

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

STATE LIBRARIAN

OF

NEW JERSEY

For the Year 1901.

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TRENTON, N. J.  
THE JOHN L. MURPHY PUBLISHING CO., PRINTERS.  
1901.

## Commissioners of the Library.

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Governor, FOSTER M. VOORHEES.

Chancellor, WILLIAM J. MAGIE.

Chief Justice, DAVID A. DEPUE.

Secretary of State, GEORGE WURTS.

Treasurer, GEORGE B. SWAIN.

Comptroller, WILLIAM S. HANCOCK.

Attorney-General, SAMUEL H. GREY.

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Librarian, HENRY C. BUCHANAN,

and Secretary of the Board.

## Report of State Librarian.

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*Hon. Foster M. Voorhees, Governor of New Jersey:*

DEAR SIR—The following statement of the condition of the New Jersey State Library is respectfully submitted for transmission to the Legislature:

The number of books, pamphlets, magazines and bound volumes of newspapers on November 1st, 1900, as reported, was 55,012. The accessions during the year ending October 31st, 1901, were 3,528, as follows:

From the United States Government.....	927
From other States and Territories.....	795
By donations, books and pamphlets.....	809
By purchase, for the Law Library.....	294
By purchase, for the General Library.....	521
Daily and weekly newspapers donated.....	62
Received from the State.....	120
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	3,528

This makes a total of 58,540, from which should be deducted 170 duplicate books and pamphlets exchanged for others that are included in the account already given; which shows the number in the Library at the date of this report to be 58,370. The increase for the year is 443 over the preceding year, and 1,034 more than in the greatest year before 1900. A count made in August last showed the number of United States Government documents on hand to be 8,426.

The appropriation of \$3,000 for the repair, preservation and purchase of books was expended as follows: For law books and law magazines, \$1,290.37; for additions of books, pamphlets, magazines and newspapers to the General Library, \$1,286.60; for binding and repairing, \$423.

In 1899 attention was called to the fact that some new arrangement must soon be made to accommodate the needs of the Library, which was becoming overcrowded. Some years ago space was secured

by sending to the loft above the Library many of the United States Government documents and some of the volumes received in exchange from other States. The need of more room is particularly felt at present in the Law Library, which is fitted with massive oak cases. The Commissioners last spring attempted to provide a remedy by ordering four additional cases; but subsequently, appreciating the fact that the relief would be but temporary, they reconsidered their action. The installing of four more cases will greatly crowd the alcoves, which are in almost constant use during the terms of the State courts, and which afford some degree of privacy. The question of making provision for additional case room must soon be settled, and it seems unwise to spend money for more of the wooden cases, when in a year or two at the farthest they must be discarded.

It is respectfully suggested that the change be made now, and that a two-story steel stack be erected in the Law Library in place of the book-cases now in use. The rooms are of sufficient height to admit of the change, which will provide sufficient shelf-space to accommodate three times the number of books now in the Law Library. Some of the oak cases may be used in the Reference Library, which is also greatly in need of more shelf-space. The improvement will give all the room that is likely to be needed for at least ten years, without encroaching upon that set apart for the use of persons who desire to consult the books.

The advisability of installing a card catalogue, with a reclassification of the Library according to some approved system, has been referred to heretofore. The plan now in use, of entering the titles of books in a large volume, is obsolete and unsatisfactory, and particularly so with a large collection. There is no such "accurate catalogue of the books belonging to the Library" as the law of 1878 contemplates, and the work of preparing one has been deferred in the hope that the Legislature would authorize the introduction of the card system, the many advantages of which are well known, and which is in use in forty-two of the largest libraries in the State. The present seems to be the time to make the change, with little expense to the State.

Several years ago the Publishing Board of the American Library Association took under consideration the proposition to prepare and sell to libraries printed cards for all new books. Recently the Library of Congress has undertaken the work, and will furnish cards for all currently copyrighted books in the United States; miscellaneous

books and pamphlets as acquired, and for the printed books in the present collection of the Library of Congress as these are reached in the process of reclassification now going on. The cost for these printed cards will be about one cent each for the greater part of them, and but little more for the others, the price being regulated by the time and manner in which the cards are ordered. This is but a slight advance on the price of the blank cards, and much cheaper than the cost of writing them. The other advantages will be the print, and the fact that the cards are prepared by experts and will serve as guides for the work that must be done in the State Library.

I have been instructed by the Commissioners of the State Library to ask the Legislature to increase to the extent of \$500 the appropriation for incidental expenses in the Library. This sum will be sufficient to permit a subscription for the printed catalogue cards, purchase blank cards for the work not covered by the Library of Congress, and secure a case for the catalogue. During the past summer a considerable part of the work of reclassifying the books in the Reference Library has been done by Mr. Rogers, the Reference Librarian, and it will doubtless be completed during the present year. It is proposed to do all the work without any expense to the State beyond the amount stated.

An important contribution was made in January last by the John L. Murphy Publishing Company, of Trenton, which sent to the Library, as a special loan, a file of "The State Gazette and New Jersey Advertiser" from January 3d, 1797; "The Federalist; or, New Jersey State Gazette," from its first issue on July 9th, 1798; and the "New Jersey State Gazette," from its first issue on March 5th, 1799, to the date of the consolidation of these papers into "The Federalist and New Jersey State Gazette," on July 8th, 1800; and a complete file of the last-named paper, under its various changes in name, down to December, 1889. The State already owned a file of the "State Gazette" from 1840. With the loan came an intimation that the papers covering the period from 1797 to 1840 would be left in the State Library permanently. These, with the valuable contributions made last year by the late John L. Murphy and by Francis B. Lee, furnish a continuous history of the State by contemporaneous writers during the nearly half a century from 1797 to 1840.

Besides the loan, the John L. Murphy Publishing Company donated to the Library a volume of "The New Jersey Journal" (Elizabeth-town) for 1792 and 1793; eight volumes of "The National Intelli-

gencer and Washington Advertiser," 1801--10; seven volumes of "Bache's Philadelphia Aurora," 1799--1805; a volume of the "New York State Gazette," 1789; a volume of "Dunlap & Claypoole's American Daily Advertiser" (Philadelphia), 1794; two volumes of the "Trenton Daily Monitor," 1864--65; a volume of the "Trenton Evening Argus," 1872--73, and a number of copies of the Minutes of the House of Assembly and Journals of the Senate for various years. Francis B. Lee contributed more than sixty books and pamphlets, most of which relate to New Jersey; Rev. Dr. Walter A. Brooks, of Trenton, a nearly complete set of the minutes of the Synod of New Jersey; E. D. Senseman, of Camden, the proceedings of the Grand Castle of Knights of the Golden Eagle of New Jersey; Rev. Allen H. Brown, of Atlantic City, ten books and pamphlets relating to the history of South Jersey; Harry B. Salter, of Trenton, fourteen New Jersey pamphlets; William H. Miers, of Trenton, a complete file of the minutes of the Jr. O. U. A. M. of New Jersey; Hon. G. D. W. Vroom, of Trenton, fifty-one pamphlets, besides a lot of briefs in cases before the Supreme Court, which have not been assorted, and hence have not been enumerated in the statement of additions made to the Library during the year; Hon. W. J. Magie, of Elizabeth, twenty-nine volumes of the New Jersey Law and Equity Reports; Mrs. E. P. Southwick, of Trenton, a set of the proceedings of the Department of New Jersey, Women's Relief Corps, 1885 to 1900.

Valuable contributions were also received from the following: The publishers of sixty-two of the daily and weekly newspapers in the State; James Steen, Eatontown; Dr. C. W. Larison, Ringoes; John F. Hall, Atlantic City; Thomas R. Watson, Passaic; Dr. E. L. B. Godfrey, Camden; Prof. H. B. Kummel, Trenton; Hon. W. J. Sewell, Camden; Frank Tantum, Ocean Grove; James Parker, Perth Amboy; Hon. John W. Griggs, Paterson; Charles H. Hartshorne, Jersey City; Lewis Parker, Trenton; Alfred M. Heston, Atlantic City; H. E. Deats, Flemington; Thomas B. Usher, Trenton; Thomas H. R. Redway, Trenton; Charles W. Clickner, Somerville; Gen. Alex. C. Oliphant, Trenton; John P. Wall, New Brunswick; Rev. J. M. Potter, Whippany; Howard M. Cooper, Camden; Mrs. Washington A. Roebbling, Trenton; Mrs. David A. Depue, Newark; Princeton University; Noah F. Morrison, Newark; E. P. Southwick, Trenton; Prof. Charles W. Shields and Dr. Ernest C. Richardson, Princeton; S. B. Ketcham, Trenton; H. W. Parker, Hoboken; Rev. Harvey M. Templin, Parsippany; Hon. Henry Huston, Newton; Mrs. James

Gilman Clark, Worcester, Mass.; Hon. Joseph H. Choate, London; James Green, Worcester, Mass.; Thomas Willing Balch, Philadelphia; George F. Seward, New York; J. F. Steward, Chicago, Ill.; Ethan A. Weaver, Philadelphia; R. R. Bringhurst, Philadelphia; Dr. Isaac Roberts, Starfield, Crowborough, Sussex, England; Clinton Rogers Woodruff, Philadelphia.

The important books bought during the year include a set of the twenty-five volumes of B. F. Stevens' "Facsimiles of Manuscripts in European Archives Relating to America, 1773-1783," and a photographic facsimile of the "Patents, Privileges, Warrants and Other Writings of Don Christopher Columbus, High Admiral of the Ocean, Viceroy and Governor of the Islands and Main Land," with translations; a copy of the "Elizabethtown Bill in Chancery;" the publications of the Pennsylvania Historical Society; Powell's "List of Officers of the United States Army, 1776-1900;" "Officers of the United States Navy and Marine Corps, 1775-1900;" a copy of the very rare "New Jersey Manumission Cases," 1794, and many scarce books and pamphlets relating to New Jersey. A set of the "Federal Cases" has been ordered for the Law Library, and will be ready for immediate use.

#### TRAVELING LIBRARIES.

The number of small traveling libraries created under the act of April 20th, 1898, is sixty-two, containing 3,100 volumes. Of these, at the date of this report, forty-one are in use. Since the system was put in operation, in November, 1899, the libraries have been in use in sixty-one different towns, of which twenty have discontinued them for various reasons—lack of interest, failure to get a suitable person to act as librarian and because of the establishing of local public libraries.

There will probably be a further falling off in the demand with the expiration of the second year, in a few weeks. The new applications filled during the year just passed were twenty—the exact number that gave up the use of the libraries. The future increase, if any, is likely to be small.

Early in the year, by direction of the Commissioners of the State Library, printed notices were sent to more than three hundred of the newspapers of the State, calling public attention to the fact that traveling libraries would be sent out by the State to the small



municipalities which made application for them and complied with the terms upon which they are furnished. These notices were freely published, and many applications for copies of the blanks and circulars of information followed. But a few of them were afterward heard from. In June, on the request of representatives of the Board of Directors of the New Jersey Federation of Women's Clubs, the Commissioners reduced the number of signers required to a petition for a library from twenty to ten, in order to meet the conditions in some of the sparsely populated districts.

In January last the State House Commission, at the request of the Commissioners of the Library, had constructed in the basement of the Capitol an air-tight cabinet or case for the disinfection of the books of the traveling libraries as they are returned from the various towns. This action followed the reports of an epidemic of scarlet fever in one of the towns in which a library had been stationed. The Commissioners decided that every precaution should be taken to prevent a possibility of the spread of contagion by means of the libraries, and since the installation of the cabinet all of the books have been treated with formaldehyde gas as soon as they are returned from one town and before being sent to another. The cabinet was built from plans furnished by Dr. Henry Mitchell, of the State Board of Health, who also gave instruction in the method to be used in the disinfection.

The traveling libraries are now in use in thirteen of the counties. Hudson, Ocean and Union counties have not had them. Atlantic gave up the one at Pleasantville; Bergen the four at Allendale, Rochelle Park, Oradell and River Vale; Camden the one at Pennsauken, and Salem the two at Pennsgrove and Woodstown. The other towns which have surrendered their use are Tuckahoe, Wildwood, South Dennis and Holly Beach, in Cape May county; Belleville, in Essex; Glassboro, in Gloucester; White House, in Hunterdon; Fair Haven and Freehold, in Monmouth; Pompton, in Passaic; Lafayette, in Sussex, and Asbury, in Warren county.

Of the forty-one libraries now in use, Hunterdon county has six, at Stockton, Rosemont, Three Bridges, High Bridge, Mount Pleasant, and Raritan township; Somerset five, at Millstone, Belle Mead, North Branch, Raritan and Liberty Corner; Cumberland four, at Shiloh, Roadstown, Dividing Creek, and in the Soldiers' Home at Vineland; Middlesex four, at Old Bridge, Spotswood, New Market and Metuchen; Morris four, at Port Oram, Mine Hill, Succasunna and Pompton Plains; Monmouth four, at Eatontown, Manasquan, Turkey



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and Englishtown; Sussex three, at Branchville, Hamburg and Glenwood; Warren three, at Blairstown, Belvidere and Washington; Mercer two, at Lawrenceville and Titusville; Burlington two, at Pemberton and Beverly. Cape May has one at Seaville, Essex one at Millburn, Gloucester one at Bridgeport, and Passaic one at Bloomingdale.

Since the last report contributions of books for the traveling libraries have been received from the Wednesday Morning Club, of Cranford, fifty-two volumes; Rasores Club, of Plainfield, seventy-four volumes; El Mora Literary Club, of Elizabeth, fifty volumes; Educational Committee of the Women's Civic Federation, of Elizabeth, fifty volumes.

There was appropriated for the operation of the libraries during the year just closed \$1,000, and there was received in fees, &c., \$201.21, making a total of \$1,201.21. The money was expended as follows:

For books.....	\$501 02
Repairing and rebinding.....	53 75
Twenty cases, charging trays and packing boxes..	302 40
Express charges, sending and returning libraries..	159 06
Printing catalogues, blanks and circulars.....	142 40
Filing cabinet.....	12 00
Formaline, for disinfecting.....	9 00
Postage stamps.....	21 58
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The express companies, appreciating the value of the work, have made a special rate of one-half the usual charges for returning the libraries to the State House. Some of the more popular of the books are showing the effects of their use after two years of circulation, but generally they are well cared for. But three were lost during the year, and these were promptly replaced by the persons responsible for their loss.

The statistics given in the following table, made up from the reports returned, show the numbers of the libraries, the towns in which they were located during the year, the volumes of fiction and class literature circulated, the total circulation, the number of readers, and the greatest number of times a single book was read:

Library. No.	Location.	Fiction.	Other.	Total.	Readers.	Average.	Highest.
1.	Millburn .....	36	12	48	31	1.4	6
	Three Bridges.....	156	72	228	34	6.7	11
2.	East Millstone.....	110	29	139	29	4.8	14
	Pleasantville .....	134	35	169	29	5.8	19
	Beverly .....	100	36	136	75	2.0	11
3.	Wildwood .....	59	16	75	35	2.1	8
	Millburn .....	40	3	43	12	3.5	5
4.	Rosemont .....	105	39	144	33	4.3	11
	High Bridge.....	176	63	239	55	4.3	11
5.	Rochelle Park.....	39	....	40	8	5.0	5
6.	Glassboro .....	204	53	257	....	....	14
	Shiloh .....	232	172	404	97	4.1	14
7.	Pemberton .....	89	43	132	68	2.0	12
	Dividing Creek.....	65	43	108	30	3.6	....
8.	Tuckahoe .....	73	21	94	40	2.4	11
	Englishtown .....	75	56	131	34	3.8	10
9.	Pompton .....	36	16	52	10	5.2	6
	Seaville .....	101	53	154	40	3.8	9
10.	Woodstown .....	43	20	63	50	1.2	4
	Manasquan .....	165	35	200	55	3.6	....
11.	River Vale.....	18	4	22	15	1.4	5
	Raritan Township....	89	28	117	24	5.0	10
12.	Eatontown .....	102	55	157	26	6.0	11
	Old Bridge.....	120	48	168	40	4.2	....
13.	Bridgeport .....	110	53	163	50	3.2	10
	Belleville .....	79	23	102	....	....	7
14.	Blairstown .....	264	107	371	....	....	21
	Pleasantville .....	58	10	68	37	1.8	6
15.	Belleville .....	148	56	204	18	11.3	....
	Rosemont .....	....	....	....	20	....	....
16.	Fair Haven.....	175	61	236	51	4.6	18
	Pemberton .....	209	45	254	66	3.8	15
17.	Hamburg .....	93	20	113	35	3.2	23
	Turkey .....	116	36	152	36	4.2	9
18.	Belle Mead.....	40	14	54	21	2.5	6
	Washington .....	124	72	196	50	4.0	9
	Spotswood .....	50	22	72	38	2.0	6
19.	Branchville .....	219	48	267	80	3.3	16
	Shiloh .....	178	53	231	105	2.2	12
20.	Washington .....	236	49	285	55	5.1	19
	Rosemont .....	69	27	96	18	5.3	8
	Mount Pleasant.....	75	43	118	30	3.9	11
21.	Port Oram.....	30	20	50	....	....	4
	Asbury .....	119	30	149	47	3.4	9
22.	Pleasantville .....	112	37	149	25	6.0	9
	Titusville .....	84	35	119	....	....	....

Library.	Location.	Fiction.	Other.	Total.	Readers.	Average.	Highest.
23.	Freehold .....	117	56	173	73	2.3	14
	Lafayette .....	101	45	146	....	....	8
24.	Stockton .....	48	20	68	45	1.5	5
	East Millstone.....	133	60	193	35	5.5	12
25.	White House.....	236	77	313	53	6.0	20
26.	Bloomington .....	89	28	117	50	2.3	9
	Eatontown .....	91	23	114	24	4.7	9
27.	Pennsgrove .....	271	66	337	40	8.4	16
	Port Oram.....	57	24	81	65	1.2	6
28.	Belvidere .....	112	35	147	59	2.5	8
29.	Branchville .....	157	59	216	....	....	16
30.	Manasquan .....	197	40	237	65	3.6	14
31.	Seaville .....	159	53	212	35	6.0	13
	Hamburg .....	102	35	137	20	6.8	9
32.	Asbury .....	199	53	252	43	6.0	15
	Holly Beach.....	85	39	124	39	3.2	7
33.	Three Bridges.....	241	83	324	42	7.7	17
	Bridgeport .....	297	69	366	54	6.8	21
34.	White House.....	281	82	363	47	7.7	19
	Oradell .....	163	33	196	45	4.3	10
35.	Lawrenceville .....	98	23	121	35	3.4	8
36.	Titusville .....	83	29	112	25	4.5	7
37.	South Dennis.....	86	15	101	21	4.8	7
38.	Lafayette .....	236	54	290	41	7.1	14
	Stockton .....	96	4	100	....	....	8
	Allendale .....	51	7	58	38	1.5	5
39.	Oradell .....	263	63	326	75	4.3	16
	Roadstown .....	311	82	393	48	8.2	21
40.	Shiloh .....	148	84	232	90	2.5	10
41.	Roadstown .....	295	75	370	40	9.2	17
42.	Holly Beach.....	128	13	141	42	3.3	9
43.	North Branch.....	85	40	125	15	8.3	10
44.	Liberty Corner.....	183	33	216	34	6.3	13
46.	Allendale .....	79	71	150	33	4.5	9
	Washington .....	252	131	383	61	6.2	15
47.	Glenwood .....	158	14	172	33	5.2	15
49.	Old Bridge.....	133	17	150	21	7.1	9
50.	New Market.....	153	28	181	34	5.3	12
51.	North Branch.....	126	35	161	21	7.6	10

The traveling libraries cannot become as popular in New Jersey as they are in some of the larger States, where the towns and villages are scattered, communication with cities difficult, and where agents employed by the States give their entire time to the work of placing libraries in the neighborhoods where the need of books is felt. In

New Jersey there are but few localities so far distant from large cities as to make daily communication impossible, and books and newspapers are readily obtained. Besides, there is a liberal provision for school libraries, and these have, in several cases, resulted in traveling libraries being withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY C. BUCHANAN,  
*State Librarian.*