

APPENDIX  
TO  
Journals of Senate and Assembly  
OF THE  
THIRTEENTH SESSION  
OF THE  
LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA,  
1887.



CARSON CITY, NEV.:  
STATE PRINTING OFFICE, : : : J. C. HARLOW, SUPERINTENDENT.  
1887.

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SECOND BIENNIAL MESSAGE

—OF HIS EXCELLENCY—

GOVERNOR JEWETT W. ADAMS,

TO THE LEGISLATURE, THIRTEENTH SESSION.

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# MESSAGE.

STATE OF NEVADA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }  
CARSON CITY, December 31, 1886. }

GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATURE :

I have the honor to submit for your inspection and consideration a report of the condition of the State Government, with a few suggestions which seem necessary and advisable.

I shall be brief in the latter, leaving to my successor, upon whom conjointly with yourselves rests the responsibility of shaping the legislation and directing the policy of the State Government, the duty of making such recommendations in respect to the amendment of the old, or the enactment of new laws as may seem to him best for the public welfare.

I trust my endeavor to avoid forestalling my successor by making recommendations will not be attributed to any lack of esteem on my part for the people of Nevada. Whether in public office or private life I shall always feel the greatest interest in every measure that tends to affect the prosperity of this State or the happiness of its inhabitants.

## FINANCE AND STATE DEBT.

On the first day of January, 1883, there remained in the State Treasury a net coin balance of \$331,127 03.

Since that date the revenue from all sources has been :

For 1883 .....	\$524,857 30
For 1884 .....	379,989 98
For 1885 .....	394,429 27
For 1886 .....	400,273 31
Total .....	\$1,699,549 86

Of this sum \$1,004,266 22 has been derived from direct State taxation.

For 1883 .....	\$254,953 77
For 1884 .....	236,574 15
For 1885 .....	242,553 58
For 1886 .....	270,184 72
Total .....	\$1,004,266 22

The remainder has been covered into the State Treasury through receipts from interest on United States and Nevada State Bonds, payments on State lands, redemption of bonds, receipts from State Prison, fees from Clerk of Supreme Court, Secretary of State, drummers' license, insurance license, and other sources provided by law.

In the accumulation of this large sum no unusual burdens have been imposed, nor have our industries suffered.

The close of the year leaves a net coin balance in the Treasury of \$447,800 31. Of this sum \$221,287 97 is applicable for State purposes, and \$220,480 70 to be invested in bonds for school purposes.

The diversion, or rather use of the State School Fund for the purpose of building the Insane Asylum at Reno, and keeping the State on a cash basis, has caused varied comments as to the future condition of the funds derived from the sale of lands granted by the General Government for educational purposes.

The School Fund should be sacred, and no fear need exist that the people of Nevada will ever permit its being placed in jeopardy.

Section Three, Article Eleven of the Constitution, permits the investment of funds thus derived in United States bonds, or bonds of this State. The amount at present in Nevada State bonds is \$493,000, and the amount of interest paid by the State to the State School Fund has been \$136,914 66, thus when the necessity existed for borrowing money, we have not been forced to go among strangers.

The present indebtedness of the State, aside from the deficiencies in the appropriations for the support of the State Government for the twenty-first and twenty-second fiscal years (amounting to about \$13,000) is \$493,000, of which amount \$463,000 is due the State School Fund, \$14,000 the University Fund, and \$16,000 the University Fund 90,000-acre grant.

In the State Interest and Sinking Fund and Insane Asylum Sinking Fund there is \$25,000 applicable to the liquidation of this indebtedness, which will be applied in January, 1887, thus leaving our real indebtedness at the present time \$468,000. The General Government yet owes the State of Nevada \$372,003 11 for Territorial indebtedness assumed and other claims against the Government paid by the State.

These claims are in a fair way of settlement and the amount recovered will so far reduce our indebtedness.

The following tables show the condition of our school funds :

The State School Fund contains, cash...	\$142,584 00	
State bonds 5 per cent.....	463,000 00	
U. S. bonds 4 per cent.....	250,000 00	
		\$855,584 00
The University Fund contains, cash.....	13,081 00	
State bonds 4 per cent.....	14,000 00	
U. S. bonds 4 per cent.....	11,000 00	
		38,081 00
University Fund 90,000-acre grant, cash.	32,591 00	
State bonds 4 per cent.....	16,000 00	
U. S. bonds 4 per cent.....	39,000 00	
		87,591 00
Total .....		\$981,256 00

This gratifying showing of nearly one million dollars in our educational funds, with accruing amounts from the sale of lands continually coming into our treasury, places Nevada among the foremost States in its ability to grant educational facilities. To this I may add that 501,000 acres of State selections of lands, representing \$501,000, await approval in the Land Department at Washington. Many of these selections, on which twenty-five cents per acre has been paid the State, are over six years old, and the applicants ready to make further payments. By these delays the school fund is deprived of a large amount of interest. The reason assigned by the Land Department for these delays is, that no non-mineral affidavits accompanied the applications. These are being prepared as rapidly as possible by our Land Register, and when forwarded will no doubt tend to hasten the early listing of a large quantity of land to the State. These figures are taken from the able and elaborate report of the efficient State Controller, J. F. Hallock.

#### WAR CLAIMS (INDIAN AND REBELLION.)

Under the Act of Congress approved August 4, 1886, entitled "An Act for the benefit of the States of Texas, Colorado, Oregon, Nebraska, California, Kansas and Nevada, when a Territory," three officers were by direction of the Secretary of War detailed to assist him in examining and reporting upon the claims of the States and Territories named in the Acts of June 27, 1882.

These officers have already been engaged in examination of the war claims of the State of Nevada above named.

It is to be hoped that our State may be reimbursed by the United States for the money expended in defending the homes of our people against the Indians, as well as its patriotic outlay in defense of the Union.

These sums aggregate a large amount, being \$372,008 11, and when paid will greatly augment the sum in the State Treasury.

## INDIVIDUAL INDIAN WAR CLAIMS.

Many of our citizens have claims against the United States for services rendered, moneys expended, indebtedness incurred, and supplies and necessities furnished in repelling Indian invasions and suppressing Indian outbreaks and hostilities within the territorial limits of the present State of Nevada.

The efforts of individual claimants to be reimbursed or indemnified have as yet proved fruitless.

The greatest Indian war occurred in 1860, when Nevada was a portion of Utah Territory, and consequently before the organization of the Territory of Nevada.

In order to aid persons who have just claims against the United States to collect the same, the State Legislature passed the Act, entitled "An Act relative to the proving of Indian War Claims," approved February 27, 1885, which authorizes and directs the State Board of Examiners to examine into all claims for services rendered, moneys expended, indebtedness incurred, and supplies and necessities furnished, between the first day of January, 1860, and the date of the approval of the Act, (February 27, 1885) in repelling invasions and suppressing Indian outbreaks and hostilities within the territorial limits of the State of Nevada.

The said Board were also required to give notice by publication, to persons having such claims, to present them before the Board, within sixty days after the first publication of the notice.

The duties imposed on the Board of Examiners were arduous, and it is not too much to say that they were diligently and conscientiously performed.

No one supposed for a moment that the approval of the Board was conclusive in the premises; but the Legislature and many of our best citizens believed that it would at least free these claims, when approved by the Board, from the taint of fraud, and take them out of the category of stale claims.

In compliance with Section Five of the Act of February 27, 1885, the approved claims were transmitted, together with the evidence in support of them to the Secretary of the Treasury. These, together with the unapproved claim of Mrs. M. M. Styles, were sent on February 13, 1886. Each claim had a separate letter of transmittal accompanied by a copy of the statute under which it was approved.

The Secretary of the Treasury returned all the approved claims (retaining the claim of Mrs. M. M. Styles, which the Board had not approved on the ground of want of jurisdiction under the statute) which were received at this office on March 16, 1886, and placed in the State Treasury vault for safe keeping.

The reason given in the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury, as well as in the written opinion of the Auditor of the Treasury which accompanied it, was that there was no Act of Congress authorizing him to pass on such claims; that all the Congressional legislation on the subject referred only to claims that had been *paid* or *assumed* by certain *States* and *Territories* and had no reference whatever to *individual claims*.

I would therefore suggest that the Legislature pass a joint resolution instructing our Senators and requesting our Representative in Congress to have some measure passed by Congress at the earliest possible moment to provide for the payment of these individual claims so long due the citizens of Nevada.

Our pioneers, who, with a valor and generosity characteristic of the people of this State, responded so nobly in the hour of danger to the call of public duty, merit just, if not generous, treatment from the General Government.

#### APPOINTMENTS TO FILL VACANCIES.

I have the honor to report the following appointments made to fill the vacancies occurring since January 1, 1885:

January 26, 1885—A. C. House, County Commissioner Lincoln county, to fill the vacancy caused by the failure of F. C. Johnson to qualify according to law.

April 21—W. M. Carey, Fish Commissioner.

April 27—Mart Smith, County Commissioner, Elko county, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of J. T. Babcox.

April 30—C. C. Powning, Member of the State Board of Agriculture, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of W. R. Chamberlain.

May 27—Al. White, Member of the State Board of Agriculture, vice John R. Bradley, resigned.

May 29—R. P. Keating, Major General Nevada National Guard, vice Charles Forman, resigned.

July 1—William Webster, Brigadier General First Brigade, Nevada National Guard, vice J. H. Mathewson, resigned.

August 17—L. P. Flint, Member of the State Board of Agriculture, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of G. W. Huffaker.

September 4—O. H. Gallup, State Librarian, for the unexpired term of the Lieutenant Governor, the said vacancy being caused by the failure of the Lieutenant Governor to comply with the law in the matter of giving a good and sufficient bond as State Librarian within the time prescribed by law.

October 20—G. W. Huffaker, County Commissioner of Washoe county, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of C. A. Lee.

January 15, 1886—F. C. Johnson, County Commissioner, Lincoln county, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of A. C. House.

February 2—John R. Bradley, A. J. Blossom and H. H. Rice, members of the State Board of Agriculture, on account of the expiration of the terms of Theo. Winters, Alvaro Evans and Al. Longley.

March 15—Theo. Winters, Alvaro Evans and Al. Longley, members of the State Board of Agriculture, vice John R. Bradley, A. J. Blossom and H. H. Rice, all of whom failed to qualify.

May 1—James Ritchie, County Commissioner, Humboldt county, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of C. A. Nichols.

May 14—Thomas E. Haley of Eureka county, Brigadier-General Second Brigade, Nevada National Guard, vice H. H. Conklin, removed from the State.

November 9—P. H. Mulcahy, member of State Board of Agriculture, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Al. Longley.

May 4, 1885—George T. Gorman, Attorney and Land Agent of the State of Nevada at Washington, D. C., to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of George W. Merrill.

#### THE STATE LIBRARIAN.

The Act of February 17, 1883, entitled, "An Act to define the duties

of the Lieutenant-Governor when acting as an ex-officio officer," provides that the Lieutenant-Governor shall be ex-officio Adjutant General and ex-officio State Librarian, and for the services he shall render as such, and while acting as Governor, in the absence of the Governor from the State, he shall receive an annual salary of two thousand, seven hundred dollars to be paid at the same time and in the same manner as other officers are paid." \* \* \* Stat. 1883, page 41.

The Act of March 1, 1883, (page 101) provides that "before entering on the duties of the office, the Lieutenant-Governor as ex-officio State Librarian shall execute an official bond in the sum of one thousand dollars with sureties to be approved by the Governor, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his duties, and delivery over to his successor of all the books and other property belonging to the State Library, said bond to be deposited in the office of the Secretary of State."

In compliance with this statute a bond was given by the Lieutenant-Governor as ex-officio State Librarian and approved by me.

On July 31, 1885, one of the sureties filed in this office a notice of withdrawal from the bond. A similar notice was also filed in the office of the Secretary of State, and a third notice was served upon the Lieutenant-Governor, all of which notices were filed and served the same day. This action was taken by the attorney of the surety to meet the requirements of the law.

The failure of the Lieutenant-Governor to give a new bond, as ex-officio State Librarian within ten days, the time prescribed by law, the office became vacant, and it was my duty under the law to fill the vacancy. I delayed making an appointment until the 4th day of September, 1885, twenty-five days after the office had become vacant, at which time I appointed O. H. Gallup State Librarian. Upon demand being made by him for the possession of the office, it was, by direction of the counsel of the Lieutenant-Governor, refused by the clerk in the State Library, the Lieutenant-Governor being at that time in Seattle, Washington Territory. Proceedings on quo warranto were instituted in the Supreme Court by the Attorney-General to determine the right of the Lieutenant-Governor to the office of State Librarian. The decision of the court "ousted" him. Mr. Gallup entered upon the duties of the office of State Librarian, having previously given a good and sufficient bond approved by me, and he has up to the present time discharged faithfully the duties of the office. The Lieutenant-Governor afterwards tendered me a bond for approval, upon which bond I refused to take any action. Afterwards the Lieutenant-Governor commenced proceedings on mandamus to compel the Governor to take some action on the bond. This proceeding was brought in the District Court of the Second Judicial District, and a demurrer interposed which was sustained by the court. An appeal was taken to the Supreme Court where the judgment of the lower court was affirmed. This decision established the legality of Mr. Gallup's appointment to the office of State Librarian.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

The Legislature in 1883 proposed three Constitutional amendments, the adoption of which was favored by nearly all of the people of the State, regardless of politics.

Proposed amendment No. One—regarding future amendments to the Constitution may be submitted to the people after being approved by one Legislature.



Proposed amendment No. Two—requires one year's residence in the State, in addition to other qualifications, to acquire the right of the elective franchise.

Proposed amendment No. Three—provides that the State School Funds may be invested in United States bonds, the bonds of this State or the bonds of other States.

These Constitutional amendments were approved by two-thirds of the members elected to each House at two successive sessions of the Legislature, and received almost a unanimous vote for their adoption. But, notwithstanding this action by the Legislature and the people at the last general election, a doubt exists whether or no these Constitutional amendments are adopted.

The Constitution of the State of Nevada, Article Sixteen, Section One, in providing for the amendment of the Constitution, among other things prescribes that proposed amendments shall be entered on the Journals of both Houses of the Legislature. Also "that it shall be the duty of the Legislature to submit such proposed amendments to the people in such manner and at such time as the Legislature may prescribe."

The Special Committee of the Senate (Journal of Nevada Senate, Twelfth Session, 1885, page 137) found "that the proposed Constitutional Amendments had not been entered on the Journals of the Houses of the Legislature, and that it will be necessary that proceedings concerning them be commenced anew." The opinion of the Attorney-General to the same effect is published on the same page.

The last Legislature failed "to submit the proposed amendments to the people in such manner and at such time as the Legislature may prescribe;" thereby affording a new ground upon which to question the adoption of the amendments. It would be a source of regret if the beneficial effects of these amendments should be delayed two years longer.

At the last session of the Legislature, many amendments to the Constitution were proposed and approved by that body. I respectfully call your attention to them, as they will be submitted for your approval or rejection.

#### NEW ORLEANS EXPOSITION.

The display of Nevada products at the World's Industrial and Cotton Centennial Exposition, at New Orleans, was exceedingly creditable to our State.

Under the able management of Col. C. C. Thomas, who was appointed Commissioner for the State of Nevada, our exhibits were not among the least of the attractions of the Exposition.

Nevada gained the distinction of being awarded the first premium for wheat, the first and second premiums for potatoes and the silver medal for apples.

This clearly proves the productiveness of its soil and the adaptability of the climate to the cultivation of cereals and vegetables. The fruits raised in Nevada are also justly famed for their superior flavor and quality.

#### STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Under the provisions of an Act of the Legislature of Nevada, entitled "An Act to provide for the management and control of the State Agri-

cultural Society by the State," approved March 7, 1885, I appointed G. W. Huffaker, Wm. R. Chamberlain, Alvaro Evans, A. A. Longley, B. F. Leete, Theo. Winters, all of Washoe county; C. C. Stevenson, Storey county; Fred. Dangberg, Douglas county; John R. Bradley, Elko county; W. S. Bailey, Churchill county; John P. Sweeney, Ormsby county, and Joseph Marzen, Humboldt county, members of the State Agricultural Society, on March 13, 1885. On April 22, 1885, this office was notified of the organization of the State Board of Agriculture by the election of C. C. Stevenson, President; C. H. Stoddard, Secretary; C. T. Bender, Treasurer, and classification of the members: First Class—A. Evans, Theo. Winters and A. A. Longley. Second Class—C. C. Stevenson, John P. Sweeney and Fred. Dangberg. Third Class—G. W. Huffaker, W. R. Chamberlain and J. Marzen. Fourth Class—W. S. Bailey, B. F. Leete and John R. Bradley.

The statute requires that the members of the State Agricultural Society shall by lot or otherwise classify themselves into four classes of three members each. The term of the first class expires at the end of one year; of the second class at the end of two years; of the third class at the end of three years, and of the fourth class at the end of four years. To comply with this requirement of the statute the above action of classification was made. The resignations and appointments since the organization of this society will be found under the head of appointments to fill vacancies. Two State Fairs have been held under the auspices of the State Agricultural Society, which were numerously attended.

The display of live stock, cereals, vegetables, fruits, mechanical implements, as well as the beautiful works of art wrought by the genius and industry of Nevada women, would have been creditable to a much older and more populous State than Nevada.

#### LYON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

Upon the filing in this office of the articles of association by the Lyon County Agricultural Association, in conformity with the provisions of the Act of March 7, 1885, I appointed W. J. Westerfield, J. Vail, Daniel Simpson, James Downey, Sol. Noel, James Nichols, W. H. Spragg and J. O. Birmingham Directors, to constitute a District Board of Agriculture for District No. 5. May 24, 1886, T. B. Smith was appointed, vice James Downey, who failed to qualify.

Notice was given to this office of the organization of the Lyon County Agricultural Association by the election of officers and the classification of the members of the Board.

Upon like proceedings had by the residents of Ormsby county I appointed T. D. Edwards, A. D. Treadway, Samuel Longabaugh, D. L. Bliss, S. T. Swift, H. S. Mason, D. Circe, J. P. Sweeney, Directors to constitute a District Board of Agriculture for District No. 1. No notice of the organization of the District Board of Directors of Agricultural District Number One (Ormsby county) reached this office, and I am credibly informed that such organization was never perfected.

#### FISH CULTURE.

After the expiration of the term of H. G. Parker I appointed W. M. Cary Fish Commissioner for the State of Nevada. Through his zeal and industry many of the streams have been stocked with fish at a compara-

tively small cost. In my opinion the propagation of food fishes should be continued in this State until all the streams are stocked. Fish furnish no inconsiderable proportion of the food of man. Scientists have asserted with much semblance of reason that an acre of water produces more food than an acre of land. It has been said that the man who makes two blades of grass grow where only one grew before is a public benefactor; then surely the man who places a thousand fishes in a stream where never a fish was before, thereby promising to afford, in a few years, both sustenance and enjoyment, deserves well to be remembered in the benedictions of his fellow mortals. Until some other mode of producing food more cheaply is discovered fish culture will continue to be an economic question of no small importance.

#### IRRIGATION AND STORING OF WATER.

There is hardly any question of greater interest to the future of this State than the question of irrigation. When we note the progressive strides made by States and districts having a soil and climate less favored than ours, through a judicious system of irrigation, even the most skeptical may hope for a fair future for Nevada. Although a comparatively new subject to Americans, nevertheless we find that irrigation has been the subject of legislation for centuries, particularly in countries, in both hemispheres, populated by the Latin race.

Without going back to times of remote antiquity to seek an ancient history for irrigation, we can content ourselves with knowing that practical systems of irrigation have existed continuously in Europe since the establishment of the Roman Empire.

In Justinien's Codes, Lib. 6, Title 1, Section 1, we find declared: "By the law of nature flowing water is the property of all men."

For centuries in France, Italy and Spain, and indeed in Mexico, irrigation has existed under laws, regulations and customs. Perhaps the Province of Murcia, in Spain, affords the best example of the wonders that may be wrought on the face of a country by a judicious system of irrigation. Utah, Colorado and the southern part of California are also great exemplars of its beneficent utility.

Water alone possesses the magic property of "making the desert blossom like the rose." The water that now runs to waste in the spring time in this State might be stored in reservoirs in the high valleys in the mountains to be used in the summer when required.

There are millions of acres of land in Nevada which, if irrigated, could be made highly productive and capable of affording sustenance to a largely increased population.

Some of the products of Nevada are the best in the world. Notably the beef, potatoes, wheat, barley and rye. Agriculture is the foundation of all interests, therefore, any policy which can favorably affect this interest must necessarily conduce to the public welfare.

The acreage of Nevada, which is already far from inconsiderable, might, by a judicious system of irrigation, be greatly increased. I would recommend, under proper restrictions, such measures as would seem most likely to promote the end in view.

#### HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY.

In connection with the subject of irrigation, I would suggest that the

Legislature memorialize Congress to have a hydrographic survey made of this State. Such a survey would greatly aid in determining the most available points for the construction of reservoirs in which water could be stored to be used in the summer months for irrigation.

#### SILVER MINING.

I am glad to state that the leading industry of the State has greatly revived within the past year. The depressed state of public feeling caused by the abandonment of deep mining on the Comstock lode has been entirely dissipated by the recent discovery of valuable deposits of ore on the upper levels, and also in other parts of the State.

The output of bullion has been thereby very largely increased, and we may reasonably feel assured of the continued prosperity of the State, at least for some years to come.

There is great reason to hope that some Congressional legislation may be had which will restore silver to its proper place as *money*—to the relative position of dignity with gold as a money metal which it occupied before its demonetization.

#### LIVE STOCK INTEREST.

Next in importance to our great leading industry is the live stock interest—especially the raising of cattle. Nevada has the distinction of possessing some of the finest cattle ranges in the world. The many nutritious grasses, notably the bunchgrass, which grow on the mountain sides, afford excellent pasturage for summer, while the many varieties of sagebrush, which grow everywhere on the desert plains and rolling hills, especially the white sage, serve as excellent winter food, being considered by many far superior in strength and nutrition to any of the grasses. Except in Nevada and other portions of the Great Basin, there is no country where the grasses possess the property of curing themselves unaided by the labor of man.

Large sums of money have been expended by our more enterprising breeders in importing superior stock for the purpose of improving the grade of cattle. While the improvement has been marked in giving greater size and weight, it has been found that the improved cattle are no less admirably adapted to our varied and extensive ranges.

#### THE NO-FENCE LAW.

Some excitement exists among cattlemen caused by the recommendation of the land agent of the Central Pacific Railroad Company, that a "no-fence law" be passed at the present session of the Legislature. The newspapers devoted to the cattle interest are very naturally opposed to this recommendation, and regard the passage of such a law as a great blow at the cattle raising industry. That the passage of a "no-fence law" would be disastrous to the prosperity of our State by causing a great many herds to be removed from within our borders, thereby decreasing a large amount of taxable property, cannot for an instant be doubted. It is to be hoped that the representatives of the people will not enact any measure so inimical to this great interest of our State, but will rather foster than destroy so important a source of public revenue.

## PLEURO-PNEUMONIA IN CATTLE.

This dreadful disease has made great ravages among the herds of many of the States and Territories. No cure for it has yet been discovered. The slaughter of the diseased animal is the only remedy yet known to prevent the contagion from destroying the neighboring herds. I am glad to state that up to the present time, our herdsmen have suffered no loss through this frightful disease.

The wise legislation of many of the States and Territories authorizes the respective Governors to issue proclamations of quarantine to prevent the ingress of diseased animals. I would suggest that the Legislature at this session pass similar laws to protect this growing interest.

A bill has been introduced in Congress making a liberal appropriation for procuring the best veterinary skill to seek for a remedy as well as suggesting other means to prevent the spread of this terrible contagion. This is an evidence of the great importance with which this subject is regarded by Congress.

## STATE ORPHANS' HOME.

The State Orphans' Home at Carson City commands as much general interest as any other State institution. The praiseworthy object for which it was founded, the maintenance and education of the dependent orphans, appeal most strongly to the generous natures of the people of our State. "The wards of the State" have all the comforts of life and enjoy superior educational advantages. A workshop, the result of the thoughtful and noble bequest of the late Senator Sharon, has been erected, where the male children are instructed in the use of mechanical implements, so that they may learn some useful trade, cultivate industrious habits, and in time take a place among the army of skilled laborers. The female children are taught many useful employments, sewing, cooking, housekeeping and fancy work. A more detailed account of this excellent institution will be found in the report of the Board of Directors of the State Orphans' Home. The average for the past two years has been fifty-two inmates.

## INSANE ASYLUM.

The management of the State Insane Asylum, at Reno, under Dr. Bishop, has been efficient and economical. The cost of maintaining this institution will be less in future, as the expenditure for permanent improvements, which properly pertain to the construction account, will not need to be repeated. Everything that can conduce to the care, comfort and happiness of the unfortunate inmates has been done by Dr. Bishop in a humane and skillful manner at a much reduced cost to the State.

## THE NEVADA STATE PRISON.

The management of the State Prison, under Warden Frank Bell, has been able and economical. While good discipline has been preserved the prisoners are treated with consideration and humanity. Mr. Bell has devoted much attention to the subject of prison discipline and management, and is a very efficient Warden. When it is shown that the average number of prisoners for the last two years was nearly one hundred and

twenty-eight, the importance of a judicious administration of the affairs of this institution must be obvious to all who will give the matter the slightest consideration.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Our public school system is the crowning glory of American statesmanship. A government like ours which "derives its just power from the consent of the governed," presupposes the greatest possible virtue and intelligence among the masses. Hence the great necessity for the education and development of the intelligence of the future citizens of the republic. Virtue may be innate, but knowledge must be acquired. The only safeguard of Liberty lies in the virtue and intelligence of the people. It was the proud boast of Athens in the glorious days of Pericles that there was no citizen within her borders who was not competent to discharge the duties of the highest office in the State. Under our beneficent public school system who shall limit the educational possibilities of the people of a Republic like ours, generous and brave and determined to preserve their freedom! The bountiful land grants of the General Government, the rigid restrictions of our Constitution, and the wise legislation of this State gave, guarded and increased the large sums that constitute our Public School Fund. The interest on the sums realized from the sales of land will in a few years be sufficient to maintain our public schools without resorting, as at present, to direct taxation for that purpose. Our people are to be congratulated upon this favorable state of affairs, which insures to every child in this State his heritage to a good education

#### GENERAL REMARKS.

The Inter-State Commerce bill, now pending in Congress, bids fair to become a law. In that event the people of this State will, in a measure, find relief from the unjust discriminations so long practiced by the Central Pacific Railroad Company. I would suggest that the Legislature memorialize our delegation in Congress to give this desirable measure their earnest and hearty support. There can be little room to doubt that the prosperity of this State will be greatly enhanced by the passage of this bill. It will be hailed by the people of this State as a measure of justice and relief.

Owing to the limited time allowed by law (sixty days) in which to present individual Indian war claims, many persons were prevented from presenting their claims for the consideration of the Board of Examiners. Persons having such claims should not be denied the opportunity to prove their claims, which has by the law been afforded to others. A residence in a remote part of the State or ignorance of the existence of this law was doubtless the reason why many other claims were not presented to the Board by their owners. I would, therefore, suggest the re-enactment of a law which will give sufficient time for the presentation of such claims for the action of the Board of Examiners.

In view of the distress caused by the failure of stockholders, occasioned by their making fictitious purchases, and also using the money and securities of their clients and customers for their private speculations, I suggest the enactment of laws more carefully defining the rights, privileges, duties and liabilities of persons acting in such fiduciary

capacity. Recent events have proven that stock brokers not unfrequently accept the commissions and money of their clients and credit them with stocks and debit them with balances without, in fact, making the purchases, the transactions being entirely fictitious; that they sometimes loan the stocks and securities of customers in their possession to third parties to enable such parties to fill shorts or otherwise dispose of them; that they sometimes use the stocks, securities and money belonging to customers to obtain credit, and use that credit to deal in stocks for their own account.

Now these and all similar transactions are vicious and hurtful to society, and I therefore recommend the enactment of laws prohibiting them and declaring them to be crimes and felonies punishable by fine and imprisonment in the State Prison.

I renew my recommendation, made two years ago, regarding the consolidation of county offices. I am convinced that a great saving to the people of the State may be effected by the passage of this measure.

#### CONCLUSION.

In my message to the Legislature two years ago I stated, among other things, that "the present administration has been the most economical one, all things considered, since the adoption of the Constitution." This statement holds good at the present moment.

This is a proud distinction when it is remembered that we still revert with pride and pleasure to the able and spotless administrations of Governor L. R. Bradley and Governor John H. Kinkaid.

Twice elected Lieutenant Governor and once Governor, during the long term of twelve consecutive years I have always endeavored to perform the duties of the respective offices in accordance with the Constitution and the laws, and in the interest of the majority of my fellow-citizens.

With this communication terminates my official connection with the State Government with which I have been associated so long.

I retire from office with a grateful remembrance of the consideration and kindness shown me by the people of Nevada, and I desire no higher reward than to be permitted to carry with me the respect and confidence of those I tried so faithfully to serve.

You are to pass laws for the people of Nevada. This most important of all tasks is committed to your hands. Your work will remain on the statute books forever to attest the intelligence and patriotism you bring to your duties. In after years your acts here will affect the welfare, happiness and interests of this great people.

This should impress deeply upon your minds the gravity of the responsibility with which you are charged. When you return to take your places among those you now represent, they will require of you a strict account of your stewardship, and from their judgment of commendation or condemnation there can be no appeal.

This should warn you against hasty conclusions and put you on your guard against local and personal influences. Your thoughts should be for the public good, your purposes the general welfare, and your minds firmly fixed on patriotic ends. I sincerely hope that your legislative action may be such as will conduce to the general prosperity of the State, and that your own consciences and your constituents may approve all the work of this session.

J. W. ADAMS,  
Governor.