
REPORT
OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1874.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE, }
TALLAHASSEE, January 1, 1875. }

To His Excellency Marcellus L. Stearns, Governor of the State of Florida:

In conformity to the 10th section of the 7th Article of the Constitution of the State, which requires that "each officer of the Cabinet shall make a full report of his official acts, of the receipts and expenditures of his office, and of the requirements of the same" to the Governor, at the beginning of each regular session of the Legislature, I have the honor to submit herewith the annual report of the duties performed in this office for the year ending December 31, 1874.

Before submitting a statement of the number of commissions issued, the officers to whom issued, and the other official acts requiring the signature of the Secretary and seal of the State, it is proper to remark that it is impracticable and unnecessary to embody in a report a detailed account of the various official acts which are connected with the daily business of the office, and which constitute the major part of the duties connected with the proper administration of the affairs of the office.

Commissions have been issued during the year as follows :

Associate Justice Supreme Court	1
Circuit Judges	1
County Judges	19
Sheriffs	23
Clerks of the Circuit Court	21
Assessors of Taxes	29
Collectors of Revenue	29
State Attorneys	3
Superintendents of Common Schools	23
County Commissioners	86
Auctioneers	33
County Surveyors	8
Notaries Public	23
Justices of the Peace	63
Commissioners of Pilotage	21
Harbor Masters	1
County Treasurers	10
Inspectors and Measurers of Timber and Lumber	19
Commissioner of Deeds	9
Constables	5
Commissions extra	13

Other official papers :	
Resignations	49
Removals	37
Proclamations	3
Requisitions for Fugitives	8
Pardons	29
Reprieves	—
Suspension of Executions	—
Commutation of Sentence	—
Death Warrants	1

The acts and resolutions and the journals of the two Houses of the last Legislature have been printed in pamphlet form and distributed according to law, and the enrolled acts have been properly bound and filed in office.

The unbound copies of Bush's Digest, required by act of last Legislature to be furnished justices of the peace gratuitously, have been distributed whenever required.

The Supreme Court reports (496 vols.) have been published, and 60 vols. bound in calf and turned over to the Clerk of the Supreme Court for distribution among officers entitled to receive them.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE OFFICE.

Under this head I renew my recommendation contained in last annual report, and most respectfully suggest that an appropriation be made to enable the State Librarian to prepare a full and accurate catalogue of the large number of books belonging to the State, that are now almost valueless for use for the want of being catalogued and properly arranged. There are now several thousand very valuable books, and very liberal additions are made annually by the contributions of other States, and without some provision is made for their care and preservation it would be well to cease paying postage and expressage on them and discontinue their reception. In connection with this subject I would most respectfully recommend that some officer of the Executive Department of the government be appointed State Librarian, distinct from the Supreme Court library, whose duty it shall be to have the custody of these books and to preserve them in proper order; and that he should be paid such a reasonable compensation as will insure their proper care and attention.

Annexed is a tabular statement showing the number of pardons, death warrants, reprieves, remission of fines, commutation of sentences and suspensions that have been issued during the year. Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL B. MCLIN,
Secretary of State.