· COLONIAL - RECORDS

OF THE

STATE OF GEORGIA

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY

THE LEGISLATURE

RY

ALLEN D. CANDLER

VOLUME I

ATLANTA, GA.

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PREFACE.

The compilation of the Colonial and Revolutionary records of Georgia These difficulties were due has been attended with unusual difficulties. to the loss or destruction of many of the most important documents and record-books pertaining to those two periods of the history of the When Savannah fell into the hands of the British in December, 1778, the Secretary of State, Captain John Milton, by order of Governor Houstoun, conveyed the most important records of his office and that of the Governor to Charleston to prevent their capture by the enemy; but the older records, pertaining to the early Colonial period, and many of those relating to the period of the Royal Governors, were left behind Georgia's earliest historian, Captain Hugh McCall, who wrote and lost. about the beginning of the last century, in speaking of the records saved by Captain Milton says: "These records, principally belonging to the effice of Secretary of State, were almost the only public papers of Georgia which were preserved." Of those thus saved at that time many were doubtless subsequently lost in their frequent removals from place to place in the effort to save them from capture; and many of those still in existence are in a mutilated and fragmentary condition. Prior to the fall of Charleston, in May, 1780, Secretary Milton again removed his records, this time overland in wagons from Charleston to Newbern, North Carolina, where he left them in the care of Governor Nash of that State, and returned to the army. Later on, when Georgia and South Carolina had been entirely overrun by the British and Tories, and North Carolina was invaded, and the Georgia records were again in danger of capture, Captain Milton got leave of absence from his command and carried them to Maryland, where they remained until after the close of the war, when they were brought back to Georgia. Thus were saved through the War of the Revolution most of the papers and documents pertaining to the office of Secretary of State, and a part, and only a part, of those belonging to the office of the Governor.

Nearly all of the papers relating to the twenty years of the government of the Trustees which had ever been in Georgia, and many of those relating to the period of the rule of the Royal Governors, were lost or

entirely destroyed during the progress of the war. Since the close of the Revolutionary struggle the capital of Georgia has been four times removed, and once occupied and sacked by a hostile army. In each of these removals doubtless many valuable papers which escaped destruction during the war for independence have been lost; and it is within the memory of many living residents of that city, that when Milledgeville was occupied by the Federal army in the winter of 1864, many important records and documents were taken out of the Capitol and either destroyed or carried away. At that time and in that way, many important papers relating to Georgia, and especially the part she had played in all the wars in which the United States had been engaged up to the war between the States, were irretrievably lost. In one or more of these ways many of the Journals of the Proceeding's of the Legislature and the Minutes of the Governor and Council during the progress of the War of the Revolution perished, and never having been printed, and no manuscript copy of them ever having been made, they were totally destroyed or lost. To fill the gaps thus made in the legislative and executive history of our State recourse has been had to all other available sources of information—the acts of those Legislatures whose Journals have been lost, authentic contemporaneous publications in newspapers and books, old county records in the counties which were settled before the Revolutionary War, and to some publications of the Georgia Histor. ical Society. While to supply the place of the lost records of the Revolutionary period has been sedifficult and well-nigh impossible, it has not been so difficult as to the Colonial period. Fortunately for us, while comparatively few of them are to be found in Georgia, and many of those relating to the causes which led up to the War of the Revolution and its conduct and progress have been entirely lost, there are still preserved in the Public Records Offices in London either the originals or copies of most of these papers; and in 1837, sixty-five years ago, the Legislature, realizing the importance of having them on file in the Archives Rooms of our Capitol for the use of the people and the future historian, passed an act appropriating money for the purpose, and authorizing the Governor to appoint some fit and proper person to "repair to London for the purpose of procuring the Colonial records, or copies thereof, now in the Colonial Department of Great Britain, that relate to the history and settlement of this State." In pursuance of the provisions of this act, Governor Gilmer, on the fifth of April, 1838, appointed the Reverend Charles Wallace Howard, a Presbyterian divine, eminent

for intelligence and learning, to go to England and secure either the originals or transcripts, as provided in the act. Soon thereafter Mr. Howard sailed for London, but found it impossible, as might have been expected, to secure the originals, and very difficult to gain even access to them and permission to make transcripts. After several months delay, however, he got permission, and at once entered upon the work. He was engaged upon it about two years, and the result of his labors was twenty-two large manuscript volumes of about three hundred pages each, which he had bound in pasteboard and deposited in the Archives Rooms of the Capitol, in charge of the Secretary of State, where they remained until about 1848, when, in order that the Reverend Doctor Stevens might have access to them in the preparation of his scholarly history of Georgia, brought out under the auspices of the Georgia Historical Society, they were removed to the Society's library in Savannah. They remained in the custody of the Historical Society for about thirty-five years, when they were loaned to Colonel Charles C. Jones to be used by him in the preparation of his history of Georgia, published in 1883. When he completed his work, at the suggestion of Colonel Jones, they were restored to the Archives Rooms of the Capitol and remained there till they were removed to Oxford to be used by Professor Scomp, of Emory College, who was engaged in the preparation of an important historical work. In June, 1891, Professor Scomp's house was destroyed by fire, and with it perished not only his private library, together with many of his manuscripts, the fruits of years of toilsome research, but also all of Howard's transcripts of the London records, except three of the least important volumes, which Professor Scomp had left in the Capitol. At the same time probably perished many important records of the period of the War of the Revolution which can not now be found, and of which no copies were in existence anywhere. 'Thus, a hundred years after the close of the War of the Revolution, Georgia found herself in a worse condition, so far as the record of her Colonial and Revolutionary history was concerned, than she was in 1837, when a patriotic Legislature endeavored to secure and preserve the records of her early history; all because, instead of printing the material Mr. Howard had secured, together with those still in existence in our Archives Rooms, they were lent out first to one and then to another, and removed from place to place to be used by persons engaged in individual literary ventures. Fortunately, however, for this and succeeding generations, a public-spirited Legislature in 1902, actuated by a patriotic zeal which reflects credit alike on its members and

on the State, anxious to rescue from impending oblivion the rapidly fading traditions of a glorious commonwealth and of the heroic achievements of her illustrious sons, took up the work where the Legislature of 1837 laid it down, and made provision for the appointment by the Governor of some fit and proper person to compile and publish the Colonial, Revolutionary and Confederate records of the State; at the same time making an appropriation of money from the public treasury to pay for transcripts of the Georgia records still preserved in England. Under authority of this act the present compiler was appointed in December, 1902, to do the work, and in the month of January following entered upon the discharge of his duties. The difficulties that confronted him at the very threshold of his undertaking were almost appalling, the material upon which he had to work being so fragmentary, so scattered and so deficient. He did not despair, however, but went diligently to work gathering up all the official records and documents bearing on the early history of the State wherever to be found, beginning with the Charter and the appointment of the Trustees by King George the Second, in June, 1732. He has prosecuted the work in regular chronological order, and the first design was to compile and publish it in the same order; printing, to illustrate, everything of a public or official character concerning Georgia, either in England or America, and bearing date in the year 1732 under the date-line of 1732; and everything dated in 1733 under the date-line of 1733, etc. became apparent as the work progressed that its convenience and usefulness would be greatly enhanced by departing from this order of arrangement so far as to print in regular consecutive order, in volumes separate and distinct from those containing miscellaneous records and documents, the Journal of the Proceedings of the Trustees, the Minutes of the Common Council of the Board of Trustees, and the Journals of the Proceedings of the House of Assembly and of the Governor in Council during the administrations of the three Royal Governors. This arrangement was therefore adopted, and these records have been compiled and printed in volumes separate and distinct from the volumes containing miscellaneous Georgia doguments and records, all of which have been compiled in the manner originally designed; all papers bearing the date of 1732 being printed under 1732, and all dated in 1733 under 1733, etc.

The greatest deficiencies in unbroken official records, as will be seen, are in the records of the legislative and executive departments of the State government during the period of the War of the Revolution. Of the Colonial period the records not to be found on this side of the Atlantic

could be, and have been, secured in London; but of the period of the Revolution the records that were lost or destroyed were irretrievably lost, no duplicates or transcripts ever having been made. The compiler has, however, in making up the documentary history of this period, utilized all the materials that could be found in the Capitol of the State and elsewhere, leaving no source of information unexplored, and still there are many unfilled gaps and hiatuses in the record of this period. The temp-_tation to fill these gaps and to some extent, at least, to supply these missing links by the insertion of contemporaneous unofficial publications has been great; but the compiler has, in most cases, refrained, deeming it his duty, under the authority given him, to compile and publish only official records and documents. In a few instances, however, when it was impossible to secure anywhere original records and documents, but copies of undoubted authenticity were available, they have been utilized, acknowledgment being made in every instance of the sources from which they were obtained. Advantage has been taken, too, of the patriotic labors of the Georgia Historical Society, and reprints have been made of, a few important documents heretofore printed by it in small editions, when the original could not be found in the Capitol. While many of the daily Journals of the Proceedings of the Legislature during the Revolutionary period have been lost, and the Minutes of the meetings of the Governor and Council are very incomplete, we have, in their original manuscript. form all important acts of the Legislature during the period of the Royal Governors, and many of those enacted during the War of the Revolution. But few of these old laws, however, have been embodied in our compilation. Many of them are obsolete, and the substance of those not obsolete is still preserved in our Code. Occasionally, however, an old obsolete law throwing light upon the conditions which prevailed at the time of its enactment has been included.

Recourse has also been had to the records in the court-houses in the old counties which were settled before the Revolutionary War, and valuable historic materials, not to be found elsewhere, have been secured. While the compilation of Colonial and Revolutionary records is not as full and complete as the compiler earnestly desired to present to the public, it is believed to be the best now possible. No authentic record available has been omitted, and nothing of doubtful authenticity has been admitted.

The first volume contains the Charter of the Colony, and the Journal

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of the Proceedings of the Trustees from 1732, down to the surrender of Volume II contains the Minutes of the Proceedthe Charter in 1752. ings of the Common Council of the Board of Trustees during the same Volume III is an account of Monies and Effects Contributed for Establishing the Colony of Georgia. Volume IV is the Private Journal of the transactions of the Trustees, kept by John Lord Viscount Percival, the first President of the Board of Trustees. Violume V is the diary kept by Colonel William Stephens, Secretary of the Board of Trustees at Savannah, usually referred to as "Stephens' Journal." Then follow in chronological order the Journal of the Proceedings of the? President and Assistants and of the Governor in Council through the administrations of the two Presidents, Stephens and Parker, and the three Royal Governors, Reynolds, Ellis and Wright, down to the arrest, escape and flight of Governor Wright and the seizure of the colonial government by the Council of Safety in January, 1776.

After these come the Journal of the Proceedings of the first "Provincial Congress," which met in Savannah on the fourth of July, 1775, followed by the Journal of the Proceedings of the "Council of Safety," which had charge of public affairs in the Province until the organization of a constitutional government and the election of Governor Treutlen in 1777. Following these are the Journals of the Proceedings of the Commons House of Assembly and those of the Upper, House of Assembly, beginning with the first Legislature under Governor Reynolds, the Peter Stuyvesant of Colonial Georgia, and ending with the last Legislature under Governor Wrigh

These volumes are followed by all that is in existence of the Proceedings of the first Constitutional Convention, which, having accomplished its work, adjourned in February, 1777; and of the Minutes of the Executive Office during the administrations of the Constitutional Governors. Treutlen, Houstoun, Wereat, Walton, Howly, Brownson, Martin and Hall; after which follow the Journals of the Republican Legislatures, so far as they have been preserved, during the same period, together with some of the important laws passed by the "Rebel Legislatures" during the progress of the war and immediately after its close, including the acts of confiscation and banishment, with lists of the names of persons proscribed by both the "Royal" and the "Rebel" Legislatures.

After the volumes containing the Minutes and Journals of the executive and legislative departments of the government follow the volumes containing miscellaneous documents and official correspondence between

the Colonial officers and agents in Georgia and the Trustees and officers of the British Government in England, arranged in strict chronological order from 1732 to the termination of British rule in 1783. volumes of miscellaneous papers will be found to be very interesting, containing, as they do, a number of Indian treaties and maps of lands ceded by the Creeks and Cherokees to the King, and after the war to the State and Federal Government, and much matter personal to individuals and families living in Georgia prior to and during the War of In them bounty land warrants of Revolutionary solthe Revolution. diers are reproduced; old wills, bills of appraisement, conveyances and correspondence, not of a military, nor even of a strictly public character, but still of value and interest to the numerous descendants of the residents of the Province in Colonial times, and the actors in the stirring scenes of the War of the Revolution. Some of these were found among the State Archives in the Capitol, and others in the court-houses in the old counties along the eastern border of the State.

The compilation of Confederate records, beginning with the special message of Governor Brown to the Legislature on the seventh of November. 1860, on Federal relations and the Act of the Legislature of November 21, 1860, directing the Governor to call a convention of the people of the State to take into consideration the Federal relations of the State and the alarming situation then existing, will be found to be full and com-It will contain, in addition to the proclamation and the act above referred to, the proclamation of the Governor calling the convention and ordering the election for delegates to sit in it; the complete journal of the convention containing the ordinances adopted by it, including the ordinances of secession, the correspondence between Governor Brown and President Davis concerning the Conscript Law; all the acts of the Legislature and proclamations of the Governor relating to the Georgia soldiers and the war and its conduct during its progress; the order of President Andrew Johnson establishing a provisional government and appointing James Johnson Provisional Governor after the surrender of the Confederate armies; the official papers of Provisional Governor Johnson; the complete journal of the convention of 1865, held under the order of the President; the inaugural address of Governor Charles J. Jenkins, and his messages to the Legislature; the reconstruction acts of Congress of 1867; the order of the commander of the third military district removing Governor Jenkins and Treasurer Jones and appointing General Ruger, U. S. A., as Military Covernor, and Captain Rockwell.

U. S. A., as Treasurer; the order for the three days election; the inaugural address and proclamations of Governor Rufus B. Bullock; orders concerning the Freedmen's Bureau and its operations, and, indeed all enactments, proclamations and military orders operating upon the people of Georgia from the passage of the act by the Legislature of 1860, providing for a convention of the people, through the periods of the war and reconstruction, down to the overthrow of carpetbag rule, the resignation and flight of Governor Bullock, and the restoration of white supremacy in the State, including the reports of the two committees appointed to investigate the official conduct of Governor Bullock, and to report on the validity of the bonded debt of the State created during the period of carpetbag rule.

The compiler has been content to compile the official records of this eventful period as he has found them, without comment or even a footnote; thus leaving the reader of the future to draw his own conclusions from the record as it was made by the actors in the scenes of the war between the States, and subsequently during the ever memorable era of Reconstruction.

ATLANTA, June 27, 1904.

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OF

THE LEGISLATURE

BY

ALLEN D. CANDLER

VOLUME II

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THE

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ALLEN D. CANDLER

VOLUME III

Contributions and Names of Contributors.

ATLANTA, GA.
THE FRANKLIN PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY
ORO. W. HARRISON, MANAGER.
1905

COMPILER'S PREFACE TO VOLUME III.

Unlike the founders of most of the other British colonies in America, the founders of Georgia were actuated by motives of pure, disinterested philanthropy. The object of the founders of other colonies was pecuniary gain. The object of the founders of Georgia was to provide an asylum to which the poor and unfortunate debtors of England, and the oppressed Protestants in other parts of Europe, could come and live in peace and carn a livelihood by industry and frugality.

Actuated by this motive Oglethorpe and Egmont, and their coadjutors, founded Georgia. They had no interest in the soil of the province, and no reward, nor hope of reward, out of its growth and prosperity.

Their work being one purely of philanthropy they appealed not in vain to the charitably disposed for aid in their philanthropic work. This the Trustees were authorized to do, by the charter, and by the same instrument they were required "every year to lay an account in writing before the Chanceller or Speaker or Commissioners for the custody of the Great Scal of Great Britain, the Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, the Master of the Relis, the Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas and the Chief Baron of the Exchequer, or any two of them, of all monics and effects by them received or expended for carrying on the good purposes aforesaid."

This volume contains the annual accounts of all contributions made in money and offcets for the benefit of the colonists. It will be seen that while no inconsiderable amount came out of the royal treasury most of the benefactions were from private individuals, and the accounts show on their face the care and accuracy with which they were kept.

COLONIAL RECORDS

OF THE

STATE OF GEORGIA

VOLUME IV

STEPHENS' JOURNAL 1737-1740

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY OF

THE LEGISLATURE

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ALLEN D. CANDLER

ATLANTA, GA.
THE PRANKLIN PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY
ORO. W. HARRISON, MANAGER

Compiler's Preface to Stephens' Journal.

The plan of government first instituted by the Trustees was utopian and impracticable. The colonists were discontented and unhappy. They were divided into factions, and constant complaints were sent up to the Trustees by one faction or another, and the Trustees, to inform themselves of the real conditions that prevailed in the colony, and the justness of the complaints that reached them, deemed it advisable to send a representative to Savannah to study the situation and keep them advised. They selected for this important work Colonel William Stephens, a man of integrity and character, who had sat in parliament for a quarter of a century, and who enjoyed the confidence of the Trustees and of the country. In the summer of 1737 he was sent to Savannah as "Secretary to the Trustees in Georgia," and his office was to take a general oversight of affairs, to advise unofficially the officers of the colony, and to keep the Trustees fully informed of the conditions that prevailed and of the progress of the settlement. He entered upon his duties as Secretary on the 20th of October, 1737, and continued to perform them with diligence and fidelity till the 4th of October, 1740, when the plan of government was changed and the colony was divided into two counties, and he was appointed president of the county of Savannah. The journal which follows was the result of his three years' work as Secretary.

Only seventy copies of this journal were ever printed, and of these two, and only two, are in Georgia, one among the archives of the State in the capitol, the other in the library of the Georgia Historical Society in Savannah. It is possible, indeed probable, that none of these seventy printed copies, except the two referred to, are in existence. It is said, however, that the original manuscript volumes are still preserved in the hands of private parties in England.

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JOURNAL

OF

Colonel William Stephens

Secretary to the Board of Trustees at Savannah

SUPPLEMENT

TO

VOLUME IV

Containing All of His Journal Not Embraced in Volume IV of this Compilation

ATLANTA, GA.
THE FRANKLIN-TURNER COMPANY
PRINTERS, PUBLISHERS, BINDERS

Prefatory Note.

When Volume IV of the Colonial Records of the State of Georgia, Stephens' Journal, went to press, the compiler believed that the two manuscript volumes contained in it were all of the Journal kept by Colonel Stephens then in existence. He knew that there had been, at one time, a third manuscript volume, but supposed that it, like many other Colonial Records of Georgia, had been irretrievably lost, since it could be found neither among the archives in the State Capitol nor in the Public Records Offices in London, nor, indeed, was he at that time able to find any trace of it elsewhere.

Since his Volume IV. went to press, however, through the indefatigable effort of a loyal son of Georgia, Mr. W. J. De Renne, of Savannah, a scion of one of the most distinguished Revolutionary families of the State, and a gentleman who has perhaps done more than any other living Georgian to rescue from oblivion the early history of our State, a copy of this lost volume has been found and purchased by him at an enormous price. Through his courtesy and generosity the compiler has been permitted to make a transcript of this rare record and present it to his readers as a supplement to his fourth volume, realizing that no compilation of Colonial Records of Georgia will be complete without it.

Of this record it has been possible, after several years of diligent effort on the part of Mr. De Renne, to locate only two other copies, and it is entirely probable that no others are in existence. The Trustees had a hundred copies printed, thirty of which were distributed among themselves, when the printing-office, it is said, was destroyed by fire, and the remaining seventy perished. Hence the exceeding rarity of the book.

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THE

COLONIAL RECORDS

OF

GEORGIA

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY

OF

THE LEGISLATURE

BY

ALLEN D. CANDLER, A.M., LL.D.

VOLUME V

JOURNAL OF THE EARL OF EGMONT, FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, From June 14, 1738, to May 25, 1744.

ATLANTA, GA.
THE FRANKLIN-TURNER COMPANY
PRINTERS, PUBLISHERS, BINDERS
1008

COMPILER'S PREFATORY NOTE.

When the enterprise of establishing a colony on the southeast bank of the Savannah was inaugurated, one of the most earnest and active supporters of the movement was the Viscount Percival, afterwards Earl of Egmont. He was a scholar, a patriot and a philanthropist; and, moved by sympathy for the unfortunate debtors who crowded the jails of England, he was as earnest in securing the charter of the colony of Georgia and preparing for those unfortunates a place of refuge in the new world as Oglethorpe himself was. Indeed, as Oglethorpe in Georgia fostered and protected the little plantation, so in England the Earl of Egmont was its chief patron and guardian; and because of this fact, as well as because of his philanthropy and eminent fitness for the important trust, he was made first President of the Board of Trustees. Occupying this high official position and closely identified from the beginning with the work of planting the colony, no one was better prepared to make record of the work of the Trustees, and he voluntarily undertook it and kept it up until forced by ill health to abandon it; but not until he had recorded, as they took place, all the transactions of the Trustees for the first eleven years after the foundation of the colony. Unfortunately, however, the first volume of his Journal, covering the period of the infancy of the colony from its birth in 1732, up to the ninth of June, 1738, has been lost, and there are now in existence only the second and third volumes, embracing the period from the ninth of June, 1738, up to the twenty-fourth of May, 1744.

Through the liberality of Mr. Morgan, an American banker in England, these two volumes and the index to the lost volume, which is still in existence, were placed among the archives of the State, and the following pages are a faithful transcript of these records.

This Journal has never before been printed for the use of the public. A few years ago forty-nine copies, only, were printed by Mrs. Mary DeRenne, widow of George Wymberly-Jones DeRenne, for private use.

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!	:	;	1	•	,
	•		10 Ja. P	eston jun ^r	500.
:	የ ማ ኃ ማ	Decbt -	CCXXX	VI. 7. Will. Wood	
	*/3/	. 1260 /.	CCXXX		500.
	1727	-8 March	22 To Tames	Carteret Esq	
:	-/3/		CCXLVI		500.
:	1728	April 26			
•	1/30	11pin 20	CCLIV.	Alex. Heron	500.
:			!	ns who shall joyn ti	ha
:	\$ *		Colonies	and take up 50 ac	11C
	i			and take up 50 ac	
•	<u>.</u> .	T	CCLIV.		. 3000.
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:			\mathbf{H}	1	
Hamps	ted Vilage	e: Mr Jo	Weslev's a	cct of it in Sept.	1727
-	CCX	XVIII.	, ,		1/3/
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				ere CCLXIII.	
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: :	lor fo	r want of	health CCX	LVI. 3.	
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in the colony be vested with greater authority in order that the Trustees' directions may be obeyed, 412; they reason on an overture made them for dividing the province into two counties, etc, 415; order the Impartial Account of Georgia printed and copies thereof sent to the royal family, and members of both Houses, 416; Common Council order Col. Stephens' Journals to be printed to the number of seventy copies, and then that the press be broken, 429; appoint a committee to prepare instructions for Col. Stephens', intended to be named President of the northern county of Georgia, 429; appoint a committee to prepare a letter to John Fallowfield on account of his abetting the malcontents, 429; order the committee to consider what law books will be proper to send over for use of the magistrates, 429; order £71 to pay for linen belonging to the Saltsburgers, which Mr. Causton issued to the use of the colony without paying for same, 429; order that Mr. Cole's bill for altering sola bills plate be paid, 429; they resolve that the release of all forfeitures relating to tenure of land shall extend to Christmas, 1740, 430; proceed upon instructions for the President and Assistants, 432, 436; the Trustees' petition to parliament for money is presented and opposed, 434; same at last received, 436; they order their Secretary to prepare an account of the progress of the colony, 438; order a map of the province to be printed, 438; they move in the House for £10,000, which is debated, 443; the sum granted upon a division, and motion made that a state of the colony from the beginning be laid before the House, but the Trustees object thereto, 445, 446; Trustees proceed on the account of the Progress of the Colony to lay before the House, 448, 449, 454; they order fair copies of the Progress of the Colony be presented to the House, Secretary of State, etc., 455; order that seal put to the Account of the Progress of the Colony designed for House of Commons, etc., 456; present the House with their Account of the Progress of the Colony, 459; order a letter to Col. Stephens concerning lands they wish to purchase from the Indians, 466; resolve that a general license be granted for three years for possessors of land to make lease of any part of their land, 467; parliament, at the Trustees' request, appoint a day to consider the Progress of the Colony, 471; resolve that servants out of their time shall have fifty acres of land on certain conditions, 479; they put off the onquiry into Progress of the Colony, 480; they order that Mr. Whitfield be acquainted with the several late entargements of the peoples' tenures, 482; they resolve that £600 of money remaining unapplied for establishing the colony be appropriated to make good like sum remitted to General Oglethorpe for

various purposes, 487; resolve that Col. Stephens be directed to prosecute Mr. Hamerton for the £200 loaned him by the Trust, 488: they appoint Anne Allen to be housekeeper of their office, 489; they order copies of the Representation of the State of Carolina lately arrived and sworn in court be given to the Duke of Newcastle and to the Board of Trade, 492; they order that all regulations lately made relating to tenures be collected and printed, 493; the Trustees belied by their enemies, 493; the Common Council resolve that Col. Oglethorpe be written to. to acquaint them with his proceedings relating to the Trade Act, 494; resolve that Georgia be divided into two counties, and that the jurisdiction of each county be under a President: and Assistants, 494; they come to several resolutions concerning the President and Assistants of Savannah, 494, 496; order laws relating to the plantations to be purchased and sent to the President and Assistants of Savannah, 497; they refer papers and letters lately received to a committee of accounts and correspondence, 497; they order a letter of reproof to Mr. Hawkins for making a frivilous appeal, 498; committee puts in order the resolutions of the Common Council for appointing a President and Assistants for Savannah County, 511; the committee and Trustee board go through the new constitution, 512; sign a memorial to be paid £10,000 granted them last session of parliament, 521; they order that it be represented to the Secretary of State that Jacob Rheinberger been imprisoned in Germany, notwithstanding Majesty's pass, 522; they agree on certain heads for settling the Indian Trade with Carolina amicably, 546; they revoke Gen. Oglethorpe's sole commission for the Indian trade and appoint Col. Stephens commissioner with him, 548; they agree to lay before the Common Council the matter of directing the President and Assistants to assign good land for barren, etc., 571; also the necessity of conniving at the importation of rum. 571; they order payment of two sola bills stolen from Mr. Smith, in Charlestown, 575; refer too a special committee to consider form of petition to his Majesty to ease the Trustees from paying the quit-rents of such part of the land as is pine barren, 576; special committee prepare draft of the Trustees' petition for money, 577; they debate upon reprinting the scandalous Carolina pamphlet in England, 578; the Trustees make amendments to the petition to parliament for money, 579; they refer to Mr. Bathrust and Mr. Ayers to alter and amend the brief account of the tenures, and that five hundred copies be printed and sent to Georgia, 582; they order one thousand copies of the State of the Colony in 1740 to be printed, 582; resolve to quit the office where they now meet.

and to meet at the house of their Accomptant, 583; they order Col. Stephens to wink at the importation of rum, 583; the committee present to the Lord High Chancellor and Master of Rolls the Trustees annual account, 585; resolve not to pay Capt. Macpherson's demand for services in the Indian Nations, 590; order £200 to be laid out in England in powder, balls, etc., for presents to the Indians, 596; they determine on their petition to parliament for money, 596; amend their petition to parliament for money, 599; put the seal to the Change of Tenures, and order a printed copy thereof to be annexed to all past and future grants of land, 6D2; their petition to parliament for money presented to the House, 607; the Common Council agree to draw up a state of their case, 609; meet in St. Bride's Church on their anniversary day, 609; seal their memorial to his Majesty and send it to Lord Carteret to be presented, 611; Trustees meet to consider proper methods to inform House of the state and importance of the colony, and to consider what should be done in relation to petition presented to the king and council against them by Thos. Stephens, 613; motion made that the Trustees lay before the House account of money given by parliament last year, 614; Trustees meet to consider the authority under which Thos.' Stephens pretends to act as agent for people of Georgia, 614; agree on an answer to Thos. Stephens petition, 615; they agree that Mr. Digby should move the House this day to address the king for Thos. Stephens' petition to him in Council, and for the Trustees' answer thereto, 617; they agree that if Thos. Stephens obtained an order to be heard before the committee, that they should desire to be heard the same way, 617; motion made to call for several papers out of the Georgia office, 618; Trustees board meets to settle proceedings at the hearing this day, and agree that Thos. Stephens shall go through his evidence today, and that their counsel reply on another day, 619; they examine witnesses on their side; substance of evidence on Stephens' side, 619; counsel for Stephens proceed to examine their witnesses, 619, 620; House postpones Trustees reply, 620, 621; resolve that an act be prepared to permit the importation of rum into Georgia, 646, 647; resolve that it be recommended to the consideration of the Common Council that persons who have carried servants and settled in Georgia at their own expense should have grants of land, etc., 646; put the seal to the engrossed act for permitting rum into Georgia; also to their petition to his Majosty to release the quit-rents to the Trustees, 648, 649; order that Col. Stephens make enquiry among the people concerning the properness of admitting negroes, etc., 648; order memorial of

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Council that the President and Assistants of the northern part of the province be appointed so for the whole province, 690, 693; recommend to the Common Council that the opinion of Council be taken how far the Trustees can dispose of vacant lots, 691; resolve that German children in the service of the Trust be given up to their parents who are near out of their time, 692; resolve that certain grants of lands be confirmed, 692; resolve that a committee consider proper means to enforce guard duty, 692; resolve that the several sums owing to the Trust be immediately called in, 694; resolve that £30 be allowed for a clerk under the direction of the President and Assistants, 698; resolve that deeds and instructions be prepared for appointing the President and Assistants of the whole province agreeable to their appointments for the northern part, etc., 700; order to be sent to the President and Assistants immediately to make a true and exact register of all grants in Georgia and send copy thereof to the Trustees, 700; resolved that Col. Stephens do use the utmost dispatch in building the church at Savannah, 700; read a memorial to the treasury praying directions, 703; seal a deed for revoking deed appointing President and Assistants for County of Savnnah, 703; order copies of oaths of allegiance, supremacy and objura tion, etc., sent to Wm. Stephens, 704; read memorial to the treasury for receiving £12,000 granted last session, 707; make enquiry concerning a box supposed to have been taken by the Spaniards, 710, 711, 712, 713; order that a state be drawn up of evidence relative to Alexander Paris, 710; notified that Francis Fane had considered several acts, 710; several letters relative to a silver mine laid before, 713, 714; their action concerning said mine, 714; resolve that their anniversary be preached at St. Margarets Church instead of St. Bride's Church, 715; order that the Secretary secure information concerning the silver mine, 715; order table of fees prepared by the President and Assistants to be hung in the town court, 718; extend the jurisdiction of the President and Assistants of Savannah over Frederica, 720; acquainted that the Board of Trade objects to draft of rum act and also act for establishing tenures of land, 723.

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THE

COLONIAL RECORDS

OF THE

STATE OF GEORGIA

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY
OF 100

THE LEGISLATURE

BY

ALLEN D. CANDLER,

VOLUME VI

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FROM

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ATLANTA, GA.

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COLONIAL RECORDS

OF THE

STATE OF GEORGIA

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY

THE LEGISLATURE

BY

ALLEN D. CANDLER

VOLUME VII

PROCEEDINGS AND MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL

FROM

October 30, 1754, to March 6, 1759

ATLANTA, GA.
THE FRANKLIN-TURNER COMPANY
PRINTERS, PUBLISHERS, BINDERS
1086

PREFATORY NOTE.

The Trustees surrendered the charter in June, 1752, where-upon the Lords Justices, with the advice of the Privy Council, issued a proclamation directing all officers, both civil and military, to continue in the discharge of their respective duties until such time as the king might establish another form of government. Thus the direction of the affairs of the colony devolved for the time being on the President and Assistants.

In March, 1754, the Lords Commissioners of Trade and Plantations submitted a plan of government, which provided, among other things, for the appointment of a Governor and a Council of twelve persons with such powers and duties as were exercised by the Governors and Councils of the other British provinces in America, which were more immediately subject to the direction of the crown. This plan was approved and adopted, and on the sixth of August, 1754, Captain John Reynolds of the British navy, was appointed the first Governor of Georgia, and on the thirtieth day of October, 1754, the government of the colony was transferred from the President and Assistants to Governor Reynolds and his Council, consisting of Patrick Graham, Sir Patrick Houstoun, James Habersham, Alexander Kellet, William Clifton, Noble Jones, Pickering Robinson, Francis Harris, Jonathan Bryan and William Russell. This volume and the four following in numerical order constitute a complete journal of the proceedings of the Executive Department of the colony from the inauguration of Governor Reynolds up to the cessation of British rule in Georgia upon the final withdrawal of Governor Wright in 1783.

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STATE OF GEORGIA

COMPILED AND DEFINITE UNITE AUTHORITY

THE LEGISLATURE

1.

ALLEN D. CANDLER

Partly from State Archives and Partly from Manuscripts in the British Public Record Office, London

VOLUME IX

PROCEEDINGS AND MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL

Fre M

January 4, 1703, to December 2, 1706

ATLANTA, GA
THE FRANKLIN TURNER COMPANY
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OF

THE LEGISLATURE

BY

ALLEN D. CANDLER

VOLUME X

PROCEEDINGS AND MINUTES OF THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL

FROM

January 6, 1767, to December 5, 1769

From Manuscripts in British Public Record Office, London, Except Minutes from February 7, 1769, to July 4, 1769, which are from State Archives

ATLANTA, GA.
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JOURNAL OF THE COMMONS HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

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COMPILER'S PREFACE TO THE JOURNAL OF THE COMMONS HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Under the King's government in Georgia the legislative power was vested in three branches, the King's Governor, the King's Council, sitting as an "Upper House," and the Commons House of Assembly. The Governor could recommend to the two Houses such measures as he deemed advisable and he had the veto power, and no bill could become a law without his approval, and then it had to go to England for the King's approval.

The powers of the Council sitting as an Upper House were not clearly defined. At first the Commons House of Assembly denied to it the right to originate bills, and did not recognize the right the councilors claimed to call themselves "the Upper House of Assembly," but insisted that they were only a Council with advisory powers. But later on they recognized them as the Upper House and conceded to them the right to inaugurate measures and insist on amendments to all bills passed in the Lower House except money bills. These had to originate in the Commons House, and could not be amended in the Upper House.

The members of the Commons House of Assembly were elected by the qualified electors, and an elector to be qualified had to be not under twenty-one years old and had to own fifty acres of land in the parish in which he offered to vote; and to be qualified to sit in the Commons House of Assembly he had to own five hundred

4

acres anywhere in the province. The members of the Commons House of Assembly chose their own Speaker, but their choice could be, and sometimes was, negatived by the Governor, when they had to elect another. The members were elected for no definite period, but continued until the Governor thought proper to dissolve them; and they could adjourn themselves only from one day to the next, but adjournments for a longer period had to be made by the Governor.

"Their proceedings were conformed to the Commons in Great Britain, and they chose their own Messenger and Doorkeeper, but the Governor appointed the Clerk." The members served without pecuniary compensation.

This and the two following volumes contain all the Journals of the Commons House of Assembly now in existence from the first meeting of the first royal legislature on the 7th of January, 1755, to the final adjournment of the last on the 16th of June, 1782. These Journals are full and complete up to Habersham's legislature in April, 1772. The Journal of this legislature seems to be imperfect and sometimes conflicting. During the turbulent times which followed there was but little effort at legislation. There was no harmony between the legislative and executive departments, the representatives of the people not being in accord with the Governor. The Journals for this entire period are meager and imperfect. From March, 1776, to May, 1780, there was no session of the legislature, and for nearly three years of this time there was no semblance of royal government in the province. In July, 1779, six months after the British forces captured and occupied Savannah, Governor Wright returned and resumed the duties of his office, and in the following May issued writs for the election of a new legislature, but no constitutional quorum for the transaction of business appeared. It required eighteen members to make a quorum, when at no time more than fifteen appeared. The Governor sought in the emergency the advice of the Chief Justice and Attorney General, and was advised by them that under existing circumstances laws passed by this legislature would be valid, and it therefore organized as a legislature and passed a few laws, the most important of which was the disqualifying act of 1782, published elsewhere in this compilation, but only the most meager and fragmentary Journals of the proceedings of this legislature can now be found, either here or in London. The first we have is that of May 9, 1780, and the last June 16, 1782, about three weeks before the British evacuated the State. These Journals are so fragmentary and disconnected that they afford no intelligible account of what was done or attempted, but such as they are, we have included in this compilation.

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JOURNAL OF THE UPPER HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

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PREFACE TO THE JOURNAL OF THE UPPER HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

The Upper House of Assembly was the King's Council sitting as a branch of the Legislature. It was composed of fourteen persons, all appointed by the King to serve during his pleasure; twelve Councilors in ordinary and two extraordinary, the Surveyor General of Customs and the General Commissioner of Indian Affairs. As a Council they sat with the Governor to advise him in the discharge of the executive duties, and he performed all important acts "by the advice of his Majesty's Council." When sitting as an Executive Council the Governor presided. As a legislative body it was presided over by the senior member of the body, who was styled the President of the Council. It, for a long time, seldom originated bills, but confined its work to amending and perfecting such as were sent up to it by the Commons House of Assembly. But during the last few years of British rule it originated some bills which were passed by the Commons House, but appropriation and tax bills had to originate in the Commons House, and had to pass as the Commons House had passed them, for the Upper House was not permitted to amend them.

Indeed, the Assemblymen, all of whom were elected by the people, who were qualified to vote were always jealous of the Council and disputed their right to call themselves "the Upper House of Assembly" until a few years prior

PREFACE.

to the subversion of the King's government in the province, when they seem to have recognized their right to the title.

This and the following volume contain all the Journals of the body now in existence. Up to the beginning of the disturbances that culminated in the War of the Revolution they are full and complete. From that time forward they are meager, imperfect and fragmentary. From the subversion of the King's government in the early part of 1776, to its restoration in 1779, there are, of course, no Journals, for there was no royal government in the province. After the return of Governor Wright he called a Legislature, which met in May, 1780, and continued until June. 1782. This Legislature was an unconstitutional body, for never at any time was there present a lawful quorum of the Commons House of Assembly. Still, the Governor recognized it, from necessity, as a Legislature, and feeble efforts at legislation were made, but very little was accomplished.

While we have imperfect Journals of the proceedings of the Lower House of this Legislature, we have been unable to find even a vestige of a Journal of the Upper House, either here or in England.

GEORGIA

Copy of the Journal

OF THE

COUNCIL IN ASSEMBLY

OF

His Majesty's Province of Georgia

from the 7th Day of January 1755, to the 21st Day of February following both Days inclusive.

Rec⁴ with Goy^r Reynolds's Letter dated y^e 28th Feb^r 1755.

Rec^d May y⁶.....1755.

BROWN UNIVERSITY PROVIDENCE, R.I.

THE COLONIAL RECORDS

OF THE

STATE OF GEORGIA.

VOLUME XVII

JOURNAL OF THE UPPER HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

January 17, 1763, to March 12, 1774, Inclusive

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY

OF

THE LEGISLATURE

BY

ALLEN D. CANDLER

ATLANTA, GA.
THE FRANKLIN-TURNER COMPANY
PRINTERS, PUBLISHERS, BINDERS
1908

BROWN UNIVERSITY PROVIDENCE, R.I.

THE COLONIAL RECORDS

OF THE

STATE OF GEORGIA

VOLUME XVIII.

STATUTES ENACTED BY THE ROYAL LEGISLATURE OF GEORGIA FROM ITS FIRST SESSION IN 1754 TO 1768.

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY

THE LEGISLATURE

BY

ALLEN D. CANDLER, A. M., LL. D.

ATLANTA, GA.
CHAS. P. BYRD, State Printer,
1910.

28 Nov. 1911 94573

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PREFATORY NOTE

At the suggestion of some of the most learned lawyers in Georgia and most careful students of Georgia jurisprudence, we are including in this and the following volume literal transcripts of the acts of the royal legislature of the province from the incumbency of Captain John Reynolds, the first royal governor, up to the final withdrawal of royal government in 1782. Of these old statutes many have never been in print at all, and those that have ever been have for many years been entirely obsolete and do not appear in any of the compilations, digests, or the Codes of Georgia laws. They will be found to be of much interest, not to the mere case lawyer, but to those members of the bar who study law as a science and endeavor to ascertain the cause and reason for the enactment of each statute by the legislature; for instance, at the establishment of royal government in the province, scarcely anything was done without express authority of the legislature. The qualified voters elected members of the legislature, and the legislature elected all other civil officers from the Governor down. In addition to that no toll bridge, ferry, turn-pike, nor any other similar enterprise could be undertaken by private companies without specific authority from the legislature. The rates of toll were always fixed by the legislature in the charters granted to such enterprises, and all the rights, privileges and immunities enjoyed by such companies were prescribed in their charters. These legislative enactments regulating such companies are the foundation, the mud-sills, of all our corporation laws of today. As is well known to every lawyer, about half the civil business transacted in our courts at this time is connected with or grows out of corporations, banks, railroads, insurance companies, etc., and hence the study of these old corporation laws, enacted by the royal legislature before Georgia was a State, is not only interesting but profitable to the practitioner who desires to fully qualify himself to deal in our courts with questions in which the rights of the people on the one hand and the rights of corporations on the other are involved.

Many of these old statutes have been sought for and found in the archives rooms of our capitol, and those not found there were secured from the British Public Record Offices in London, where, up to this day, every paper relating to the colony of Georgia while she was a British province, has been carefully preserved.

The Commons House of Assembly, which enacted these statutes, was elected by the qualified voters of the province. The Upper House was composed of counselors appointed by the crown. This House was made to conform as nearly as possible to the British House of Lords. No bill could originate in the Upper House. They had power, after the Lower House had inaugurated measures, to review them and suggest such amendments as in their judgment would improve the proposed laws, but they could not amend a bill at all. All they could do was to suggest. Thus the two Houses of the Legislature were constituted, and when a bill had met the approval of both Houses it was transmitted to the Governor, who represented the King, for his approval or disapproval. If he approved the measure, it was put into effect at once; if he vetoed it, that was the end of it; but even after the Governor had approved a bill and it had been put into effect, it was sent to London to be passed upon by the King and his Council there. If approved by the King and Council, it stood as a permanent law. There was no prescribed time in which it should be approved or disapproved by the King. Sometimes a bill was allowed to remain operative in the province for two or three years, and then it was taken up by the King and Council and vetoed, when it became inoperative.

We have exhausted every means to make this compilation perfect, but it is possible, and indeed probable, that some Acts may have been lost, but none of very great importance. At all events, the compilation is believed to be as complete as it is possible to make it after the lapse of so many years.

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THE COLONIAL RECORDS

OF THE.

STATE OF GEORGIA

VOLUME XIX.
PART L

STATUTES, COLONIAL AND REVOLUTIONARY, 1768. TO 1773.

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY

THE LEGISLATURE

BY

ALLEN D. CANDLER, A. M., LL. D.

ATLANTA, GA.
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1911.

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THE COLONIAL RECORDS

OF THE

STATE OF GEORGIA

VOLUME XIX.
PART II.

STATUTES, COLONIAL AND REVOLUTIONARY 1774 TO 1805.

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BY

ALLEN D. CANDLER, A. M., LL. D.

VOLUME 21.

ORIGINAL PAPERS

CORRESPONDENCE, TRUSTEES, GENERAL OGLETHORPE AND OTHERS.

1735-1737.

ATLANTA, GA.
CHAS. P. BYRD, State Printer,
1910.

THE FOLLOWING TITLE WAS
MICROFILMED FROM THE HOLDINGS OF
BROWN UNIVERSITY

PREFACE.

On October 26, 1910, Ex-Governor Allen D. Candler passed to his reward at the ripe age of seventy-six years. The end came peacefully to the aged public servant at his home in Atlanta, Ga., surrounded by the sorrowing members of his bereaved household. The extent of his labors as Compiler of State Records was vast. He left at his death, in manuscript, some twenty-four volumes, in addition to thirty volumes already compiled and published, covering the Colonial, Revolutionary and Confederate periods.

To the memory of Governor Candler, Georgia owes a profound debt of gratitude. Time will not diminish this obligation; for as the years go by the measure of service which he rendered Georgia as her first Compiler of Records will grow in popular recognition. He filled this office from 1902 to 1910—a period of eight years, but the area of his researches covered the better

part of two centuries.

57.1

Except for certain records in the Spanish Archives at Seville, pertaining to the Colony of Georgia and dealing with the Spanish Wars, little remains to be done in the Colonial period beyond supplying an index for the first three volumes of the series. To the Revolutionary period it is only necessary to add a Roster, together with such additional data as may be obtained under a Democratic administration from the War Department in Washington, D. C. The Confederate Records, though still incomplete, are well advanced.

To Miss L. T. Henderson, Governor Candler's faithful assistant in office, the appreciative thanks of the State are due for her painstaking and efficient work in editing his unfinished manuscripts. These only need to be indexed with care by one familiar with Georgia's history, so that in each instance the key-word may be supplied; and for the convenience of students making historical investigations, it is also important to extend the work by making marginal annotations. As rapidly as the funds will permit, the manuscript volumes will be put into print.

These great periods-the Colonial, the Revolutionary, and

the Confederate—Governor Candler has made, in a peculiar sense, his own; and whatever the task of the future Compiler in shaping Georgia's history for other periods may be, these belong to him and to him they will be accredited while the archives of our State endure. With the Compiler's pen in his hand—unwearied to the last—Governor Candler fell asleep

"His twelve long hours
Bright to the edge of darkness. Then
The calm repose of twilight and the crown
Of stars."

Succeeding Governor Candler in office, came Ex-Governor William J. Northen, than whom Georgia never bore a more devoted son. Stainless in every act of his life, he was a model public servant, a man without fear and without reproach. But ill-health, incident to advanced years, prevented this noble old Roman from realizing the full measure of his ambition in the office of Compiler; and to the infirmities of age there were added certain political embarrassments. But the manuscript of the present volume-number twenty-two-shows that Governor Northen carefully scrutinized every paragraph, while his familiar hand-writing appears throughout the manuscript in frequent notes and captions. When too feeble to write, he supervised with the utmost care the work of his stenographer; and the last sentences which he ever framed for these records were dictated with great physical pain from his death-bed. He passed away at the age of seventy-eight years, on March 24th, 1913, just as the opening chapters of the present volume were going to press. Georgia will ever cherish the memory of this pure patriot and hold in affectionate remembrance his manifold virtues.

In succeeding by executive appointment to an office filled by these choice spirits and adorned by these splendid names, the present Compiler enters upon his task with serious misgivings. The standard set by his predecessors is high. But he takes up the unfinished work of these men with the conscientiousness that whatever he may lack of wisdom to make him worthy of such an honor, he can at least count upon love to keep him loyal. The office of England's poet-laureate was not more reverently assumed by Tennyson when he became in 1851 the Court Singer

of the Victorian Age; and if I may paraphrase the laureate's lines, addressed to the Queen, it will be to make them read—

"Georgia—since your royal grace
To one of less desert allows
This laurel greener from the brows
Of men who uttered nothing base—

Take, Madam, this poor book of mine,
For though the faults were thick as dust
In vacant chambers, I could trust
Your kindness."

LUCIAN LAMAR KNIGHT.

ATLANTA, GA., July 1, 1913.

Ceremonies at the Unveiling of a Monument to Ex-Governor Allen D. Candler in Alta Vista Cemetery, at Gainesville, Ga., on June 3, 1913 by Members of his Official Household

On June 3, 1913, the grave of Ex-Governor Allen D. Candler, in Alta Vista Cemetery, at Gainesville, Ga., was most impressively marked by a handsome shaft of marble, the funds for which were contributed by the members of Governor Candler's official household. These included the various appointees commissioned by the lamented former chief magistrate during his term of office as Governor. The Candler lot is in the center of the burial ground, an area some twenty-five acres in extent, perhaps a mile distant from the court house. It crowns one of the loftiest hills near Gainesville, and justifies the classic name "Alta Vista" by giving the visitor a glimpse of shadowy mountain ranges in the distance. Near the Governor, in the same Yamily square, sleeps his distinguished father, Capt. Daniel G. Candler, a former Mayor of Gainesville; while, in the immediate neighborhood, repose Gen. James Longstreet, Dr. Richard Banks, Gov. James Milton Smith and a host of noted Georgians. At the unveiling exercises there were a number of visitors present from various parts of Georgia, besides a multitude of Gov. Candler's admiring fellow citizens of Gainesville, who were there with moistened eye-lids to tell of the love in which they held the illustrious Georgian. Overhead a blue sky beamed upon the vast concourse of people gathered at the grave of Governor Candler. The following brief resume is condensed from a report of the unveiling exercises which appeared in the Gainesville Herald, of June 5, 1913, a paper edited by Mr. Guy Clopton. Says this account:

PROGRAM IN DETAIL.

"The officials of the city of Gainesville, the Candler Horse Guards, the Daughters of the Confederacy, the old soldiers of the county, and hosts of friends assembled on the public square

at 9:30 o'clock and then the Candler Horse Guards, mounted, followed by a train of automobiles left for the Southern depot to meet the distinguished guests who came up from Atlanta and other points to take part in and to witness the ceremonies.

"In the same order the guests were brought to the public square and a line was at once formed for the march to Alta

Vista, where the unveiling took place.

"When the hour arrived for the unveiling to take place, Col. S. C. Dunlap introduced Hon. J. W. Lindsey, marshal of the day, who after a short speech called on Presiding Elder Rev. Luke G. Johnson to ask God's blessing upon what was about to take place. Mr. Johnson offered a touching and beautiful prayer befitting the occasion. Mr. Lindsey then introduced Judge Hamilton McWhorter, of Athens, who presented the monument to the family, the city and the State. Judge John S. Candler was then introduced and accepted it in behalf of the family. Mayor P. E. B. Robertson was then introduced and accepted it in behalf of the city. Hon. Lucian L. Knight, representing the Governor of Georgia, who was necessarily absent, was then presented to the audience, and accepted it in behalf of the State.

"Upon leaving the cemetery the guests were carried to the Princeton hotel where they took lunch as guests of the City of Gainesville. After lunch the visitors were treated to an automobile trip through the principal streets of the city, and to Brenau College and Riverside Military Academy, ending at the Southern depot. They left for their respective homes on an afternoon train.

Inscription on the Monument.

The inscription on the monument follows:

"Placed to the memory of Allen Daniel Candler by his appointees to office and places of honor while Governor of Georgia."

Nov. 4, 1834. Oct. 26, 1916.

A Graduate of Mercer University in the Class of 1859. A Soldier and Colonel in Army Confederate States, 1861-1865. A Member of the House of Representatives of Georgia, 1873-1878.

Introduction

Senator, 1878-1880.

Member of the Congress of the United States, 1883-1891.

Secretary of State, 1894-1898.

Governor of Georgia, 1898-1902.

Compiler of State Records, 1902-1910.

"He was an upright man, a patriotic citizen, a true soldier, and a faithful public servant, who in peace and in war, exemplified the virtues of incorruptible integrity, fearless courage, and unselfish devotion to the welfare of his country."

JUDGE HAMILTON MCWHORTER'S ADDRESS OF PRESENTATION.

In presenting the monument to the family, the city of Gainesville and the State of Georgia, Judge McWhorter made the following address:

"Ladies and Gentlemen:

"This is a notable occasion. For the first time in the history of the State an official family assembles to pay this tribute to their official chief—who dedicated his life and his talents to his State and his country.

"This tribute was not evoked merely because we were members of his official family, but because we were thereby introduced into that more intimate and confidential relationship from which we could better understand and appreciate the genuineness of his nature, the sincerity of his heart, the soundness of his principles, and those other virtues of head and heart which evoke admiration, esteem, confidence and love.

"This memorial is a tribute by those who knew him best, and, therefore, by those who loved him most.

"It is the voluntary memorial of those who sat around his official fireside—who caught and treasured the words of his wisdom—who were inspired by his friendship and affection—who were cheered by his sympathy and counsel—who were cautioned by his admonition and sustained by his love—who basked in the sunshine of his great heart and nature, and who, in their tears, followed him here, to his last resting place, and, in their love and devotion, would erect this simple shaft to his enduring memory.

"His friends throughout this great commonwealth, if occasion had authorized it, would have lovingly joined in this memorial and if all of them had been permitted to co-operate in this tribute of affection, this simple shaft would have been metamorphosed in height and breadth and elaboration into a mighty and imposing monument, but we preferred this simple tribute—this token of love and affection from his official family and we feel that his loving and guiding spirit, which hovers around and about us today, reflecting the golden heart of his honest, but rugged nature, appreciates this simple token set in love, rather than statues of bronze and columns of marble raised high, in pomp and parade.

"Allen Daniel Candler literally dedicated himself to his country. He died in the seventy-sixth year of his age and for thirty-five years was the trusted and devoted servant of the State he loved.

"As a member of the House of Representatives, Senator, Congressman, Soldier, Secretary of State, Governor and Compiler of Colonial Records, his life is so interwoven into the warp and woof of the State that its history cannot be written without recording his contribution to it.

"A Georgian by birth, he loved his State as his mother, and in the rare ruggedness and honesty of his nature, when promoting her interest, he not only expressed his own convictions with absolute and open frankness, but whenever the occasion required he did not hesitate to stimulate the timid or combat the derelict whenever her welfare or honor was in issue.

"He loved and was true to his friends.

"He lived and basked in the sunshine of their presence.

"He was companionable to a degree and shed light and happiness along the pathway of life.

"He was of rugged but gentle nature, optimistic in vision, diplomatic in conception and advice, comprehensive in thought, wise in counsel, but positive and robust in action.

"He was a constructionist by nature and not a pessimist—he sought to build and not to destroy. §

"He preferred to give rather than to receive, and he gave freely his time and talents to the construction and development of his section without the sordid care of self, and, therefore, his personal pecuniary returns were not always commensurate with his works, but he was compensated in the patriotism of his purpose, the completion of his plans and the resulting development, growth and prosperity of his section and country.

"He sowed that others might reap, but in the generousness of his nature he was content to be without reward save in the development and fulfillment of his conceptions and his enterprise.

"He did not love money, but preferred man to Mammon.

"He was enamored of the prosperity, growth and progress of his City, his County, his State and his Country, and relatively was careless and unmindful of his own pecuniary interest.

"He builded for progress and not for selfish exploitation.

Rugged by nature and of simple economy, mere money and wealth held no attraction for him, nor did luxury or ease appeal to him. He was moved by a profound sense of duty, and, while diplomatic in dealing with non-essentials, he was inflexible even to bluntness in the defense of essential principles.

"He belonged, by birth, nature and tradition, to the old school of statesmen who believed in the Constitution of the fathers with

a simple but profound and enduring faith.

"As a Representative he legislated for all the people, and as an executive he believed in economy, probity in official life and the preservation of every just right guaranteed by the Constitution, with its motto of 'Justice, Wisdom and Moderation.'

"As an official he was ever patient, almost to the limit of indulgence, and never irritable, sensitive or hypercritical and no overbearing conduct marked or marred his official life. He loved and trusted those officially associated with him and they loved and honored him.

"In reflecting upon his life and character we are reminded of the Roman proverb:

"'He whom the gods love dies young.'

"However old in years they may live, even beyond three score and ten, they are still young in nature, in heart and in spirit.

"The touch of the gods, by the Roman proverb, imparts a crown of glory which dissipates the chill of age, preserves youth, lubricates the wear of time, rejuvenates the nature and spirit from the blight of growing old, and, like the Gulf Stream, warms the winters of the passing years.

"This halo of glory rested upon him.

"He died young, not in years, but in nature and heart and spirit.

"He was young in hope, young in sympathy and young in the warmth of his affection and love for his fellow man.

"He was not a churchman, but in his life and character, in its final essence, he stood for the faith of all Christian creeds—a profound reverence for his Creator, an abiding faith in His revealed Word, a complete reliance on the Blood of the Cross and an unbounded and unselfish love and kindness for his fellow man, and when the end came, we are taught that his spirit, like Abou Ben Adhem's, who also loved his fellow man, was wafted by the angels of peace and love into the bright and beautiful beyond, where 'Behold, his name led all the rest.'

"His life was gentle; '

"And the elements so mixed in him, that Nature might stand up and say to all the world, 'This is a man.'

"All hail to Allen Danie! Candler as a man, citizen, husband, father, soldier, statesman and patriot, whose memorial we now present to his City and to his State.

At the conclusion of Judge McWhorter's address, Miss Annie Candler, youngest daughter of the late Governor, released the veil.

Speech of Judge John S. Candler Accepting the Monument on Behalf of the Family of Governor Candler.

Judge John S. Candler, a kinsman of the lamented Governor, was next presented to the audience. In a voice tender with emotion, showing the full heart out of which he spoke, Judge Candler said:

"Col. Lindsey, Judge McWhorter, Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends and Associates of Governor Candler:

"At the request of his immediate family, and as the youngest member of the generation of the Candler family, of which Governor Candler was the oldest, it is my great honor and pleasure to accept for the family this tender tribute of your love and friendship, erected on this spot, to mark his last resting place, and to preserve for posterity the opinion which you hold of his virtues, and the achievements of his life.

"This is a rare occasion, one not soon to be forgotten, and the like of which has not, within my memory, been seen in Georgia.

The sentiment involved in this act of yours is as pure and sweet as the air from those blue mountains, at whose feet he now sleeps, and upon whose bosom he first drew the breath of life. He was born at an epochal time in this State, and reached manhood while his State was in the midst of the greatest crisis through which it has ever passed.

"In what is now Lumpkin County, in the year 1834, he was born. He was given the name honored by his father, his grandfather, and his great grandfather, and at the hour of his death the name was as unsullied as it was when first bestowed upon his great grandfather at Callan, in Kilkenny, Ireland. Our generation and our branch of the family owe much to the immediate generation preceding us. Our grandfather, Daniel Candler, died in Columbia County, Georgia, in the year 1816. at the early age of thirty four, leaving five sons, the oldest of whom was but twelve years of age, the youngest less than two. The two oldest sons, William and John, in early manhood, married Georgia girls, and removed from Georgia, the one to Arkansas, the other to Louisiana. The three younger, Samuel. Daniel and Ezekjel, remained in Georgia. From the lower Counties of Richmond and Columbia, they soon found their way to the hills and mountains of the northern portion of the State. Samuel, my father, married in Cherokee County, the daughter of Noble Beall. Daniel, the father of the Governor, married Miss Mathews, of the family of Governor Mathews. Ezekiel married in Coweta County, Miss Williams, of that large family which has done so much for Western Georgia. Each of these brothers did loyal service for the State, as militia officers in the Indian border warfare, that marked the first thirty years of the nineteenth century, while still in their teens and early manhood, and in their old age, they proved their love and loyalty in support of the tenets of their State, under the Stars and Bars in the War between the States. They taught their boys to honor their names, by teaching them the binding strength and power of love of family, love of home, love of State, and love of Country. By their example, we were shown that in honest, faithful labor, in whatever walk of life was entered, was to be found the only royal road to success, and that with honor, truth and loyalty as our watchwords, we would always have the love, confidence and respect of our fellowmen.

"Governor Candler lived up to all his family traditions and

training. He loved his family with a tenderness that none could know, who had not the privilege of seeing it under the roof that sheltered it. His gallant, tender, touching affection for the wife of his bosom was as sweet and beautiful at the hour of his departure as it was on his bridal morn. His loving solicitude for the children of his loins was like unto Jesse for David and of Jacob for Joseph and Benjamin. As he loved his wife, with ardor and strength, prized her purity and guarded her honor with jealous care, so loved he his State and Country, and ever held his life devoted to the same high service. As he was at all times solicitous of the welfare of his children, so was he watchful of the interests of his State. He loved and trusted his friends, and today you each and all bear witness to the fact that no man whom he knew to be his friend, was ever by him forgotten, when favors were to be bestowed or honors conferred, and with him, his friends were always right. If they had faults he was too full of their virtues to perceive their errors, and if at any time one openly went wrong, he looked the other way and left it to some one else to chide them.

"In his veins, coursed the blood of the Puritan and the Cavalier. On Naseby's Field, the hand of the Puritan, William Candler, along side Oliver Cromwell, sought the life of the Cavalier Phillip Slaughter, in hercest struggle, but at Guildford Court House, Eutaw, the Cow Pens, and finally at Yorktown, the lineal descendant of that same Candler, who fought with Cromwell against royalty joined hand with Samuel Slaughter, a lineal descendant of the Cavalier Phillip and fought side by side against the oppressing Mother Country for that new-born freedom and higher glory never dreamed of by their ancestors.

"Georgia in her early days did well to invite the Puritan from New England, the Scotch Highlander from Maryland and North Carolina, and the Cavalier from Virginia, to occupy her lands and make their homes on her rich plains and amid her lofty hills. On her soil, the sons and daughters of these early settlers have mingled their blood, and given us a people that in purity of purpose, lofty ideals and high character, have illustrated the greatness and grandeur of their early ancestry. Of such blood was he, whose memory you honor today, and of such are each and all of you. This day will bear fruit for, good, and wherever the story of the friendship of Damon and Pythias is remembered,

XII

Introduction

the love of David for Jonathan is read, this loving act of yours will be told, and Georgia friendship will be honored and extolled.

"Amid the noise and bustle of your Capitol City, on a beautiful morning in October, 1910, he fell asleep. We took him up and brought him back to the foot of these hills, which he loved so well, that here, under the shade of the oaks, where in youth he played, he might sleep well. God rest him, and God bless you, his friends, whom he loved so well."

REMARKS OF MAYOR ROBERTSON ACCEPTING THE MONUMENT FOR THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE.

The following were the well-chosen words employed by Mayor P. E. B. Robertson in accepting the Candler monument on behalf of the city of Gainesville, said he:

"It is not for me on this occasion, surrounded by a people who are familiar with almost every event of his life, to speak at length upon the career and character of Mr. Candler.

"We share with the South the glory achieved by his valor on the field of battle.

"We divide with the nation his magnificent service as a member of congress.

"Of his wise administration of the affairs of state we take our part, but as a favorite citizen, one who in his early life stood foremost in the upbuilding of our city and the development of this favored section, as a neighbor and fireside friend he was our own.

"As a statesman, loyal to his convictions and who never betrayed a trust, we honored him. But as a sympathetic friend and ever ready counsellor and helper, we loved him.

"With grateful acknowledgements of the thought and sentiment that erected this monument, and with the highest appreciation of the man it commemorates, we accept it.

"We promise you to keep, protect and preserve it."

Speech of Hon. Lucian Lamar Knight Accepting the Monument for the State of Georgia.

In receiving the monument on behalf of the great State of Georgia, as a representative of the Governor, and as a successor

to the deceased in the office of Compiler of Records, Hon. Lucian L. Knight made the following address. Said he:
"Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

"On behalf of the great State of Georgia whose interest in this hour is paramount, I am here by commision of the Governor to speak for three millions of people, in whose minds today there is but a single thought and whose hearts in homage to this gentle Georgian beat as one. Sir, no ordinary patriot slumbers here. Since Oglethorpe stood on Savannah's bluff and swept the primeval solitudes of an infant Colony, there has not appeared upon the scene in Georgia one who loved the State with more unselfish love or who served the Commonwealth with a purer ardor of devotion. He wooed the historic muse of Georgia like a lover and he placed upon her brow a wreath which no autumn sun will ever wither.

"With Allen D. Candler patriotism was a passion. He loved Georgia with every pulse-beat of his great heart. There was not a foot of her soul, from the sea to the cedars, which he did not cherish as his own native heath, and there was not a page of her history that his own unwearied pen did not help to brighten. He bore a name illustrious in Georgia from the Revolution, and the ties of a glorious ancestry bound him to the old mother-land. His friends and his foes alike were Georgia's. He knew no comrade in the ranks who could not pronounce the shibboleths of his faith and in the lexicon of his allegiance to principle there was no such word as surrender. He led these men of the hills in a hundred fights for Democracy, but he never sounded a truce, he never ordered a retreat, and never once, while he held it, did the old flag of his party droop in dishonor on the field. No tainted shilling ever rested in the palm of his hand and no dictate of selfinterest ever swerved him by a hair's breadth from the path of right. Great and true man, honor was his shield; his golden motto: duty without fear.

"One of the most beautiful pictures, Mr. Chairman, in the annals of our state, is the picture of Allen D. Candler in his old age, devoting himself with the enthusiasm of a youth to the task of compiling the immortal records of Georgia. There he sits in a committee room at the State Capitol, bent with the weight of three-score years and ten. His strength is well-nigh spent. He is almost at the end of his long journey. But he seems to wax young again at his work and to catch from the glow of

· Georgia's historic dawn some of the lost sun-beams of his own morning skies. Instead of enjoying a leisure which he has well earned in the service of the State, he is toiling away over musty files, often-times far into the night. It is no easy task upon which this veteran is intent. To use a familiar term, it is drudgery; but the sacredness of the task to him gives it a divine charm—the alchemy of his touch makes it golden; and, whatever some may say, he is giving the State a service for which coming generations will call him blessed. He is reclaiming, from the dark sea-caverns of forgotten yesterdays, many a radiant gem to sparkle in the crown of Georgia's history. He is deepening, on the hill sides and in the valleys, many a faded epitaph for Georgia's scroll of fame. He is doing with his pen for Georgia what Old Mortality with his chisel did for Scotland. Patiently, with an infinite regard for detail, he is sifting and sorting the records from which the future glorious history of his State is to be written. Page upon page, volume after volume, grows the splendid pile. But the pen at last falls from the nerveless grasp of the old man's hand, his evelids droop, his lips close, and Allen D. Candler is, at rest forever.

"It matters not in what aspect of his character or at what stage of his career we are pleased to consider him, he is always the same high-minded patriot, the same true man among men. On the floors of Congress, in the office of Secretary of State, in the exalted chair of Governor, and in the arduous role which was last assigned him of compiling the State Records of Georgia, he was steadfastly true to every trust. Like an old knight of the tournament, he passed away in his armor of combat, with many a brave indentation on the battered shield, and with many a wreath of laurel on his wrinkled brow. He rendered the State no knightlier service than the one in which he was last engaged and no finer chivalry than his at 76 ever found an echo in the Arthurian legends. As Compiler of the State Records of Georgia, he literally immolated himself upon the altar of his State; and to him belongs the crown of life, for he was faithful even unto death.

"Sufficient time has not elapsed for the historian's final word concerning Governor Candler's work. The warmth of feeling with which we must approach him in melting to the ice of cold analysis. But this much is true: he was the stalwart champion of the plain people of Georgia. He was the yeoman's fast friend;

and by every tie of kinship he was knit to the sturdy men of the mountains. If his speech was blunt, it was honest. He dealt in no innuendoes. His foes always knew where to find him. In public speaking and in private discourse he called a spade a spade. He thought for himself. He wore no man's collar and he felt no party's lash. Sincerity mirrored itself in every action and in every utterance of his life. He scorned hypocricy and sham and cant with the lofty scorn of the noble Cato. Whether spoken or written, the ring of the pure gold was in his words. They always rang true to truth; and they gushed from his soul like the limpid crystal of his mountain streams. In his compassions he was as tender as a woman. In his charities he was as broad as a planet. In his convictions of right and wrong he was as fixed as a star in the firmament. Easy of access, by nature jovial, fond of boon companions, full of genial mirth, he was vine and flower in the sunshine, but he towered like Mt. Yonah in the storm. Fighting for Georgia in the Civil War, he partially lost his sight, an infirmity which caused him in one of his heated campaigns upon the hustings to be dubbed "The one-eyed plow-boy of Pigeon Roost." But never was an epithet more happily bestowed. It swept him from triumph to triumph. In the race for Governor, it wrote victory upon his banners; and on every page of Georgia's history which records the public acts of Allen D. Candler it is written that he labored with an eye single to the welfare of his people.

"Within the sound of my voice, in this beautiful citadel of the dead, there lies moldering in the dust more than one favorite son of this proud old State. Over there sleeps Longstreet, the beloved "Old War Horse of Lee." Not far away lies Milton Smith, an honored Governor, above whose couch no marble minstrel sings. In one of the earliest graves to be made in this sacred area sleeps a pioneer doctor of the old school whose name is memorialized in the great county of Banks. Here, too, are Estes and Sanders. But the soil of Alta Vista cemetery holds no keepsake sweeter than the dust which here lies waiting for the eternal dawn to wake it; and underneath the violets of his native land he will slumber sweetly on till the morning breaks upon yonder mountains. Georgia accepts this monument which loyal and loving hands have reared. She will ever guard it with her tenderest care; and hither, in an age of commerce, she will

send her pilgrims to do honor to an old patriot for whom an eagle never glistened. In many an anxious hour of the future there will beam upon this tomb a star and there will come from out this sepulchre a message which will fire the hearts and nerve the sinews of men. But the most enduring monument to Allen D. Candler is built in the archives of Georgia. There his epitaph is written for the ages to come. No foe to Georgia's honor will ever scale her walls so long as the spirit of Allen D. Candler shall walk her ramparts nor will an unrighteous law ever stain her statute books so long as the memory of this just man shall sweeten the pillars of her capitol."

MOVEMENT TO CREATE A NEW COUNTY IN GOVERNOR CANDLER'S HONOR.

From the files of the "Atlanta Constitution" for June 2, 1913, the following editorial paragraph is taken:

"The dedication of the monument to the late Allen D. Candler. at Gainesville, next Tuesday, June 3, calls to mind the fact that Georgia, as a rule, has done little to honor the memory of her deceased chief executive. Occasionally there is a monument erected to a deceased governor and now and then a new county is named in honor of one of them, but history indicates that such is the exception rather than the rule. While those who were in the State service with Governor Candler and as a result of his appointment are erecting in his honor this simple shaft at his former home, other friends have chosen his name for the new county which it is proposed to establish with Metter as the county seat and to be formed from portions of Bulloch, Emanuel and Tattnall. Although, in common with every successful politician, he had his enemies, this double honor is indicative of the esteem in which Governor Candler was held. It is interesting, too, that the name Candler should have been selected for a new county in the Southern section of the State, whereas Governor Candler's home was in North Georgia. There is every indication that the people of Metter and the surrounding territory will succeed in establishing the justice of their claim to a new county before the coming legislature and that Candler County will thus become a new and important political subdivision of the State. In the creation of new counties within the last ten years only two have been named in honor of Governors of Georgia: Stephens and Jenkins.

THE COLONIAL RECORDS

OF THE

STATE OF GEORGIA

COMPILED UNDER AUTHORITY

OF

THE LEGISLATURE

BY

ALLEN D. CANDLER, A. M., LL. D

EDITED IN PART BY

WM. J. NORTHEN, __ D. Compiler of Records

REVISED AND PUBLISHED BY

LUCIAN LAMAR KNIGHT, M. A.

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THE

Revolutionary Records

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STATE OF GEORGIA

VOLUME I

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS,
MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS,
COUNCIL OF SAFETY,
PROVINCIAL CONGRESS,
CONSTITUTION OF 1777,
CONFISCATION AND BANISHMENT,
SALES OF CONFISCATED ESTATES,
1769 to 1782.

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY

OF

THE LEGISLATURE

ALLEN D. CANDLER

ATLANTA, GA,
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1908

PREFATORY NOTE.

The following compilation contains all authentic records and documents relating to the Revolutionary period of Georgia history that the compiler has been able to find after a most careful, thorough and liligent search. While it is not presented as a complete compilation, it is believed that it contains most of the official records made during the period of which it treats, certainly all that are now in existence, and to supply the place of riginal papers not now in existence, well authenticated copies and extracts from contemporaneous publications have been utilized.

That many official records of this important period. once in existence, have been irretrievably lost, cannot be doubted, because our early historians have made copious extracts from many that cannot now be found. Among the most valuable records known to have been lost and. consequently, not now available for this compilation, are the Minutes of the Executive Office up to the fourteenth of January, 1778, the Journal of the proceedings of the Constitutional Convention of 177/27, not a vestige of which, nor even a list of the names of the delegates who sat in it, having been anywhere disc wered, and the Jourhals of the several sessions of the legislature held prior to the seventeenth day of August, 1781. The destruction of these Minutes and Murnals was a serious and irreparable loss. We have, however, the terreserve of the labors of the convention and these legislative solutions in the Constitution of 1777, and the Acts of these legislatures, all of which are included in this compilation.

Several causes conspired to bring about this ever to be regretted loss of important records and documents. First of all, when, in December, 1778. Savannah, the seat of government, was captured by the British, all the records of the state made prior to that time were also captured and either carried away or destroyed, except a few relating to the Office of the Secretary of State, which were saved only by the vigilance of the incumbent of the office. John Milton, who, disregarding the orders of Governor Houstoun, conveyed his records first to Charleston and then, when that city was threatened, to Newbern, North Capolina, and, finally, when that state was invaded by the enemy, to Annapolis, where they remained till after the close of the war.

Many records made after the fall of Savannah, during the progress of the war, either fell into the hands of the enemy and perished or were lost in transportation, from place to place, in the effort to save them from destruction; while the loss of such as are known to have survived the war is probably mainly due to the carelessness of historians and persons, who contemplated writing histories and afterwards abandoned the idea, in horrowing them and never returning them to the Archives Rooms of the Capitol. In this way it is positively known some of them were lost.

Again, we have abundant reason to believe that during the progress of the War for Independence, when a state of semi-duarchy prevailed from the cessation of British 1 rule when the royal governor was agrested, and before

the constitutional government was thoroughly established in all of its departments, many things of an official character were done of which no written record was ever made, and this condition of semi-anarchy prevailed in the state during almost the entire period of the war, for Governor Martin said in his inaugural address in January, 1782, that then it could be said for the first time that the government provided for in the constitution was organized and in operation in all of its departments. One of our most careful and painstaking historians, speaking of the conditions which prevailed in the state at this time, has said, "The government of Georgia during the Revolutionary period was feeble, uncertain and peripatetic. Few records of this transition stage in the development of the state have been preserved, and they are at best fragmentary and unimportant," and our research has established the truth of what he said.

Still, notwithstanding this paucity of official records, due to the causes mentioned, much matter of an official or semi-official character has been found which is of too much interest to be omitted, and yet to include it in this compilation, disjointed and disconnected as it is, without explanation or comment, much of it would be almost, if not quite, unintelligible. The compiler has therefore deemed it not improper to include it in an introductory with such comment and reference to contemporaneous occurrences as seem necessary to weave all of it into a connected narrative, and thus make it intelligible to the reader.

Some of these scattered and disjointed papers thus utilized have been found in the Archives Rooms and in

THE

Revolutionary Records

OF THE

STATE OF GEORGIA

VOLUME II

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, FROM JAN
UARY 14, 1778, TO JANUARY 6, 1785, AND
JOURNAL OF THE LAND COURT, FROM
APRIL 6 TO MAY 26, 1784

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY

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BY

ALLEN D. CANDLER

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VOLUME III

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY From August 17, 1781, to February 26, 1784

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COMPILER'S PREFACE TO JOURNALS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

In inaugurating the republican government in Georgia our Revolutionary fathers adhered as closely as possible to the forms and practices which had prevailed under the king's government. Acts were passed continuing in force all acts of the royal legislatures not in conflict with the Constitution which had just been adopted, and the rules of court and of procedure in the legislature which had hitherto prevailed were continued; but there were, under the Constitution of 1777, several respects in which the lower house of the legislature differed from the lower House under the king's government. Under the royal government this body was called the "Commons House of Assembly." It was composed of members elected from the parishes and districts by electors who had to have, before they could vote, certain qualifications, the most important of which were that an elector must be not less than twenty-one years old, and must own not less than fifty acres of land in the parish in which he desired to vote; or, in lieu thereof, other taxable property of the value of fifty pounds sterling. To be qualified to sit in the Commons House of Assembly he had to have, in addition to the qualifications of an elector, certain other qualifications, the most important of which were that he must not be a papist and must own, anywhere in the province, at least five Hundred acres of land, or, in lieu thereof, other property of the value of five hundred pounds sterling. The members elected their own speaker, but the king's governor had the right to "negative" their choice, when they had to elect another and another until they elected one acceptable to the governor. They elected their own doorkeepers and messengers, but the governor appointed their clerk and adjourned, prorogued and dissolved them at pleasure. In the transaction of business they conformed very closely to the rules of the House of Com-

PREFACE

mons of Great Britain. They served without pecuniary compensation.

When the king's government was subverted and the republic was established, this body was called, not the Commons House of Assembly, but simply the House of Assembly. It was composed of members chosen, not from the parishes or districts as under the king's government, but from the eight counties into which the state had been divided, each county having ten members except Liberty, which had fourteen, and Glynn and Camden, which had one each. The port and town of Savannah was given four members, and the port and town of Sunbury two members "to represent their trade." They elected their own speaker and other officers, adopted their own rules of procedure, and adjourned without consulting with or interference by the governor, who was himself elected by them. The qualifications of an elector were that he must be twenty-one years old, must have paid taxes on property valued at ten pounds, "or be of a mechanical trade." No person holding a title of nobility could vote, and failure of any qualified voter to cast his ballot in any election subjected him to a fine of five pounds sterling.

The qualifications of a representative were that he must be twenty-one years old, a resident for twelve months in the county for which he sat, of the Protestant religion, and possessed, in his own right, of two hundred and fifty acres of land, or some property to the amount of two hundred and fifty pounds, and no person holding any title of nobility could hold any office of trust, profit or honor. Members of the Continental Congress could sit, speak and vote in the House of Assembly as other members.

The House of Assembly was alone clothed with power to make, amend and repeal laws for the government of the State, and the power to pardon offenders was lodged in it. Out of their own number they chose, on the first day of each armual session, an executive council composed of two members from each county except Camden and Glynn. During the sessions of the House of Assembly all of the members of the executive coun-

cil were required to be present, but their powers were only advisory. They could not pass, amend or repeal laws, but all bills introduced in the House of Assembly were, before being put on their passage, submitted to them for their advice and suggestions. The house could accept their advice and adopt their suggestions or not as it saw fit. The governor had no veto power.

During recesses of the House of Assembly one-half of the executive council, one member from each county, was required to remain at the seat of government to counsel and advise the governor in the discharge of the executive duties, and he began all important orders, proclamations, etc., with the words, "by and with the consent of the Honorable the Executive Council," etc.

This volume contains the Journals, so far as it is now possible to find them, of the House of Assembly from the adoption of the Constitution of 1777, to the close of the session, February 26, 1784.

These Journals have never heretofore been printed.

ACTS

PASSED BY THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

COLONY OF GEORGIA.

Now First Printed.

WORMSLOE. MDCCCLXXXI.

THE FOLLOWING TITLE WAS MICROFILMED

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PREFATORY NOTE.

In 1752 the "Trustees for establishing the Colony of Georgia is America," after executing its trusts for twenty years, surrendered their Charter to the Crown. The Colony thereupon passed under the control of the "Board of Trade and Plantations."

Upon the nomination of the "Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations," Captain John Reynolds, of the Royal Navy, was, on the 6th of August, 1754, appointed by his Majesty, King George II., Governor of Georgia, with the title of "Captain General and Governor in Chies of his Majesty's Province of Georgia, and Vice Admiral of the same." In the Province, therefore, he was the immediate and highest representative of the Crown. As Captain General he commanded the militia; and, as Vice Admiral, with him rested the power, in time of war, of issuing warrants to the Court of Vice Admiralty to grant commissions to privateers. As Governor he was one of the constituent parts of the Colonial Legislature, possessing sole power to convene, adjourn, prorogue, or dissolve the General Assembly, and to approve or veto any bill passed by that body. He appointed officers who did not receive their warrants directly from the Crown, was the custodian of the Great Seal, presided at the sessions of the Court for the Correction of Errors, granted probate of wills, issued letters of administration, and collated in cases of vacant benefices.

The Governor's Council—usually consisting of twelve members, appointed and commissioned by the Crown—were associated with the Governor as an advisory body. When sitting in a legislative capacity they were styled the "Upper House of Assembly." To the Governor they occupied a relation not unlike that sustained by the Privy Council to the King. In fact, they formed a Provincial House of Lords. They discharged also judicial functions, and sat with the Governor as a Court of Appeals.

The Commons House of Assembly, or Lower House, was composed of nineteen members returned from the several settlements—constituting the Colony—in accordance with writs of election issued by the Governor and Council. They were the immediate representatives of the people and their interests, and their deliberations conformed to the precedents established for the governance of the English House of Commons.

Such, in a word, was the composition of the General Assembly of the Colony of Georgia by which the Acts, comprised in the following pages, were passed.

The Royal Government of the Province continued, with occasional interruptions encountered during the progress of the Revolution, until the evacuation of Savannah by the King's forces on the 11th of July, 1782. No formal legislation in the interest of the Crown appears to have been either had or reported after 1774.

Captain John Reynolds, the first Royal Governor, entered upon the duties of his office in October, 1754. He was succeeded, in 1756, by Governor Henry Ellis, who, in a few years, in consequence of failing health, solicited a recall. His request was granted, and on the 13th of May, 1760, Sir James Wright was nominated as his successor. These three were the only Royal Governors who ever presided over the Colony of Georgia. The Acts passed by the General Assembly, that they might acquire absolute force, needed the sanction of the Home Government. As soon, therefore, as they had received the approval of the Governor in Council, the seal of the Colony was attached and they were duly filed. Duplicate originals were immediately prepared, fully authenticated, and forwarded for the consideration of the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations. If by them ratified, they became statute laws for the guidance of the Province. Of the action of the Home Government the Colonial Officers were seasonably advised. When approved, these duplicate original Acts, regularly endorsed, were filed in the appropriate office in London. Detaching the colonial scal from them appears to have been the final attestation of Royal sanction. In the Office of the Secretary of State of Georgia may still be found many, if not all, of the original acts contemporaneously filed in the Colonial Department in Savannah by the proper officers of the Crown.

As many of the Acts of the General Assembly of the Colony of Georgia were published, about the times of their passage, in Savannah, at first in

separate form, and subsequently by James Johnston in thin pamphlets embracing the legislation of each session, the object of this compilation is to present only such of them as were never printed, either in the manner above indicated, or in the digests prepared at a later period by Messrs. Robert and George Watkins, and by Messrs. Horatio Marbury and William H. Crawford. In compassing this purpose we have been materially assisted by Governor William Ewen's copy of the Colonial Acts. He appears to have carefully preserved all of them which found their way into type, and to have caused them to be substantially bound in a volume. The MS, index is in his own handwriting.

To these Colonial Acts, now for the first time appearing in type,* references have been added which will explain the scope of other legislation by the General Assembly of the Colony of Georgia upon kindred topics.

The following publication fills a hintus in the printed legislative enactments of Georgia, and possesses no little historical value.

^{*} A few of them have, in substance, been printed, but not with the full text here presented.