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## An act to regulate the state library.

Approved March 29, 1878. P. L. 1878, p. 225.

1. That the library shall be governed by a board of commissioners, who shall be the governor, chancellor, chief justice, secretary of state, treasurer and comptroller; the said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall, from time to time, prescribe such rules for the government of the library as they may think proper, and a copy of such rules shall at all times be set up in a conspicuous place in the library for inspection, and all fines and forfeitures accruing under or by virtue of such rules shall be recoverable by action of debt, to be brought by the treasurer before any court having jurisdiction of the amount, in the name of the state of New Jersey, for the use of the state library; and in all such trials the librarian shall be a competent witness, and his entries, to be made as hereinafter directed, shall be prima facie evidence of the delivery of the book or books, and the date of such delivery. [See Sec. 19, *post.*]

Commissioners of state library. Rules for government thereof.

2. That said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall have full power and authority to sell or exchange all or any duplicate volumes or documents now or hereafter the property of said library, to sell or otherwise dispose of all books which, in their judgment, shall be excluded therefrom; and all moneys to be secured from such sales shall be paid into the treasury for the benefit of said library.

Authorized to sell or exchange duplicate volumes.

3. That the said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall appoint, at the expiration of the term of the present incumbent and every fifth year thereafter, a librarian, who shall hold office for five years unless removed by a unanimous vote of the commissioners; and any vacancy that may occur in said office shall be supplied by a new appointment for the unexpired term of the former incumbent.

Appointment of librarian.

4. That the said librarian shall, before he enters upon the duties of his said office, enter into bond to the state of New Jersey, with two good and sufficient sureties, being freeholders in the said state, in the penal sum of one thousand dollars, to be approved by one of the justices of the supreme court, conditioned that if he shall well and truly execute the office of state librarian, and in all things touching and concerning said office shall well and truly, faithfully and impartially perform the same, as well with respect to all persons whatsoever concerned as to the said state of New Jersey, and at the expiration of his said office shall deliver all the books, pamphlets, records and papers remaining in the said library or appertaining thereto to his successor in office, then the obligation to be void, otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue; and shall also take an oath or affirmation before one of the said justices that he will well, truly, faithfully and impartially execute all the duties of state librarian agreeably to law, according to the best of his skill and understanding; which said bond and affidavit shall be filed in the office of the secretary of the state, there to remain of record.

Librarian to give bond.

Condition of.

To take oath.

When library shall be kept open, &c.

5. That the library shall be kept open in the state-house, at all times during the session of the legislature and the courts of this state and of the United States, which sit at Trenton (Sundays and legal holidays excepted), in each day, from nine (9) o'clock in the morning until six (6) o'clock in the evening, and shall be for the use of the members of the legislature, the secretary and clerks of the respective houses, the officers of the executive department of the state government, judges of the district and circuit courts of the United States, district attorneys, chancellor, judges of the supreme court and of the court of errors and appeals of this state, adjutant and quartermaster-generals, attorneys of the supreme court, and all other persons who have been or may be at any time entitled by law to the use of books from said library, when any of them shall be at the seat of the government.

Duty of the librarian.

6. That the librarian shall arrange the books in proper order and preserve them from being injured by moths, moulding or otherwise, as far as practicable; he shall keep proper books in which he shall make an entry of all books taken out, designating the name of the person taking the same, and also of the books returned; he shall also keep an accurate catalogue of books belonging to the library, alphabetically arranged, and shall annually report to the legislature a full and complete statement of the condition of the library; he shall also keep an account of the manner in which moneys appropriated for the improvement of the library shall be expended.

Laws and journals to be placed in library.

7. That it shall be the duty of the state librarian annually to cause twenty copies of the laws and joint resolutions, passed at each session of the legislature, twenty copies of each of the journals of the senate and general assembly, and twenty copies of the legislative documents, to be bound and placed in the library for the use of the state.

Distribution of reports, statutes, laws, &c., to other states.

8. That it shall be the duty of the treasurer of this state hereafter, upon the receipt of any judicial reports, statutes, digest, laws or public documents, published by or under the authority of this state, or the legislature thereof, or of which the state has become a purchaser, to deliver to the state librarian as many of each of said publications as shall be necessary to furnish one copy thereof to the executive of each state and territory within the United States; and it shall thereupon be the duty of the state librarian, upon the receipt of the same, to distribute and forward to the executive of each state and territory within the United States one copy of each report, annual law digest, statute or other public document published as aforesaid.

Joint committee of the legislature to examine library, &c.

9. That there shall be appointed annually a joint committee of the legislature, whose duty it shall be to examine into the condition of the library, order any repairs that may be necessary, and recommend additions and improvements to the same by exchange, purchase or otherwise; they shall also report to the legislature the manner in which the money appropriated for the enlargement of the library has been expended, and whatever else they think proper to make the same useful.

What legislative bills to be delivered to librarian.

10. That it shall be the duty of the secretary of the senate and the clerk of the general assembly to deliver to the librarian, immediately after the final action of both houses, each and every bill and joint resolution lost upon its final passage, and at the close of each session they shall also deliver to the librarian all bills laid on the table and unacted upon, together with those indefinitely postponed or postponed to the next sitting of the legislature.

Secretary of state to effect insurance on library.

11. That the secretary of state be and hereby is authorized to effect an insurance against fire on the state library, in a sum not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars, which insurance shall be effected by insuring in three or more different insurance companies, in a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars each.

Treasurer to pay, upon certificate that insurance has been effected.

12. That it shall be the duty of the treasurer, and he is hereby authorized to pay such premium or premiums as shall be necessary to effect such insurance, upon certificate of the secretary of state that such insurance or insurances have been effected.

Annual appropriation.

13. That the sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars be and is hereby appropriated annually to the state library, to be expended under the direc-

tion of the commissioners, for the furnishing of useful books, reprinting the catalogues and other necessary purposes. [See Sec. 17, *post.*]

14. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act be and the same are hereby repealed. Repealer.

## Supplement.

15. SEC. 1. [Amended by Secs. 16 and 17, *post.*]

Approved March 22, 1883. P. L. 1883, p. 114.

An act to amend an act entitled "A further supplement to an act entitled 'An act to regulate the state library,'" which supplement was approved March twenty-second, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three.

Approved March 23, 1886. P. L. 1886, p. 138.

16. SEC. 1. [This section, amending Sec. 15, *ante*, is again amended by Sec. 17, *post.*]

An act to amend an act entitled "A further supplement to an act entitled 'An act to regulate the state library,'" which supplement was approved March twenty-second, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three.

Approved March 19, 1889. P. L. 1889, p. 69.

17. SEC. 1. That section one of the act to which this is a supplement [see Secs. 15 and 16, *ante*] be and the same is hereby so amended that the same shall read as follows :

[That the sum of three thousand dollars shall be the annual appropriation for the improvement and increase of the state library, the said sum to be drawn from the treasury of the state by the commissioners of the state library, and expended under their direction in repair, preservation and purchase of useful books.]

Appropriation of \$3,000 per annum for improvement and increase of state library.

18. SEC. 2. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed. Repealer.

## Supplement.

19. SEC. 1. That the attorney-general of the state shall be, ex officio, a member of the board of commissioners of the state library, with the powers and subject to the duties now or hereafter to be provided by law in the case of such commissioners.

Approved March 1, 1888. P. L. 1888, p. 127.

Attorney-general constituted a member of library commission.

Joint resolution for the better preservation of old manuscript letters and letters-patent in the state library.

Approved March 9, 1877. P. L. 1877, p. 314.

WHEREAS, There is in the state library a rare collection of choice old manuscript letters from George Washington, and others of note and historic distinction, and also letters-patent from George III. to William Franklin, the preservation of which letters, manuscripts and papers is desirable because of the peculiar interest attaching to them, and which are in danger of being torn, effaced and partially destroyed in being continually handled by visitors to the library desirous of examining these choice old letters written by men of mark in "ye olden times ;" now, therefore,

20. SEC. 1. That the state librarian be and he hereby is authorized and directed to so arrange and prepare said old manuscript letters and letters-patent, now in the state library, that the same may be seen and examined without the necessity of handling them, and for the better preservation of the same ; and for that purpose the said librarian is hereby authorized to procure such cases as shall be deemed necessary.

Preamble.

Librarian authorized to arrange certain old manuscript letters, &c., that the same may be seen.