determined to do. Rooms in the New Capitol building for the reception of the library, which I will cause to be fitted up in a suitable manner, have been assigned by the trustees of public buildings.

The removal of the library to be completed on or before the first day of October next.

The rooms will be fitted up ready for the reception of the library on or before the first day of September next.

Yours, respectfully,

ISAAC G. PERRY, *Commissioner.*

In accordance with this notice the trustees made arrangements with the trustees of public buildings and the Commissioner of the New Capitol to prepare temporary quarters for the books until the rooms designed for the ultimate reception of the library could be prepared. The room originally appropriated to the Court of Appeals, on the north side, was fitted with compact shelving for the storage of the books of the general library, and the golden corridor adjoining was prepared in a like manner for the law library. The large collection of duplicates of the library, together with the documents belonging to the library and the office of the Regents, has been stored in rooms partitioned off from the vaults in the basement. The work of removing these great collections of books, pamphlets, manuscripts and historical records within the time to which it was important to limit it, was accomplished with a promptness, judgment and system which are notable. The trustees feel under the greatest obligation, in connection with this transfer, not only to the staff of the library, whose labors were greatly increased, but also to Commissioner Perry and Superintendent Andrews, for the admirable arrangements made by them for the accomplishment of the task. The removal of the law library was begun September 28, and was completed in nine days. The removal of the general library was begun October 1, and was completed in twenty-five days. Under these circumstances it is not possible to furnish the same facilities for the use of the library, either to the members of the Legislature and other privileged readers, or to the general public. Every effort, however, has been used to render the service as efficient as possible. And as the sojourn of the library in its present inconvenient quarters is only to be temporary, it is hoped that the inadequate service which can be supplied for the present will be deemed satisfactory.

The preparation of the new rooms for the library, situated on the west front of the Capitol, is in progress. It is expected by the Com-

missioner that they may be completed during the coming summer. It may, therefore, be hoped, that within the ensuing year the work of removing the books into their permanent home may be practically completed.

The publishers of the work on the "Public Service of the State of New York," Messrs. J. R. Osgood & Co., of Boston, have, during the year, furnished to the library nineteen sets of their work on the condition that the trustees would cause them to be presented in the name of the State of New York, to certain specified foreign libraries, as follows:

To the Empire of Austria-Hungary for the Imperial Library at Vienna.

To the Kingdom of Belgium, for the Royal Library at Brussels.

To the Empire of Brazil, for the Imperial Library at Rio Janeiro.

To the Empire of China, for the Imperial Library at Pekin.

To the Kingdom of Denmark, for the Royal Library of Copenhagen.

To the Republic of France, for the National Library at Paris.

To the Empire of Germany, for the Royal Library at Berlin.

To the Kingdom of Bavaria, for the Royal Library at Munich.

To the Kingdom of Saxony, for the Royal Library at Dresden.

To the Kingdom of Great Britain, for the British Museum.

To the Dominion of Canada, for the Parliamentary Library at Ottawa.

To the Kingdom of Italy, for the Library of the Chamber of Deputies at Rome.

To the Empire of Japan, for the Imperial Library at Tokio.

To the Republic of Mexico, for the National Library at Mexico.

To the Kingdom of the Netherlands, for the Royal Library at the Hague.

To the Empire of Russia, for the Imperial Library at St. Petersburg.

To the Republic of Switzerland, for the National Library at Zurich.

To the Kingdom of Sweden, for the Royal Library at Stockholm.

To the Kingdom of Spain, for the National Library at Madrid.

The offer of the publishers was accordingly accepted and the sets were sent to the Secretary of State at Washington for distribution. They have been forwarded to their destination through the agency of the Smithsonian Institution. The governments and libraries to which these works have been sent have been, in nearly every case, liberal benefactors of the State Library, and the trustees have been gratified to be able in this way to make some return to them. By a careful estimate made by the librarian of the general library, the value of the gifts to the library from foreign governments has been up to this time not less than \$50,000. It is, in the opinion of the trustees, a matter of great importance to the future progress and growth of this library to maintain the continuance of these exchanges with foreign libraries. This, of course, can only be done by making from time to time some adequate return for what is received. It is believed that the present work which the trustees have been enabled, by the liberality of the publishers to send to the foregoing libraries, containing, as it does, authentic and comprehensive statements of the material and political condition of the State of New York, will prove to be for them a valuable and acceptable contribution.