REPORT

OF THE

Commissioner of Agriculture

OF THE

STATE OF ALABAMA.

From September 1, 1883, to September 1, 1886.

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AUBURN, ALA., September 1st, 1886.

To His Excellency,

Gov. E. A. O'Neal:

SIR: The law establishing this department requires the Commissioner to make annual reports of his operations. The reports for the years 1883–4 and 1884–5, not having been printed, I thought it better for several reasons to blend the details of the first three years operations of the department in one, preserving, however, the necessary distinction in the final statement of the operations of the respective years. As the particulars of the expenditures of the department are all to be found in the reports of the Auditor and Treasurer, already published for the several years respectively, it has not been thought necessary to reproduce them here.

Very respectfully,

E. C. BETTS,
Commissioner of Agriculture.

REPORT.

OFFICE OF

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE,

AUBURN, ALA., September, 1886.

After having been commissioned and qualified as Commissioner of Agriculture for the State of Alabama, I proceeded to Auburn, and having no funds on hand to buy the necessary office furniture, I purchased on my own credit, having the friendly assurance of the Board of Trustees of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of pecuniary assistance in case of necessity. It then became necessary to provide the tags required in the conduct of the fertilizer business, and I contracted with Messrs. James P. Harrison & Co. for the delivery of the number which, according to the best information I could obtain, would be required. It had been estimated by the friends of the bill establishing this department, that in the year preceding its passage, there had been sold in this State commercial fertilizers to the amount of 72,000 tons, and I had accordingly made my purchase upon that basis; but whether this was an overestimate of the amount of fertilizers sold in 1882–3, or that that much had been sold during the now concluding season which did not pay the tax, or from whatever other reason, it turned out that only 47,695 tons were sold, leaving an excess of tags of 317,040, which however will be available for the incoming season.

The building of the Agricultural and Mechanical College being entirely isolated, and left without a single occupant always at night, and not unfrequently for days together, and often being myself in possession of very considerable

sums of public money, and there being neither bank nor other place of security in which to place them, until such time as the law required it to be deposited in the treasury, it became necessary for me to provide the requisite security by purchasing a safe.

When I came into this office of commissioner I had already very definite opinions as to the causes of the evils which had led to the depression of agriculture, and the means by which alone they could be cured or alleviated. Of course everybody understands that the most aggravated of our present difficulties, grew out of the radical revolution in the relations between land owners and agricultural laborers. But had there been no change in this respect, the influence upon the agricultural situation of the States on this side of the Mississsippi of the absorption of the outlying forest lands by the natural increase of our own people, and the rapidly accelerated movement of foreign immigration, would, ultimately and at no distant day, necessarily have led to results hardly less profoundly revolutionary in our agricultural conditions. This state of things brought the farmers face to face with the necessity of adopting some system of fertilization in order to restore the elements of crop production to their wornout lands and arresting the exhaustion of those that were rapidly hastening to that condition.

First in order of the means necessary to effect an improvement of agriculture, was the organization of the farmers themselves. Under the condition of things which existed before the war, every planter was self-subsistent and independent; and his pride refused to recognize the necessity of co-operation; and perhaps as a matter of fact, at that time it was not necessary. The first indication of a felt necessity of co-operation and organization among farmers after the war was manifested in the grange movement.

Participating as I did in this effort to concentrate the influence of the farmers of the county by organization, I participated in the disappointment at the decline of this organization, which, however, during its brief existence has been instrumental in impressing a tendency upon the course of judicial decisiosn with respect to the rights and powers of corporate monopolies, of inestimable advantage not only to the agricultural, but to all other forms of industry.

This necessity of combination among the farmers in order to give effect to their wishes and promote their peculiar interests has been constantly present to my mind, and I have availed myself of every means at my disposal to effect this object. I issued an invitation to all those interested in this subject to meet in Montgomery towards the last of August, 1884. The convention, not large in numbers, but composed for the most part of men equal in intelligence to the representatives of any other vocation, assembled in Montgomery and formed a State Agricultural Society, organized with a view to rallying the farmers throughout the State for a combined and sustained effort in the common cause.

Being well aware that little could be accomplished without some pecuniary means, I recommended to the legislature an appropriation of $2,500 out of the fund in the treasury to the credit of the Department of Agriculture, and a bill for that purpose was introduced by the Senator from Dallas, the Hon. A. V. Gardner, to whose active efforts in this and other matters connected with the interests of agriculture the farmers of the State are much indebted.

Outside of the few granges that survived the decline of that order, I think there were not at the time of the establishment of this department half a dozen agricultural organizations in the State. With the assistance of the appropriation there are now organized, for the most part through the exertions of the State society, within the last six months, upwards of 150 county societies.

The profound apathy heretofore existing among farmers in this matter, which so deeply involves their own welfare, has been succeeded by a hearty and healthy interest in everything which pertains to the promotion of agriculture, and I have every assurance that before the end of another

year there will be no county in the State without at least one association ot farmers.

The actual situation seems to me to be this. The old system of completely exhausting cultivation has passed away, and the farmers generally are beginning to recognize the necessity of adopting some method by which the elements of plant production, which have been withdrawn from the soil by a long continued succession of crops, may be in part at least restored. This is a subject so wholly new to our people, that very few of them know how to avail themselves to the best advantage of the benefits which agricultural chemistry, even in its present imperfect condition, offers to the farmer. Whilst from time immemorial, no good farmer has failed to avail himself of the virtues of stable manure aud other waste material, for increasing the production of his land, yet it is only comparatively recently that chemistry has determined wherein that virtue lay, and the exact part that each of the active ingredients played in crop production, and whilst stable manure is said, in a general way, to be a complete fertilizer, yet chemistry can teach us how to economize in its application, by a slight addition of chemical preparations, which, being composted with the home-made material, reduces the whole to a condition in which it will extend over a larger surface and be more readily avaible as plant food. Whilst it would not be wise in a farmer to purchase commercial fertilizers when it is practicable to obtain all that he requires from the waste material on his own premises, yet it is well known that few of them find this practicable, and a resort to other resources of fertilizers becomes necessary. Now we have on the books of this office the analyses of upwards of three hundred different brands of fertilizers, and a judicious selection with reference to the needs of the crop and character of his land, would be a mere matter of accident with a person having no more information upon the subject than the average farmer now possesses.

According to the census returns of 1880, Alabama paid out upward of two million dollars for commercial fertilizers.

The great complaints of our farmers who alone were directly interested in this trade, led to the establishment of this department for the purpose of checking these fraudulent practices, and protecting the farmers by offering a free analysis to all purchasers. This became more urgent as manufacturerd fertilizers, which fell below the legal standard in Georgia, which State had established an agricultural department with supervisory powers, were brought into Alabama and sold to our own people. The fact of the existence of the means of detecting frauds and the actual discovery of the worthlessness of several articles which had previously had large sales in their State, has, I am satisfied, had the effect of purifying the fertilizers to a great extent, and saved many thousands of dollars to the farmers.

The manufacture of commercial fertilizers has established itself as one of the staple industries of the country, and the use of them, already large, is rapidly spreading, not only in this State, but in all the States on the Atlantic and the Gulf. But the use of these means of renovating the agriculture of the country, was attended with at least one very serious difficulty ; that is, our farmers were and for the most part are still, ignorant of the first principles upon which the efficacy of these substances depend. They found a wonderful improvement in their crops to follow their application in some instances, and a complete disappointment in others. They did not readily apprehend why a fertilizer which produced such satisfactory results in application to one crop should be wholly useless in its application to a different plant or on a different soil, until agricultural chemistry was brought in to explain the seeming mystery.

The introduction of commercial fertilizers into our agricultulture, present many difficult questions which the farmer has never before been called upon to consider, and for the solution of which he has neither the knowledge nor the necessary material facilities, and which can be furnished by the government alone by the establishment of a supervision over the fertilizer and experimental stations to test

their value when applied to the several crops which constitute our agricultural production, and to ascertain by experiment the most feasible and effective modes and conditions of application.

Chemistry has a language of its own, the very alphabet of which the great body of farmers are wholly ignorant, and the large part which it is now called upon to play in the development of practical, not less than of scientific agriculture, makes it necessary to furnish some means of rendering its terminology intelligible to that class of persons who are so much concerned in invoking its assistance.

The fact of establishing this department and charging it with the protection of the farmers from fraud in the sale of commercial fertilizers by providing for the free analyses, and thereby promoting the extension of their use, seem to imply a duty on the part of the Commissioner to provide them with such elementary instruction in the nature, uses and methods of application as would enable them to exercise an intelligent discretion in their purchases. This I have endeavored to effect by the issuance from time to time of Bulletins prepared and directed to that end. The matter of these publications, to be of any service, requires much reading and research as well as a constant attention to the latest developments of agricultural chemistry and the results of scientific experimentation.

There are upon the books of this department, as before told, the analyses of something like three hundred different brands of commercial fertilizers, each said to contain several different ingredients; so that it was not less necessary to furnish those farmers who have had little or no experience in their use, the information to enable them to make a judicious choice as to supply them with the means of ascertaining through a chemical analyses, whether the article purchased corresponded to the guaranteed analysis on the record. This could be accomplished only by publications, issuing from this department, which have been prepared and disseminated without expense to the farmers. The information conveyed in this manner will gradually make its way among the farmers of the State and render a repretition of the expense unnecessary for the future.

Whilst the science of chemistry has made immense advances in the last few years and is as necessary to agriculture as to medicine, yet there remain many points, relative to soils and plants life which can be determined by experiment alone, in which way every plant becomes its own chemist with the soil for its laboratory.

Such available information in relation to these subjects as is already extant I have endeavored to supply to the farmers of the State as far as practicable, through documents which from time to time have been issued from this office. But knowledge as can be conveyed in this way is incomplete and in a considerable degree useless without the more specific knowledge which can be derived from experimentation alone. Such knowledge in a reliable form can be be acquired only by experiments extending through many seasons, in a variety of soils, and under strictly scientific conditions, in other words they are costly and tedious —too much so to be conducted by every farmer, even if he possessed the necessary means and qualifications.

To fulfill these exigencies and conditions the establishment of an Experimental station, which would do for the farmer what he can not do for himself, in connection with this Department, is in my opinion, indispensably necessary. It is true that the law requires the Agricultural and Mechanical College to maintain a station for experiments in agriculture, and such a station exists, the conductor of which, is pre-eminently qualified for the position, but it has no connection with the Department.

Such experimentation should embrace an inquiry into the means of restoring the fertility of exhausted lands, and above all, the adaptability of the different elements of fertilization, chemical and others, to the several crops, and many varieties of soil, the quantity of each to be used per acre in these different connections, and the method of their applica-

tion. In the whole range of questions affecting agriculture, there is none of more urgent practical importance than this last.

The subject of Fencing is one of immense importance to the people of the State, who expend annually for construction and repairs, one million and a half of dollars—a sum equal to the whole amount of State and county taxes upon property. While it might not be well to pass a general law abolishing fencing, yet the condition of many localities in the State requires some action more general than has been taken up to this time upon that subject. The enactment of a general local option law, as has been done for several of the counties, would probably meet all the demands and difficulties of the case.

Where parties have not the necessary timber of their own, barbed wire is the best and cheapest.

The law charges the Commissioner with the duty of looking to the introduction of other agricultural staples than those now produced in the State. The most effective, and in so far as I can see, the only means of doing this is that which would be afforded by such a station as above indicated. Take, for example, jute and Ramie culture. I have no doubt that much of the soil of this State is well adapted to the production of these plants; but it is well known that hitherto there has been no means discovered to separate the fibre from the woody matter in a way sufficiently economical to render its production a paying business, except where labor was exceptionably cheap. Many inventions for accomplishing this object have been patented, but up to this time none of them have been recognized as successful, though the inventors of several recent machines claim that they have fulfilled all the necessary conditions. But the plant for this purpose would probably cost not less than a thousand dollars, a sum which no individual would be willing to invest in a mere experiment, however apparently promising. The funds of this department are ample for the accomplishment of this object, and could be devoted to no more beneficial enterprise than

this and others of a similar character; for the same considerations are equally applicable to the silk and other industries under varying conditions.

I have paid some attention to the subject of silk culture, as the law requires, and our State combines all the natural conditions required for the establishment of that industry; there being in addition a great deal of labor not now utilized in any other way which might be profitably employed in that business. I have found so little demand for information relative to it, that I thought an investment of any part of the funds of the Department in that way not at this time advisable. The Agricultural Department of the United States offers to furnish parties with eggs of the silk worm gratis on application. Silk culture is an avocation, which so readily combines with household cares and industries, that the utilization of the labor of females of all colors, which is now for the most part wholly unproductive, would add greatly to the comforts of the large majority of families, and sensibly to the sum of general industrial wealth. There are already in existence a sufficient number of factories to afford a market for all that would be likely to be produced, and whilst it is quite probable that the manufacture is to a very great degree dependent upon the maintenance of the existing high tariff, yet it is hardly probable that the present protection would be wholly withdrawn, and even though it should be the capital necessary for the production of the same raw silk is so small that the total loss of it would not involve any very serious consequences. In the localities where cotton factories have been erected in the South, no difficulty has been found in procuring all the female labor required, and whilst the operatives in factories have the advantage of prompt returns for their labor, the greater independence of those engaged in silk culture, the freedom from the injurious confinement in factories, and the fact that it is not inconsistent with the discharge of ordinary household and family duties, would render this industry a more inviting field than the former to that class of our population.

It is true that the theory of the processes of the production of raw silk can be taught through books, but then as in agriculture, anatomy, physiology, &c., the theory requires the interpretation of a little practical knowledge; and then there are various breeds of worms and many species of trees yielding the vegetable food, all of which, together with the effect of local conditions, climatic and others, require to be carefully investigated; which, together with supplying eggs free of charge, can be effectually done only by such a station as I have spoken of above.

It will be observed from the table of receipts and expenditures, that there was a small increase of receipts in 1884–5 over that of 1883–4, whilst there was a small decrease in those of 1885–6 even, compared to those of 1883–4. Yet, when the cause of this decline in the ratio of increase as compared with that of a few years last past comes to be understood, it is a very gratifying indication of progress, for it is attributable, in my opinion, to a disposition among the farmers to produce, as far as possible, the amount of fertilizers which they require, by composting the waste products of the farm with the active principle of commercial fertilizers in their pure condition, which, while it diminishes the tonnage of those fertilizers, increases the home-made and more valuable fertilizers from four to six fold, which, whilst it diminishes the expense of fertilizing their lands, leads to a distinct and emphatic recognition of the principle of the necessity of farm economy. The rapid extension of the practice of composting, is the most gratifying feature in the present agricultural condition, next to the thorough spirit of organization among the farmers.

The experimental farm for the Cane-Brake region, provided for by the last Legislature, was organized last fall by the appointment by the Governor of Messrs. John, of Dallas, Stollenwerck, of Perry, and Webb, of Greene, as members of the board of managers—the Commissioner of Agriculture and the Superintendent of the M. & C. College, Experimental Station, being members *ex-officio*.

Forty acres of land, near Uniontown, in the county of Perry, were purchased last fall at an expense of $800, and the arrangements necessary for entering upon the work of experimentation have been completed.

THE CHEMICAL DEPARTMENT

has been conducted, first under Prof. Stubbs and subsequently under Dr. Lupton, with great promptness and efficiency, and with very general satisfaction to interested parties.

When Dr. E. A. Smith announced the discovery by him of the phosphaie deposits in the several central counties, Prof. Stubbs, at my request, proceeded to the locality in which they were found to collect specimens from analysis, of which, together with that of a large number of others furnished by Dr. Smith, it was found that whilst the material contained a high per cent. of phosphoric acid, yet it was not to be found in sufficient abundance in any one locality to justify the establishment of the works necessary to extract it at the prevailing prices of that article.

A great many analyses of fertilizers have been made, which, together with the other means provided by the act establishing this department, have had the effect of purifying that trade to a very great extent. Some of these analyses revealed the worthlessness of several brands of fertilizers which had for several years found a market in this State, but which have since been entirely withdrawn, and I am satisfied that that trade is as fairly conducted at this time as any other character of business.

Both the manufacture and the use of chemical fertilizers is a comparatively new thing, and the worthlessness of many articles sold to farmers in the beginning of the experiment proceeded, probably, as often from the ignorance as from the fraudulent intent of the manufacturer, but the mischief to the farmer was in both cases the same. Within the last three years the price of many of the best fertilizers has declined from five to eight dollars per ton, and whilst it

is quite possible that all of this decline may not be due to the establishment of agricultural departments in this and other States, yet I think they may be credited with a considerable portion of it.

There have been made, since September 1st, 1883, up to September 1st, 1886, 457 analyses of fertilizers, phosphates, marls, mucks, soils, gold, iron, tin and other ores and coal, besides numerous other substances too numerous to detail.

CONDITION OF THE FARMERS.

I think the time is come when we may cease to bewail the condition of the farmer. They are doubtless making less money than they would like to make, but this is the case with men of all pursuits. They live well, take care of their families, and I think are less in debt at this time than they have been for the last twenty years. They pay their taxes promptly, which is in my opinion the very best test of the pecuniary condition of a country that can be devised. I am authentically informed that the settlements of the tax collectors for the tax-year just terminated are the most complete, prompt and satisfactory that have ever been known in the history of the State. It is true that our people are in debt, but the time will never come when they will be otherwise, and as for the much abused mortgage system, a very extensive reading of agricultural journals satisfies me that the farmers of every section of the country are as much addicted to the practice of mortgaging as those of this State, or the South generally.

As bearing upon the question of the production of home supplies, it may be stated that there has been a slight decline in the number of bales of cotton made in the last three years, as compared with the three preceding, whilst the amount of corn has considerably increased, and oats in a still greater degree. The increase in every species of live stock is very considerable, the number of hogs, which was less than 350,000 in 1880, being now upwards of 1,300,000. But for the hog cholera, the ravages of which

are frequently felt in every region of the State, the farmers of the State would, as a general thing, produce a sufficiency of meat for their own wants. It should not be forgotten, however, that stock raising is a very different business from farming, though not unfrequently combined with it. The farmer who confines himself simply to crop production risks the proceeds of the current year, whilst the raiser of stock in a country subject to epidemics risks his whole capital, as well as his current gains.

I am satisfied that for several years past the farmers of the State have been producing quite a sufficient supply of grain, but, as a matter of course, this supply has not, nor in the nature of things could be, equally distributed. The result is, that whilst in one section of the State corn was selling at less than the cost of production in other regions it sold for at least double that cost. Corn and other grain can be brought from the grain centres of the Northwest, at a cost for carriage, less than it can be carried from a part of the State where there is a surplus to that in which a deficit exists, unless there is railroad transportation available; which accounts for the fact that even where upon the whole a sufficient supply has been made in the State, it is yet brought from the west more or less every year.

One of the most promising indications of disposition on the part of our farmers to entering upon new ways, is the already extensive and rapidly increasing introduction of improved breeds of cattle; an experiment which has been already sufficiently tested to give the most complete assurance that this branch of industry will, at no distant day, occupy an important place in the pursuits of our people.

The tendency toward the increase and improvement of other kinds of stock—horses, mules, sheep and hogs—whilst not altogether as strongly developed as that of cattle, is nevertheless very decidedly marked. I know of no means of promoting the introduction of other species of live stock than such as are now to be found in the State, or new breeds

of such as are already in use here, than through the agency of an experimental station, such as now exist and have so well succeeded in Mississippi and other States, through the operations of which they might be gradually propagated throughout this State. But the State should not under any circumstances or to any extent, come into competition with those of our citizens who have incurred the risk attendant upon the experiment of introducing improved stock, and who have succeeded to a sufficient degree to supply the demand for the character of stock in which they are interested.

THE LABOR QUESTION.

Whilst in those sections of the State where the negro population so largely preponderates as to constitute a public opinion of their own, there is little improvement in the character of the labor or laborers. They are averse to labor for wages, preferring the position of independent tenants, for which they are wholly unqualified, and in which they almost invariably fail.

In other sections where the whites largely overbalance, they are less reluctant to hire, and under a kindly control and intelligent supervision, are unsurpassed as farm laborerers.

In those parts of the State where the negroes are largely in excess of the whites, the labor problem is rendered much more difficult of solution by reason of its being eomplicated with several important social considerations. Prior to the war, the ten counties composing what is known as the "Black Belt," produced fifty per cent. of all the agricultural values of the State, and even now produces forty per cent of the cotton.

These counties have a population of seventy-six per cent. of black. This creates a strong tendency among the whites to congregate in towns, or seek other localities where they can have more social, religious and educational advantages for their families, leaving the lands, for the most part, to the exclusive possession of the negroes, thereby relieving

them from the moral restraint of the presence of the superior race, as well as from their industrial supervision and control. From this state of things it results that the increasing easiness which is quite perceptible in the relations of the two races, in what are known as the white counties, is less observable here.

It is very remarkable that in a county almost exclusively devoted to agriculture, it should be so often asked, "does farming pay;" and still more remarkable is it to have it so generally answered in the negative.

If farming were conducted upon the business principles which are applied to all other industries, this question might have been answered long ago, definitely and conclusively.

What reason has a farmer to expect a greater interest upon his capital than one engaged in any other industry?

He rarely or never states an account of his year's business, showing the particulars of his receipts and expenditures. If he did he would generally find that the difficulty lay, not in the amount of the former, but in that of the latter.

IMMIGRATION.

In 1884 I compiled a detailed statement of the agricultural and general industrial resources of the State, embracing besides much matter pertaining to such other subjects as persons preparing to immigrate would be likely to desire information. I have distributed nearly five thousand copies of this publication, besides conducting a very extensive correspondence with individuals, chiefly living in the Northwest. I am not able to perceive that any considerable effect has been produced by these efforts; the parties seeming to be repelled by the absence of good roads, and of a more generously supported system of Public Schools.

There are two classes of immigrants known to this country. 1st. Voluntary immigrants, who are self-sustaining, and in most cases, possessed of a certain amount of capital. 2d. Solicited and assisted immigrants, who are both destitute

of capital and dependent upon aid, even for transportation and provisions for the first year of immigration.

The first class form a valuable acquisition to our resources. The second are a positive disadvantage, as they create an additional demand upon the existing capital, which is not sufficient to furnish employment to much more than one-half of the labor already present in the State.

CONCLUSION.

The summary of the situation is this: The more specific objects embraced in the general purpose of the renovation and advancement of agriculture, as I understand, were these:

1st. The purification of the fertilizer trade, by providing the farmers, through a system of registration and (gratis) analyses, the means of protecting themselves from fraud.

2d. To effect a thorough organization of the farmers of the State, so as to combine them in a common and sustained effort towards regenerating and advancing our agricultre, through the addition of scientific methods based upon experimental tests.

3d. The collection and dissemination of useful agricultural information.

Under the first head it may be stated—

That during the first year (1883–4), of the existence of this department, several brands of fertilizers, which had formerly had a large sale at a high price, were found to be so utterly worthless that they were thenceforth withdrawn from sale, and many others so deficient that they have for the last two years entirely disappeared from the market.

As respects the second head—

The organization of the farmers of Alabama is in so far as I am informed, the most complete in the United States, and all animated by the most anxious desire of improvement, and a most intelligent direction of their efforts.

The introduction of new and scientifically progressive elements in our agriculture, necessarily required the accompaniment of explanation and instruction of a very elementary character. To that end, Bulletins have from time to time been published by this department, embracing a great variety of topics interesting to the farmer.

It has bee before stated that there are on the books of this office upward of four hundred different "brands" of fertilizers. For each of these "brands" there are several, and in some cases a great many, agents in this State. When we add the number of farmers and persons seeking information with a view to immigation, the amount of correspondence involved in conducting the business of the department has been enormous. It is very gratifying to the Commissioner to be able to state that out of the conduct of this immense amount of business transactions, there have no complaints of any importance arisen, and such as have presented themselves, were found upon investigation to be attributable to the parties making them.

RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES, &C.,

For each of the three years exbraced in this report, with the number of copies of all Bulletins published, excluding Crop Reports, Circulars, &c.

Received season of 1883–4 from sale of Tags....	$ 23,837 50	
" " " State Treasurer.	2,351 22*	–$26,188 72
Paid expense account, Sept. 1, '83, to Sept. 1, '84.	8,139 83	
" A. & M. College Sept. 1, '84.....	7,229 31	
Deposited with State Treasurer.....	10,819 58	
	$ 26,188 72	—$26,188 72

Issued and distributed 55,000 copies of Bulletins.

Received season 1884–5 from sale of Tags.....	$ 24,558 50	
" " " State Treasurer ...	2,473 55*	–$27,032 05
Paid expense account, Sept. 1, '84, to Sept. 1, '85.	5,550 61	
" A. & M. College.	8,141 74	
Deposited with State Treasurer	13,339 70	
	$ 27,032 05	—$ 27,032 05

Issued and distributed 68,000 copies of Bulletins.

Received season 1885–6 from sale of Tags.....	$ 22,828 44	
" " " State Treasurer...	2,096 85*	–$24,925 29
Paid expense account, Sept. 1, '85, to Sept. 1, '86..	5,742 35	
" A. & M. College	7,083 63	
Deposited with State Treasurer.....	12,099 31	
	$ 24,925 29	—$ 24,925 29

Net deposit with State Treasurer Sept. 1, 1886.. .....$13,692 38

Issued and distributed 40,000 copies of Bulletins.

*This amount was drawn from Treasurer after having been deposited, to pay current expenses.