

Inaugural Message

OF
GOV. S. J. CRAWFORD.

Delivered January 11, 1865

Gentleman of the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:

The constitution of the State makes it the duty of the Governor at the commencement of each session of the Legislature to communicate, in writing, such information as he may possess in reference to the condition of the State and recommend such measures as he may deem expedient. In compliance with this requirement and in accordance with established usage, I herewith transmit to you such information as I have, together with such recommendations as in my judgment the interests of the State require.

During the past season our citizens have been blessed with health and unusual prosperity. Although the productions of the soil have been less abundant than in former years, yet they have been sufficient to meet our wants, and amply reward the husbandman for his labor.

The repeated efforts of the enemy to invade the State and desolate our homes, under the blessing of the God of Providence, and through the skill and energy of our military commanders (with their respective commands) and the eternal vigilance and patriotism of our militia who always so nobly respond to a call to arms, have been thwarted and successfully averted. For this deliverance we should offer our deepest feelings of gratitude to Almighty God.

The re-election of Abraham Lincoln is the people's declaration that the war is not a failure, but that it shall be vigorously prosecuted until the last vestige of American Slavery is extirpated--until every traitor lays down his arms and bows in allegiance to *our* flag, and submission to the laws of our Government.

It is our duty, and not ours only, but the duty of every loyal man in the Nation to support the Federal Administration, and afford every facility for the vigorous and successful prosecution of the war, to a speedy termination.

Kansas will do her whole duty. Her soldiers have made for themselves a reputation which for patriotism, discipline, and patient endurance stands second to that of no other State; and her citizens have esteemed no cost or sacrifice too great, to beat back the waves of rebellion, and protect the Nation's life.

FINANCE.

Your attention is invited to the Treasurer's report which I herewith transmit for a detailed statement of the financial condition of the State.

The receipts during the year ending Dec. 31st 1864 were as follows:

State Taxes,	\$149,963 14
Sale of Books,	41 50
Military Warrants, Act approved Feb. 23d, 1864,	67,500 00
Penitentiary Bonds, Act approved March 1st, 1864,	45,000 00
Remaining in Treasury January 1st, 1864,	11,231 75
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Making a total of	\$273,736 42
Total disbursements,	231,625 62
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Balance in Treasury December 31st 1864,	\$42,110 80
Belonging in Penitentiary Fund,	27,528 92
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For general purposes,	\$14,581 88
Delinquent Taxes for 1861,	17,026 85
“ “ 1862,	32,953 21
“ “ 1863,	32,434 44
Due from General Government,	12,352 00
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Total,	\$109,346 38
Amount of seven per cent Bonds of 1861, outstanding December 31st, 1864,	\$150,000 00
Amount of seven per cent bonds of 1863 outstanding December 31st, 1864,	\$54,000 00
Military Bonds of 1864, outstanding December 31st 1864,	75,000 00
Penitentiary Bonds,	50,000 00
Interest payable semi-annually, an amount total to January 1st, 1865,	18,515 00
Interest payable semi-annually, an amount total to July 1st, 1865,	11,515 00
Amount of six per cent Bonds outstanding December 31st, 1864,	51,500 00
Interest on same.	3,090 00
Amount of State warrants outstanding, Territorial outstanding,	43,149 48
	12,620 76
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Total,	\$462,390 24
Leaving to be provided for, from the Auditor's estimate for the year 1865---	
Current expenses of the State,	71,750 00
Interest on the Public Debt,	30,000 00
Sinking Fund,	25,000 00
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Total,	\$126,750 00

I herewith transmit the able report of the Secretary of State which with other valuable information shows the list of lands confirmed to the State by the Secretary of the Interior, amounting in the aggregate, to four hundred and ninety-five thousand, five hundred and fifty-two and twenty-hundredths acres for school purposes. Of this amount one hundred and ninety-five thousand, five hundred and twenty acres, were selected in the Humboldt Land District and two hundred and ninety six thousand, thirty-two and twenty-hundredths acres in the Junction City District.

There has also been confirmed in the State twelve Salt Springs, with 46,080 acres of land;

For Public Buildings,	6,376 56-100 acres.
“ State University,	45,886 35-100 "
“ Schools in Lieu of Sec. 16 and 36,	17,638 59-1000 "
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Making a total of	611,533 70-100 "

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

Your attention is invited to the Reports of State Auditor, Attorney General, and Commissioner of Immigration, which I herewith transmit.

The State has furnished for the war seventeen regiments, with an aggregate of twenty thousand eight hundred and twenty-two men, (including after enlistments into these regiments to fill their decimated ranks,) of this number one thousand two hundred and nine have re-enlisted as veterans.

The quota of Kansas under the various calls to July 19th, 1864, was fourteen thousand one hundred and four; add to this quota under the last call, which will be, if assigned to Kansas, two thousand two hundred and thirty-three, and we have a total of sixteen thousand, three hundred and thirty-seven, which with due allowance for those enlisted from other States and accredited to Kansas will still give the State an excess over and above all calls: but from some cause we have not received credit for all the troops furnished by the State.

EDUCATION.

I most respectfully call your attention to the subject of education. It cannot be too carefully considered by you. A summary statement furnished by the Superintendent of Public Instruction shows eight hundred and fourteen School Districts organized with thirty-seven thousand five hundred and eighty two children. Of this number twenty-two thousand four hundred and twenty-nine attended School the past year.

Number of Teachers employed,	731
Salary received,	\$50,957 37
Amount received by County Treasurers from School Districts,	49,993 02
By District Tax,	58,237 25

There are thirty-three select Schools with fifty teachers and one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six students; four Colleges with sixteen professors, and four hundred and fifty one students, and the State Agricultural College with four Professors and one hundred and seven students.

There are in attendance at the Colleges, Select and Common Schools, twenty-four thousand seven hundred and ninety three scholars.

We may truly feel gratified over this manifest improvement in the means of education throughout the State. If there be one thing more than any other to which the whole energy of the State should be directed it is the education of the rising generation, that they may be well informed on all subjects of importance and the public policy of the country guided by wisdom and truth: and I recommend that ample and judicious appropriation be made for this object.

GEOLOGICAL.

I ask your attention to an abstract of the Geological report of Professor B. F. Mudge, herewith transmitted, and recommend that an appropriation be made to complete the survey, which is all-important to the development of the Agricultural and Mineral resources of the State.

PENITENTIARY.

Your attention is called to the report of the Directors of the State Penitentiary, herewith transmitted. By it you will perceive the work of building the Penitentiary, progresses slowly.

On examination of the contract for the erection of the North wing and Warden's house of said Penitentiary on file in the office of Secretary of State, it will be discovered that the work was to have been completed on the 15th day of December, 1864.

The report of the Directors will show that it is still *incomplete*, and that the contract has not been complied with. In addition to the amount previously expended, the last Legislature appropriated fifty thousand dollars for the erection of the Penitentiary building. According to the Treasurer's report twenty-seven thousand, five hundred and twenty-eight, and sixty two hundredths dollars of this fund remain in the Treasury unexpended. To this amount an additional appropriation of sixty thousand dollars is recommended by the Directors. It is of the greatest importance that the work should be completed, but before any further appropriation be made, I do earnestly recommend a thorough investigation of the whole matter, including the contract under which the work has thus far progressed.

Total confined in Penitentiary (as per report) in 1864,	32
Pardoned,	17
Escaped,	7
Remaining,	8

The reports of the Adjutant General, Paymaster General, and Quartermaster General of the state will be transmitted as soon as completed, with such recommendations as the interest of these departments shall seem to require.

CENSUS.

SECTION 26., ART. 2., of the Constitution, requires the Legislature to provide for taking the census of the State in the year 1865.

In complying therewith it is recommended to adopt such a method as will secure the information desired, with due regard to economy in the expenditure of the public funds in its attainment. The importance of this subject is very generally under-estimated. Every branch of industry and enterprise will find an exhibit therein; and if our resources and their rapid development be fully presented, its influence in directing immigration to this State, will be favorably felt throughout the Commonwealth.

IMMIGRATION.

I desire to call your special attention to the subject of immigration. The number of able-bodied men abstracted from the laboring population of the country to meet the exigencies of the war, renders this a matter of great importance at this time to any State in the Union, and especially to any Western State.

The General Government are giving it their earnest attention: --- the last Congress having passed an act organizing a National Bureau of Immigration in the Department of the Interior. This Bureau is now in active operation. It has agents in New York, Boston, Portland, and other places on the eastern seaboard, and also at eligible points in Europe. On this subject our able and distinguished Senator, General Lane, has an important and special influence by reason of his position as chairman of the Senate committee of agriculture, to which this subject is referred.

To operate in this connection to secure a fair share of the advantages to be derived from this Bureau, should be our particular object. I would therefore advise that the act passed by the last Legislature, be so amended as to provide simply for a Kansas State Agent in the city of New York, with a sufficient stated salary, whose duty it should, in part, be, to visit the principal cities of the Union, and make such arrangements with Railroad and steamboat companies as will lessen the rate of fare, and otherwise facilitate the passage of emigrants to Kansas.

He should be in correspondence with the local State Bureau of Immigration, and other sources, in order to be fully supplied with all necessary information touching the character of the soil, minerals, climate, population, laws, productions, &c., of the State. It is believed that in view of the operations of the National Bureau of Immigration, this is all that is necessary for us to do in the premises. It is my opinion that our State Agent in New York should not be restricted to the single subject of immigration. The interest on our State debt is required to be paid at regular periods in the city of New York. State bonds are also negotiable here. It should therefore be a more general agency, confined for the present, however, to the two objects of Immigration and Finance. The expenses for traveling, &c., would be considerably less than is now being expended under existing laws.

To you as one of the co-ordinate branches of our State government is entrusted the important business of making the laws. It will afford me pleasure to give in detail any such information I may possess, and not now attainable, and pledge you my hearty co-operation in all measures for the protection and development of the interests of the State and its growing population. I would suggest retrenchment where it may be made without prejudice; and a rigid economy in all appropriations. I am not aware that there is such an amount of legislation as will occupy your attention during the whole time limited by law, and would thereby suggest that your session be as short as a proper regard and care for the public interest will justify.

Kansas first said to the slave-power, "Thus far shalt thou go and no farther," and have nobly maintained that position to the present hour. Never did a darker night brood over any people, than that which preceded the 23d day of October, 1864.

The morning dawned---Heaven smiled---and victory crowned our arms; and the enemy were taught the lesson, written in characters of human blood, that death is the traitor's doom that would pollute our soil. To our brave soldiers, for the present, is eminently committed the guardianship of this goodly heritage.

Kansas soldiers have reared a proud monument to her fame. The first to stand as sentinels on the mountain tops of freedom---to hail the power stricken children of oppression--to lead them from their dark thralldom of slavery, to the glorious sunlight of peace and national liberty.

Hundreds of these brave heroes already sleep the sleep which knows no earthly waking; and doubtless hundreds more that are now writing in living characters, their names, on memories immortal tablets, will also, ere this war shall close, cease from their labors, but their works will follow them. Let us emulate their virtues:--humbly and devoutly out our trust in God, and our past glory and greatness are only the earnest of a still more glorious future.

S. J. CRAWFORD.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, Jan. 11th, 1865

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