

Farewell address  
of  
John G. McCullough  
As it appears in the  
Journal  
of the  
Joint Assembly.

1904

Thursday, October 6, 1904

Farewell Address

Gentlemen of the General Assembly:

Following the custom of recent years, and because it accords with my own judgment, I have the honor to submit to you, information relating to some important matters connected with the administration of the government for the past two years.

I adopt the method used by my predecessor, because it is an intelligent one and also because it will enable you to institute such comparisons between matters referred to during the period of this and preceding administrations, as will, I hope, materially aid in the performance of the duties which rest upon you.

STATE FINANCES.

The State Treasurer reports the financial condition on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1904, as follows:

RESOURCES.

Cash on hand and in banks.....	\$ 412,562.89	
Corporation Taxes, estimated, .....	525,000.00	
Collateral Inheritance Tax, estimated, .....	30,000.00	
	-----	-----
		\$ 967,562.89

LIABILITIES

Due to towns, U.S. Deposit money.....	\$ 2,701.85	
Due soldiers unpaid balances.....	8,039.88	
Due towns for school and highway taxes, .....	278,159.39	
Liquor license fees, .....	18,517.50	
Fines under License Act.....	975.00	
Unpaid Auditor's orders, .....	9,616.88	
	-----	-----
		\$ 318,010.50

Leaving available for the current fiscal year ending June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 1905, the sum of.....		\$ 649,552.39
An increase of available assets over those of July 1, 1902, of.....		111,464.60
And a decrease in the net liabilities of the state during the two years of.....		23,580.79
The net liabilities of the State, July 1, 1904, were.....		23,290.85
A decrease of indebtedness since June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 1899 of.....		494,107.72

The six per cent. registered bonds of the Agricultural College amounting to \$135,500.00, due in 1910, is the only liability of the state not included in the foregoing statement.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand and in banks, July 1, 1902.....	\$ 324,969.28
Tax, collateral inheritance,.....	66,667.28

Tax, corporation,.....	1,138,850.57
Account Civil War Claim, .....	125,000.00
From all other sources.....	<u>375,752.09</u>
Total .....	\$ 2,031,239.22

The actual receipts for the bi-ennial period ending June 30, 1902, excluding the state tax, were.....	\$ 1,372,598.77
The actual receipts for the bi-ennial period ending June 30, 1904, no state tax being assessed were .....	<u>1,706,269.94</u>
Increase in receipts for the period.....	\$ 333,671.17
To make the comparison on same basis as 1902, deduct, received on Civil War Claim, .....	<u>125,000.00</u>
Net actual increase of receipts during the period,.....	\$ 208,671.17

STATE EXPENSES.

The Auditor's orders outstanding and unpaid June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 1902, were.....	\$ 42,482.74
June 30, 1904, they were.....	9,616.88
A decrease of.....	\$ 32,865.86
The Auditor has drawn during the term orders amounting to.....	1,571,681.43

The Auditor reports that, after deducting all receipts from various institutions and balances returned by various officials, which have been deposited in the State Treasury, the next expenses of the state for the bi-ennial term have been \$1,384,294.37.

These may be classified as follows:

SUMMARY.

Administration of justice.....	\$ 393,068.20
Agriculture, .....	55,690.88
Arthur Memorial .....	1,018.00
Commissioners on appeals,.....	149.85
County Commissioners,.....	3,367.40
Court of Claims.....	383.04
Dairymen's Association.....	2,000.00
Deceased veterans, funeral and headstone,.....	3,752.55
Educational, .....	123,416.24
Executive departments,.....	52,792.84
Fish and Game, .....	10,866.98
Feeding stuffs appropriation, .....	561.75
Highway Commissioner,.....	2,372.13
Insane .....	322,163.49
Legislative expenses, .....	60,640.09
Libraries,.....	12,711.04
Maple Sugar Makers' Association.....	954.47
Military, .....	52,316.72
Noxious animal bounties.....	19,821.80
Penal,.....	71,548.98
Pensions, .....	480.00

Public health,.....	\$	29,803.91
Printing,.....		34,828.18
Railroad Commissioners,.....		11,245.25
Reimbursement State Treasurer No. 156, 1902.....		59,240.95
Revolutionary Rolls,.....		389.16
Soldiers' claims under No. 86, 1898.....		85.85
Soldiers' Home,.....		20,534.50
Special appropriations,.....		23,688.48
Special commissions.....		14,401.64
		-----
Total,.....	\$	1,384,294.37
To this should be added the sum of .....		2,139.45
paid by the Treasurer prior to December 12, 1902, for		
which the Auditor has drawn no orders, making an		
aggregate total expense for the bi-ennial period of.....	\$	1,386,433.82
The net expense for the bi-ennial period ending June 30,		
1902, as stated by my predecessor was.....	\$	1,190,374.53
		-----
Increased expense for the bi-ennial term .....	\$	196,059.29
Average annual increase .....		93,029.64

These figures may not be exact, but they are substantially correct, and the Auditor in the preliminary part of his report discusses this matter and points out, in part, the avenues through which this increase has occurred.

I call this matter of increase of State expenses sharply to your attention. In my judgment no further increase should be permitted, but a reduction should be insisted upon and effected by and through the action of the General Assembly.

In the past two years no State tax has been levied, but this fortunate condition cannot continue, unless you call a halt in the matter of State expenses yourselves.

In this connection, I recommend that the law relating to bounties for the killing of noxious animals be repealed. In the last bi-ennial term the State has paid on this account \$19,821.80 and my judgment has not been correspondingly benefited.

The Auditor of Accounts, under our law, next to the Legislature, stands guardian over the public treasury. If you find upon investigation, that there is an inadequate clerical or other force provided for this important office, I recommend that you be not niggardly in making further reasonable appropriation therefor.

-----

In considering the financial condition of the State, it may be proper to briefly call your attention to some conditions which indicate material prosperity, and from the reports of the Inspector of Finance, I have taken the following items:

Savings Banks and Trust Companies:	No.	Depositors	Deposits.
June 30, 1904 .....	42	139,853	\$ 46,958,290.52
June 30, 1902 .....	41	128,529	41,987,497.45
	----	-----	-----
Increase in two years.....	1	11,324	\$ 4,970,793.07
Total resources June 30, 1904.....			\$51,085,603.83
Total resources June 30, 1902.....			45,396,813.79
			-----
An increase of .....			\$ 5,688,790.04

The taxes paid by these institutions for four years have been as follows:

Year ending June 30, 1901,.....	\$ 255,159.85
Year ending June 30, 1902.....	272,440.05
Year ending June 30, 1903.....	287,090.61
Year ending June 30, 1904.....	312,503.82

and interest or dividends have been paid or credited to the depositors during same time as follows:

1901,.....	\$1,224,210.47
1902,.....	1,257,183.66
1903,.....	1,323,339.45
1904,.....	1,441,248.46

These comparisons indicate a prosperity of the citizen as well as of the financial institutions referred to.

#### THE CLAIMS BETWEEN THE STATE OF VERMONT AND THE UNITED STATES.

The retiring message of my predecessor contains a clear and intelligent statement of these claims and the progress then made in their adjustment.

In brief, the claim of the State against the United States was more than \$275,000 and was for interest upon money borrowed by it to defray certain expenses in equipping its troops during the Rebellion, against which the United States government presented a claim to some \$543,780.25 for munitions of war furnished the State soon after the St. Albans raid.

I resume the history of these claims at the point down to which the same was brought by Governor Stickney.

In February, 1903, in pursuance of the efforts of the agents of the State, a warrant was drawn and forwarded to me, payable to the order of the Governor, for \$125,000 which I deposited in the State Treasury.

In February, 1904, Congress passed a further act, "To enable the Secretary of the Treasury to pay the State of Vermont money appropriated by the act of Congress of July first, nineteen hundred two, and to adjust mutual claims between the United States and the State of Vermont."

In August, 1904, a second warrant was drawn and forwarded to me, payable to the order of the Governor, for \$155,453.56 which I also deposited in the State Treasury, making a total of \$280,453.56 received by the State.

By this adjustment the State not only realized the said sum, but at the same time the War Department made an entry balancing on its books its ordnance account against the State and wiping out the balance of \$543,780.25, which had for so many years stood against the State; leaving the State, however, to account hereafter for the small amount of ordnance stores still on hand, which stores have been appraised by the War Department to be of the value of \$1,619.64

A full detail of the steps taken to arrive at this adjustment is given in the report of September, 1904, made by the agents of the State to the Governor, which report is on file in the Executive Department, and is subject to the call of the General Assembly. It is a matter of congratulation to the State that these long pending and embarrassing claims have been settled.

Under the provisions of the joint resolution of the General Assembly of Vermont, adopted November 22, 1898, and the two contracts made by my predecessors for the collection and settlement of said claims, the particulars of which were fully stated by Governor Stickney, I have approved the claim of the agents of the State for \$40,000 payable out of the amount thus collected.

#### DEAF AND DUMB, BLIND AND FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

By Section 854 of Vermont Statutes, the Governor by virtue of his office, is made commissioner of the deaf, dumb and blind, and of the idiotic and feeble-minded children of indigent parents, and by No. 30 of the Acts of 1898 the sum of \$11,000 is appropriated annually for the benefit of such children. Provision is made by law for their instruction at designated schools specially adapted for furnishing the same.

At the beginning of my term of office there were forty-one beneficiaries of the State of Vermont being supported and educated under the provision of this law. I have since designated eight children as state beneficiaries.

On November 7, 1903, I requested the Secretary of the Supervisors of the Insane to visit the several institutions, wherein these beneficiaries were being educated to examine into the physical health and the educational progress of each beneficiary. This he did and acting upon the recommendations by him made in his written report, I subsequently revoked the designation of twelve such beneficiaries. The number now being educated by the State is thirty-seven and their apportionment among the various schools is as follows:

American School, at Hartford .....	13
Clarke School for the Deaf .....	9
Perkins' Institute for the Blind,.....	8
Massachusetts School for Feeble-Minded, .....	7
	-----
	37

and in addition to the above there is one blind person residing within the State, who is furnished reading matter of an educational nature.

The rates for board and tuition at the various institutions are as follows:

American School, at Hartford .....	\$250	per annum
Clarke School for the Deaf .....	250	“
Perkins' Institute for the Blind,.....	300	“
Massachusetts School for Feeble-Minded, .....	300	“
Mystic Oral School, Mystic, Conn., .....	225	“

And the total expense to the State during the bi-ennial term in this connection has been as follows:

Massachusetts School for Feeble-Minded, .....	\$5,516.35
Clarke School for the Deaf .....	3,600.00
American School, at Hartford for Deaf,.....	3,375.00
Mystic Oral School, .....	168.75
Perkins' Institute for the Blind,.....	5,000.00
Minnie C. Fisher .....	12.50
Special Visitor,.....	95.15
	-----
	\$17,767.75

as against \$17,198.29 expended by my predecessor for like purposes.

I have been requested to appoint five beneficiaries in addition to the number already designated, but by reason of the inadequacy of the appropriation, such designations have not been made and are referred to my successor for his action in respect thereto.

#### VERMONT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

This institution at Vergennes has an ideal location.

During the bi-ennial term it has been under the immediate direction of Mr. and Mrs. Elwin L. Ingalls, Superintendent and Matron.

Its buildings are in excellent condition and the 214 acres of land which comprise the farm, are in a high state of cultivation.

The system of education seems to be practical and a good library is provided for the use of the inmates.

The number of children in this school on June 30, 1904, was 137, and the number of different pupils during the bi-ennial period has been 238. The average cost of reach child for the year ending June 30, 1903, was \$160.13; for the year ending June 30, 1904, was \$171.03.

A better water supply at this institution is an absolute necessity, and should not longer be deferred, if dangerous epidemics are to be averted.

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

This institution at Rutland, during the bi-ennial term, has been under the charge of D.L. Morgan, who has been its Superintendent for many years.

As appears from its report, the entire net cost to the state of this institution for the bi-ennial period has been \$3,611.61, an average cost of \$10.90 a year for each convict. The whole number of inmates June 30, 1902, was 111; June 30, 1904, it was 206. The average number for the two years has been 165. The average cost of subsistence for all connected with the institution has been ten and nine tenths cents (10 9-10c) a day. The average dialing increase in the number of prisoners for the two years ending 1904 over the two preceding years has been nineteen.

During the two years an electric lighting plant has been installed; also a water system for the supply of the marble shop.

The following statement showing the net cost to the State for the last ten years, speaks well for the present management of this institution.

Net cost to State for biennial period ending June 30, 1896 .....	\$7,879.95
Net cost to State for biennial period ending June 30, 1898 .....	12,366.46
Net cost to State for biennial period ending June 30, 1900 .....	13,571.50
Net cost to State for biennial period ending June 30, 1902 .....	4,519.81
Net cost to State for biennial period ending June 30, 1904 .....	3,611.61

STATE PRISON.

This institution at Windsor, under the management of Superintendent Oakes, who has held the position for many years, has been more than self-sustaining, as appears by the report of its officers, and has turned into the State Treasury \$1,069.10 in excess of the disbursements made by the State on its behalf during the bi-ennial period.

The average number of prisoners confined there for the two preceding years has been 146; the minimum number being 136, and the maximum number 159. At the end of the last fiscal year there were 154 convicts at the institution.

Under Number 152 of the Acts of 1902, an appropriation of \$12,000 was made for the purposes therein stated: \$8,318.17 of this appropriation has been expended for modern engines and boilers of most approved manufacture, but the hospital building, the erection of which was also provided for by the act has not been undertaken. The buildings and grounds of this institution are in excellent condition and the prison well managed.

The present contract for the labor of prisoners in the State Prison will terminate by its own limitation May 1, 1906. Under this contract the State is paid seventy-five (75) cents a day for each able-bodied man.

-----

I call to your attention the reports of the various officers and State institutions, as furnishing the full particulars of the information which I have condensed in this message, and if there be found any error herein, it arises from the fact that many of these reports have not been placed in the hands of the Executive in time to be used in preparing this message.

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.

The expense to the State for the support of the insane is the second largest item appearing in the Auditor's report.

The last bi-ennial period, however, shows a slight decrease compared with the preceding period, and yet, it seems to me that the expense to the State of maintaining its insane poor is so great that a thorough investigation thereof should be made.

The institution at Waterbury seems to be inadequate to take care of this class of patients.

For many years appropriations have been made for the benefit of the Brattleboro Retreat; those for 1900 and 1902 being each \$4,000.

The appropriating act of 1900, No. 132, provided that the State insane poor should be kept at the Brattleboro Retreat and the Vermont State Hospital, so far as practicable, in the proportion of at least 200 to 500; and No. 149 of the acts of 1902, in making appropriation for the benefit of the Retreat, provided among other things, in substance that all the moneys then and theretofore granted by the Legislature should be exclusively appropriated for the purpose for which the institution was established, and that if it should cease to exist, the real estate of the corporation should be held as security to the State for the amount granted, and might be sold under the direction of the Legislature, for the purpose of reimbursing the State, and further provided that said real estate should at no time be sold without legislative consent.

The location of the Retreat is an ideal one.

The total number of State patients at both these institutions on June 30, 1904, was 707, an increase of two over June 30, 1902.

The number of private patients at the State Asylum has increased during the same period from 24 to 33.

-----

The Board of Visitors have from time to time inspected this and all other Institutions as required by law.

SUPREME COURT.

Hon. Wendell P. Stafford of St. Johnsbury, the Fifth Associate Judge of Supreme Court, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 1904, tendered his resignation to take effect on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of June, he having been appointed to the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia by the President of the United States.

I immediately filled the vacancy thus created by appointing thereto Hon. Seneca Haselton of Burlington, then the Sixth Associate Judge, and the vacancy then occurring in that office I filled on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of Jun3, 1904, by appointment thereto of Hon. George M. Powers of Morrisville.

ATTORNEY GENERAL.

I recommend the creation of this office, as a step in the march of progress and in line with the policy adopted in most states.

We now pay annually hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars for services, a major portion of which a competent Attorney General might render.

DIGEST OF VERMONT REPORTS.

By the message of my predecessor, you are advised that under authority of No. 115 of the Acts of 1900, a committee was appointed to secure for the use of the State, four hundred copies of the Digest of the Vermont Reports, and further that all copy for the same was to be completed and sent to the press on or before the first day of Jun3, 1904. This copy has not been completed, and so far no tangible results seem to have followed upon the work of this committee. It would appear in the absence of express showing to the contrary, that time sufficient has elapsed so that the State should now expect a speedy completion of the task required by the provisions of the act.

The State has so far paid \$2,605.76 for the work of this committee.

BOARD OF RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS.



Hon. Fuller C. Smith, Hon. Henry S. Bingham and Hon. Horace W. Bailey were, with the advice and consent of the Senate, on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1902, appointed Railroad Commissioners for the term of six, four and two years respectively. Mr. Bailey resigned on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October, 1903, to accept the office of United States Marshal for the District of Vermont, and on the same day I commissioned Hon. George S. Howard of Craftsbury to fill the vacancy thus created.

In my judgment the board has rendered valuable services to the State.

Its report made to your Honorable body is clear, intelligent and definite in its recommendations, and merits your thorough examination.

Their recommendations as to the supervision of the electric systems of the state are especially worthy of your earnest consideration.

Speaking generally, in my judgment, the functions of this commission should be advisory, rather than mandatory, in the interest both of the general public and of the railroads.

#### BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN VERMONT AND NEW YORK.

Under the provisions of No. 163 of the Acts of 1902, entitled "An act to replace the boundary line monuments between Vermont and New York," approved December 4<sup>th</sup>, 1902, I appointed Ex-Governor W. Stickney as commissioner on behalf of the State of Vermont. He has made a written report to me of the progress of the work from which, among other things, it appears that in June, 1903, he arranged with the authorized representative of the State of New York for the replacing of these boundary line monuments between the two States.

Originally there were thirty-six monuments marking this line from the north-west corner of Massachusetts to Poultney river. Some of these were missing and others out of place, so that it was found necessary to re-survey the line.

During the months when labor out of doors could be successfully prosecuted, the work has been carried on, and one hundred and one new granite monuments nearly all six feet in height, embedded in concrete and extending below the frost line have been erected. These monuments have been placed at all town corners and at the highest elevations and lowest depressions along the line, and wherever the same crosses a public highway.

Some further work remains to be done and undoubtedly when it is fully completed the commissioner will make a final Report to my successor, that the same may be duly filed and recorded in the office of the Secretary of State, as required by the provisions of the Act.

#### TEMPERANCE LEGISLATION.

The general sentiment of the State seems to be that local option should be given further trial.

In many instances it has so far resulted in practical prohibition.

For the benefit of those towns in which the traffic is licensed, there are several amendments which the experience of two years has demonstrated should be made to the present law. It is important that no change therein should be made which tends to lessen the independence from politics and the stability of the licensing boards.

I would recommend that the vote on license or no license should not be taken in any town or municipality oftener than once in three or five years, and the other recommendations in my former message relating to this subject, I again press upon your attention.

#### PRIMARY ELECTION LAW.

I again urge the General Assembly to adopt an efficient primary election law.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR.

Under the provisions of the Joint Resolution No. 382, adopted by the General Assembly at its last session, I have caused to be erected a Memorial Tablet with a suitable inscription in the town of Fairfield, the birthplace of President Arthur.

Through the efforts of Governor Stickney the title to the tract was first secured to the State. Governor Stickney also contracted for the monument and supervised its erection.

The dedicatory exercises were held on the site of the monument August 20<sup>th</sup>, 1903. There was present a large concourse of citizens of the State. The monument was presented by Governor Stickney and accepted by me for the people of Vermont. The principal addresses were made by two of the Constitutional advisers of President Arthur while Chief Magistrate of the country: Hon. Robert T. Lincoln, and the Hon. William E. Chandler.

The Tablet is a plain granite block, hewn from Vermont's eternal hills, molded into modest and graceful proportions her own workmen, and will stand forever on the spot of his birth, typical of the simplicity, the sublimity, the solidity of the character of him whom it is intended to commemorate, and whose enduring virtues shall ever remain an inspiration to the coming generations of the sons and daughters of his native State.

The inscription on the Tablet is as follows:

ON THIS SPOT STOOD THE  
COTTAGE WHERE WAS BORN  
CHESTER A. ARTHUR,  
TWENTY-FIRST PRESIDENT  
OF THE UNITED STATES

-----

ERECTED BY THE  
STATE OF VERMONT

#### PORTRAIT OF ADMIRAL DEWEY

After the adjournment of the last session of the General Assembly, I placed myself in communication with Admiral Dewey, at Washington, and transmitted to him a copy of Joint Resolution No. 372 of that Session, and, assuring him of the earnest desire of the people of the State that his portrait might be placed in the Capitol at Montpelier, asked his wishes and suggestions in the matter.

Nothing could have been more cordial than his reply. After declaring how deeply he appreciated the compliment, and saying that he placed himself at my command as to the manner of carrying out the object of the Resolution, he bade me convey to the people of his native state his warm appreciation of the high honor conferred, and his profound thanks for the generous expressions of the value of his services to the country, and his record as a naval commander.

After negotiations, I secured of the artist, Mr. W.D. Murphy of New York, a portrait of the Admiral. The Admiral thinks it the best likeness ever taken of him. The portrait is life size and presents the admiral in full uniform, wearing the sword presented to him by the Nation upon his return from Manila – no prouder trophy was ever won or worn by a Naval Commander.

The portrait now hangs on the walls of this Capitol Building. Here let it remain forever. Let the youth of Vermont learn the priceless lesson it teaches and ever strive to imitate and emulate the virtues and valor of her distinguished son.

#### BRONZE BUST OF HIRAM A. HUSE.

In consideration of the many years of valuable services rendered the state by that staunch patriot and loyal Vermonter, Hiram A. Huse, the Executive was commissioned by Joint Resolution No. 371, approved December 12, 1902, in behalf of the people of the State to obtain a bust or portrait of Mr. Huse to be suitably inscribed and

placed in the State Library in memory of the man and his valuable services to the state as State Librarian for nearly thirty years.

After advising with the family and the near friends of Mr. Huse, I contracted with Charles Albert Lopez, a sculptor of New York, to make a bronze bust of Mr. Huse, together with a suitable pedestal. The bust, which is about twice life size, has been completed and has been placed in the State Library. The features are strong, very characteristic and true to nature.

Nothing could be more appropriate than this Memorial.

The inscription on the pedestal reads:

HIRAM AUGUSTUS HUSE,  
BORN JANUARY 17, 1843,  
DIED SEPTEMBER 23, 1902.

STATE LIBRARIAN 30 YEARS  
A PROFOUND LAWYER  
AND AN IDEAL CITIZEN.

“HIS LIFE WAS GENTLE, AND  
THE ELEMENTS SO MIXED IN HIM,  
THAT NATURE MIGHT STAND  
UP AND SAY TO THE WORLD  
‘THIS WAS A MAN.’ ”

MEDALLION PORTRAIT OF MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE J. STANNARD.

It is a matter of sincere regret that I have not been able to complete the commission of the General Assembly contained in Joint Resolution NO. 373, approved November 20, 1902.

The object of this Resolution, so long delayed by the State, should not longer be postponed. General Stannard was Vermont's greatest soldier in the Rebellion, and she will never fail to be proud of his services so eloquently and truly described in the Resolution itself.

I will most heartily second any efforts of my successor to carry out the provisions of this Resolution.

THE RECORDS OF THE CONVENTIONS OF 1776 AND 1777.

On April 16<sup>th</sup>, 1904, Joint resolution S.R. No. 64, 58<sup>th</sup> Congress, second session, was adopted by the two Houses and the same was approved by the President, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 1904.

The resolution was as follows:

“Joint resolution (S.R.64) authorizing the Librarian of the Library of Congress to deliver to the governor of the State of Vermont a record or records of certain conventions held in Vermont in the years 1776 and 1777 for the purpose of organizing a State.

“WHEREAS, There is in the Library of Congress a manuscript record or records of certain conventions in Vermont, held in the years 1776 and 1777, for the purpose of organizing a State and adopting a constitution:

“WHEREAS, Said record or records constitute a document of primary importance to the history of the State of Vermont and may therefore more properly be considered of State rather than of National interest, and its location in Vermont may best serve the interests of the State; and

“WHEREAS, Said record or records have been accurately photographed and reproduced in *fac simile*, without expense to the government, and will in this form be available for use in the Library of Congress: Therefore,

“*Resolved, etc.,* That the Librarian of said Library of Congress be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to deliver said record or records to the governor of Vermont, the same to be deposited in the archives of said State.”

The Records, in accordance with the resolution on Congress were duly delivered to me, through the intervention of Senator Proctor, and the same have been deposited in the archives of the State; there to remain forever as a most important part of the history of the Beginnings of Vermont.

The story of the unearthing and recovery of these Records, and the authenticity and original character of the same, is told clearly and conclusively in the volume embracing the *fac simile* of said Records arranged and published by Senator Proctor in February of this year at Washington; many copies of which the Senator has generously distributed among the libraries and citizens of this State. The research, the ingenuity and the evident determination to arrive at the exact truth, and the inestimable value of the work itself to this State, are matters upon which the Senator and the State are to be heartily congratulated.

In 1896 it was the peculiar privilege and good fortune of Senator George F. Hoar of Massachusetts to cause to be brought from England and presented to his native State the celebrated and priceless Bradford manuscript which contains the original record of the life in Leyden of the founders of Plymouth, of the voyage across the sea, and of the first thirty years of the Colony in America. The manuscript contains the Compact made on board the Mayflower – the first written Constitution in history.

It is now the privilege of Senator Proctor to have rendered a similar service to his State.

Of both these achievements the language of Senator Hoar is most fittingly appropriate: –

“The American people in the midst of all their material activities, their desire for wealth and empire, are a sentimental people, easily and deeply stirred by anything that touches their finer feelings, especially anything that relates to their history.”

#### VERMONT REVOLUTIONARY ROLLS.

Under the provisions of the act to provide for the collating and publishing of the Rosters, Muster Rolls and other Colonial and Revolutionary Records, a very handsome volume of over eight hundred pages, with a copious and comprehensive index, has been edited and published under the supervision of Professor J. E. Goodrich of Burlington. The volume has been deposited in the archives of the State, and should not only be of great benefit, but of great value to every one interested in the early military history of Vermont.

#### SOME RECOMMENDATIONS.

Vermont has the making of an Empire. The slate, the marble, the granite, that underlie her hills and mountains hold the promise and potency of inexhaustible wealth.

Vermont is also a natural Park. It is capable of infinite improvement.

One method would be to form a State organization for solving the forestry problem in Vermont, following the example of European countries, and supplementing the work of the United States Bureau of Forestry. Let a commission be appointed by the governor of three or five eminent gentlemen who are deeply interested in this subject and who would serve without compensation, and whose duty it should be to adopt a comprehensive forestry policy for the State, and a plan for the protection and replanting of forests, for the study of their quality and composition, the conditions necessary for successful reproduction of the most valuable trees, the prevention of forest fires, the relation of the growth of forests to humidity and the rain fall, and to designate methods of which lumbering operations may be best carried on so as to leave the lands cut over in a condition which more readily admit of forest reproduction.

The aim of the commission should be both utilitarian and aesthetic.

According to the census the forest product of Vermont was in 1899, second in value – the hay and forage crop, only exceeding it. This timber crop should continue to be one of Vermont’s most valuable assets. The existing timber lands should be so utilized as to secure not only present profit, but insure development and continuance. Of the land in Vermont included in farms, more than one-half is unimproved. The waste and

abandoned tracts of the State should be planted and planted intelligently with such varieties of trees as will be most profitable to our children, as well as enhancing the wealth and beauty of the State.

Hand in hand with the preservation and rehabilitation of the forests, go the conservation and development of the water power of the State. Water by the law of nature must, of necessity, be common to all. No one can have more than a temporary, transient property in it. This wealth producing power the State should guard and protect and from it derive great benefit. It is inexhaustible, for nature replenishes it. Its value is incalculable, now that the transmission of the electric current over long distances is an accomplished fact. The distribution of electricity to points far distant from the place of its generation, opens up vast possibilities in the utilization of water power.

Massachusetts, with not quite one-sixth the area of New York, has, under its enlightened policy, developed 187,000 water horse power as against New York's 220,000 (excluding Niagara). And this she has done by utilizing the power by means of immense dams on the Connecticut at Holyoke and Turners Falls, and by a system of canals affording a succession of mill sites. The same policy has been followed on the tributaries of the Connecticut and on all the power producing streams of the State.

Vermont should obtain a similar return from her streams.

Let a commission be appointed, to act without compensation, which shall adopt a plan covering the entire State for the preservation and utilization of its water powers, for the construction of reservoirs and reserve ponds on the streams, for the regulation of the flow and use of the water and for its protection from waste.

In this connection I would call attention to the general abuse of the streams of the State, by turning into them the chemical dyes and waste material from manufactories and the sewage from the towns, all which could and should be taken care of by modern disposal plants. Witness: – St. Albans, St. Johnsbury, Vergennes, Enosburg Falls, Waterbury and other places, the condition of which and of the streams near by has had the earnest attention of the Board of Health.

The very elaborate and exhaustive report of this Board made to the Governor, furnishes most useful and valuable information upon this and kindred subjects.

In the spring of 1904, a petition signed by many representative citizens and tax payers of the City of Burlington and adjoining towns in Chittenden, Addison and Grand Isle counties, was presented to the Governor, alleging the pollution of the waters of Lake Champlain caused by the refuse from mills located on the streams emptying into the Lake and other contaminating discharges therein. I referred the whole matter of the pollution of Lake Champlain to the State Board of Health, furnishing them with a copy of the petition and directing them to make a thorough investigation and report the result.

At the same time, I placed myself in communication with the Hydrographic Bureau of the United States. Upon my representation the Bureau was induced to order an examination of the waters under the charge of Mr. M. O. Leighton, the chief of the Division of Hydro-Economics, Hydrographic Branch, of the United States Geological Survey. The investigation has been proceeding for several months past and so far as I am able to judge, the examination of Mr. Leighton has been most thorough, scientific and productive of most beneficial results. The report itself will be printed in the publications of the Department at Washington. Vermont is to be congratulated that the Hydrographic Bureau selected so able and efficient a chief as Mr. Leighton to conduct this important work. It is to be hoped that his services may be again secured to complete this examination during the coming season.

Mr. Leighton had ample use of the State Laboratory at Burlington and Dr. Stone of the Laboratory gave him every assistance in his power and earnestly seconded him in his work.

If, upon the completion of the investigations, it is found that the pollution of the Lake by the pulp mills and by the sewage from the towns is injurious and renders the Lake unfit or less fit, as a source for municipal water supply, strong and immediate action should be taken. Besides its beauty, Lake Champlain is of the highest value as a reservoir for the furnishing of water for domestic use. Its preservation from contamination is of the utmost importance.

The length of the Lake, great in proportion to its width, gives to the local conditions of bottom and shores, a more decided effect upon the quality and character of the waters in different parts of the lake, and makes such an investigation difficult and involved. It will be impossible to satisfactorily complete the examination this season. Whether or not it is to be continued next season depends largely upon the action of the State of Vermont.

Resolutions should be passed expressing your conviction of the importance and necessity for the continuance of this investigation, and recommending and urging in the strongest language your Representatives in Congress to use their best endeavors to have the work carried on in a thorough manner to its conclusion.

Section 11 of No. 115 of the Acts of 1902, relating to the pollution of the sources of water supply, which exempts Lakes Champlain and Memphremagog from its provisions, should be repealed.

#### GOOD ROADS.

This nation, under high pressure, during the past thirty years, has been building over one hundred and thirty thousand miles of stem railway; and during the past fifteen years twenty-five thousand miles of electric railway.

Is it not time that equal energy be expended during the next five or ten years on a general system of improved highways throughout the country? No man can calculate the resulting benefits, in the increase of farm values, in the enhancement of the wealth, the comfort, the health, the happiness of our people, lifting this nation to a higher place in the scale of the world's civilization.

I am not a believer in national aid to the states in this matter of road building. Every state in its own interest, should be allowed to work out its own road system. There is now quite a general movement in this direction throughout many of the states, and in our own State some permanent road building has been effected.

There is no magic in this matter of road building. It will require the expenditure of time and money. But in the future the labor and cost will be repaid ten fold in the benefits which will accrue. And it is easily perceivable that the benefits will be proportionately greater to the smaller towns, which are more inaccessible to other lines of communication.

I have not been able to work out for this message a complete or satisfactory scheme for permanent highways in this State. I can only give a skeleton.

Let a Commission of three or five prominent men of the State be appointed by the Governor, with the advice of the Senate, to serve without compensation during the time requisite to work out a road scheme; the Commissioner of Highways also being a member of the Commission. Let the Commission adopt a scheme for the construction of improved highways, of course utilizing the present as far as may be, providing for, say, two or three lines running north and south, on the west and east sides of the State, and six or seven lines east and west across the State, aggregating eight or nine hundred miles of highways altogether. With the materials for road building which this State so abundantly furnishes, this is feasible.

By improved highways I do not necessarily mean Macadam roads, for it is extremely doubtful whether such roads are the best, the most economical or the most permanent for our climate, even if they could be as cheaply constructed as roads of other materials. An important factor is to see to it that, as and when permanent roads are built, they are kept in repair.

If Vermont is to increase in wealth and population as her position entitles her to, then some scheme for the improvement of her roads must sooner or later be adopted. Can any one doubt the resulting inflow of visitors, as well as the increase in permanent residents?

-----

Is Vermont to continue to stand still? Nearly a quarter of a century ago, the vote for Governor was greater than it has since been or ever was before. Is 1880 to be the permanent high-water mark? Is Vermont satisfied with a stationary census? Is the time to come when Vermont is to have but a single representative in the lower House of Congress?

Does any one believe that a constitutional convention would increase the wealth or population of Vermont? Does any one believe that an increase of representation in the larger towns would add a dollar to the State's wealth? Frequent changes in the fundamental law are an injury to any commonwealth. The provision of our Constitution, like that of the Federal Constitution, that makes it difficult of amendment, has received the highest encomiums of modern political philosophers as one of the wisest guarantees of good government. Such provisions insure solidity and security, which are the vital attributes of fundamental law. The Towns have always, and it is to be hoped will always furnish such legislation as is best and wisest for their respective communities. They are the governing republics of the State.

In scholarship, in literary effort, in her influence in national affairs, Vermont has always been in the front ranks. The time has never been when Vermont's representatives at Washington have not exerted primary and potential influence in the National Councils.

Hasten the day when she may also take her legitimate place among her sister States, in material wealth and in population.

JOHN G. McCULLOUGH.

Montpelier, October 6, 1904.