

**SOUTH CAROLINA
REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS
1868-1900**

**With a Finding Aid to Reports
and Resolutions,
1784-1900**

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**Columbia: South Carolina
Department of Archives and History**

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Printed in the United States of America

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INTRODUCTION

For two centuries, South Carolina's General Assembly set aside funds for the state printer to organize a series of reports into a publication that came to be called the *Reports and Resolutions of the General Assembly*, or more simply *Reports and Resolutions*. Made up of legislative committee reports and resolutions and reports submitted to the General Assembly by the state's agencies and officials, the series illustrates the expansion that has occurred in the structure of state government — from its relatively simple form in 1784 to its present-day complexity. Taken separately, the reports provide a yearly summary of the accomplishments, the problems, and the goals of the state officials and agencies reporting and of the legislative body to whom their reports were made.

The expansion of state government is reflected in the changing composition of the series over the years as the legislature, in delegating authority, created state agencies and executive and administrative officials. From 1784 until the 1850s, the series was comprised largely of legislative business — the committee reports and resolutions that the legislature had generated. Through the period covered by this microcopy — from 1868 until 1900 — the series still contained legislative business, but included, as well, a large number of annual reports or special reports that various state officials and state agencies had submitted to the legislature. In 1839 legislative business had occupied over two-thirds of the publication; in 1892, 1893, and 1898 it was not included at all; and in 1900 it took up less than one quarter. The shift in emphasis away from legislative business became even more pronounced in the twentieth century. In 1917 the volumes ceased being continuously paginated, and the title page was changed to read *Reports of State Officers, Boards and Committees to the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina*. The title on the spine followed suit in 1923. Although the spine title was changed back to the familiar *Reports and Resolutions* in 1941, the series remained simply a binding together of the separate annual reports of the state's major constitutional offices, governing boards, commissions, and educational institutions. After two hundred years the series ceased with the binding of the fiscal year 1982–1983 annual reports into what the spine title called *Reports and Resolutions 1984*.

The *Reports and Resolutions* volumes contain a broad spectrum of subject matter. The Comptroller General, for example, reported on

railroads in their infancy, on the Bank of the State and the Sinking Fund, on tax collection, and on the treasury. He often made observations on state finances, and until 1886 included in his annual reports the financial reports from many officials and state agencies. The Secretary of State, too, reported on a variety of subjects including charters issued, election returns, and forfeited estates. The State Penitentiary, when it took over the building of the Columbia Canal, reported both on the running of the institution and on the progress of the canal. Some reports appear in one office for several years and then, with the demise of that office, appear elsewhere. This was the case, for example, with the reports from the State Chemist who carried out fertilizer analyses in the 1880s for the Board of Agriculture. These were printed with the annual reports of the Board of Agriculture until it was abolished and thereafter appeared with the report of Clemson Agricultural College.

In 1784 when the first reports and resolutions were printed they were loosely termed "Resolves" and consisted mainly of the resolutions to which the two houses of the General Assembly had concurred during each of their sessions. Until 1790 the "Resolves" were included in a publication entitled *Acts, Ordinances, and Resolves of the General Assembly of South Carolina*, were paginated sequentially with the Acts and Ordinances though bound as a unit in each edition, and, probably because there were so few, were not always indexed. On those occasions when they were indexed, the printer made no attempt to cite each resolution separately; instead he cited only the number of the page where they began.

In 1791 the publication in which the resolves were printed was renamed *Acts and Resolutions of the General Assembly*, and between 1791 and 1840 the section devoted to the resolves underwent changes as the business of government expanded. In 1791 a substantial number of committee reports were being included, and by 1795 the section took up 88 pages — 84 more than it had in 1784. That same year its old title "Resolves" was changed to a new one called "Reports and Resolutions," and the printer, perhaps recognizing that the growing number of reports to the legislature demanded a more detailed index, supplied one that cited each report and resolution individually. By 1839 the number of pages taken up by the "Reports and Resolutions" had grown to 112. Besides the legislative business, the "Reports and Resolutions" now included the annual report of the Comptroller General and the annual report of the Directors of the Bank of the State of South

Carolina. In 1840, when a new format was established for the Acts, the "Reports and Resolutions" received a separate printing.¹

Between 1840, when it became a publication in its own right, and 1900, the year in which this microcopy publication ends, the printing of *Reports and Resolutions* generally followed the same format. As a rule, annual reports from agencies were separated from the committee reports and resolutions, although an annual report or a special report was sometimes included with the legislative business. Until 1890, the reports in each volume were usually paginated as a continuing sequence, although a single report was sometimes paginated as a separate unit. In the 1890s the occurrence of single reports being paginated as separate units became more frequent although they were still the exception rather than the rule. In 1891, for example, a special report from the Code Commissioner began with page number "1" although it was bound in the volume after the Attorney General's report, which ended with page number "327." That same year, the comptroller's report began with the number "*1" although it was bound in the volume after page number "479." Asterisks were used throughout the period either to set off one report from another or to distinguish between pages that had been given the same number through a printing error.

This microcopy reproduces *Reports and Resolutions* from 1868 until 1900. The issues of this publication prior to 1868 were included in the Records of the States of the United States microfilm edition, which was prepared by the Library of Congress in 1949 under the direction of William Sumner Jenkins.² The volumes filmed for this microcopy include reports and resolutions that were generated by the legislature during its regular sessions, annual reports submitted to it by various state agencies and officials, and special reports, which legislative committees required from time to time. The volumes also include the legislative business that was generated at the special sessions of 1868 and 1880. The General Assembly did not sit in 1867 and 1895, and as a result, no volumes were published for those years. Some of the annual reports for 1867 were received by the legislature during the special

¹Until 1868, some copies of *Reports and Resolutions* were bound with the Acts or with the *House or Senate Journals*. After 1868 all copies were bound alone.

²This microfilm edition is available for research in the South Carolina Archives or for purchase from the Library of Congress. The South Carolina portions of the publication can be located by referring to William Sumner Jenkins, *A Guide to the Microfilm Collection of Early State Records* (Washington, D.C.: The Library of Congress, 1950) and *Supplement* (1951).

session in 1868; others were received during the regular session of 1868. The annual reports for 1895 were received at the regular session in 1896.

The dates used to describe the volumes filmed were taken from the title page of each and give the year or years in which each legislative session took place. Some title pages show only one year because some legislative sessions began and finished in the same year; other title pages show two years because some sessions began one year and ran over into the following year. Until 1895, each legislative session began in the same calendar year as the year that was being reported on in the annual reports. The Constitution of 1895, however, stipulated that beginning in 1896 the legislature was to convene in January instead of November. As a result, the legislative session scheduled to begin in November, 1895, was postponed until January of 1896, and the annual reports for 1895 were not received until then. Beginning in 1896, the volumes are dated one year ahead of the annual reports that are printed within their covers.³

Roll 1 of this microcopy carries a comprehensive finding aid to the pre-1900 reports in *Reports and Resolutions*. It incorporates both the reports printed between 1868 and 1900, which are filmed here, and those printed between 1784 and 1866, which, as was mentioned earlier, were filmed in 1949 by the Library of Congress. Legislative committee reports and resolutions are largely excluded from this finding aid. The aid lists, in alphabetical order, the names of the state agencies or officials whose annual reports were printed in *Reports and Resolutions* between 1784 and 1900 and the subjects taken up by or the names of the various bodies that were assembled from time to time to make special reports. It also supplies cross-references where necessary. The entries for the agencies, officials, or special bodies include brief histories and give citations showing the volumes and the page numbers where each year's reports are printed, the microfilm roll on which they are filmed, and, in the case of this publication, the frame number where documentation for each begins. Citations to this microcopy appear as "Microcopy Number 13." Citations to the Library of Congress film appear as "Early State Records." For example, under the heading "Attorney General" there is a short history of the reporting procedures required for that office, citations showing that reports were printed in *Reports and Resolutions*

³J. H. Easterby's *Guide to the Study and Reading of South Carolina History* (Columbia, S.C.: The Historical Commission of South Carolina, 1950) cites both 1895 and 1896. The citations, however, are to the years that were being reported on, not to the title pages of the volumes.

for a substantial number of years from 1838 to 1900, and a cross-reference to the Comptroller General. The citations are given under the headings "Volume," "Page," and, depending on whether the reports were made before or after 1868, either "Early State Records" or "Microcopy Number 13." One citation under the heading "Early State Records" reads 1840: 106-20, B2, Reel 8, Unit 1; another under the heading "Microcopy Number 13" reads 1882: 1409-28, 11:789. The first citation indicates that a report from the Attorney General is in the 1840 volume of *Reports and Resolutions* on pages 106-20 and that the volume was filmed on B2, Reel 8, Unit 1 of the Library of Congress film. The second citation indicates that another report is in the 1882 volume on pages 1409-28, that the volume is filmed on roll 11 of this microcopy, and that page number 1409 is on frame number 789. The cross-reference to the Comptroller General guides the user to reports made by the Attorney General that are printed in the Comptroller's report. The finding aid thus constitutes a single, integrated system that allows the researcher to find the pre-1900 reports of a given agency in *Reports and Resolutions* regardless of when or where they appear. An abbreviated version of the finding aid is printed below. It lists, in alphabetical order, the names of all agencies and officials who reported, includes cross-references, and gives the dates of the reports. The years of the reports that appear in this publication are printed in the abbreviated version in bold-face type.

Agency reports that were not printed in *Reports and Resolutions* were sometimes mentioned by legislative committees. If a legislative committee report on a state agency was spotted during the preparation of the finding aid, it was cited. A comprehensive search for such references, however, was not made. The reports in the series *Reports and Resolutions* are a rich source for the Palmetto state's history. Useful for a wide range of studies, they are nonetheless incomplete and can be supplemented by manuscript reports in the Archives and by reports that were separately printed.

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APPENDIX

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Artificial Limbs. See Special Reports: Artificial Limbs, Claims for
Attorney General: 1838; 1840-1847; 1853-1856; 1861; 1864/65; 1866; **1872/73-1894; 1896-1900**. See also Comptroller General: Attorney General, Circuit Solicitors, Clerks of Court
Auditor: 1863-1864; **1869/70-1871/72**. See also Comptroller General: Taxes
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Census. See Health, State Board of: Committee on Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages; Health, State Board of: Local Boards of Health, Vital Statistics; Secretary of State: Census; Special Reports: Census
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Chickamauga Commission. See Special Reports: Chickamauga Commission
Circuit Solicitors. See Attorney General; Comptroller General: Attorney General, Circuit Solicitors, Clerks of Court
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Clemson Agricultural College: **1890-1894; 1896-1900**
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 Commutations. See Governor: Pardons and Commutations
 Comptroller General: 1800-1864/65; 1866; **1868 (Special)-1894; 1896-1900**

Some of the reports listed below were mentioned by the comptroller but were not included with his report. Those only mentioned are noted.

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 Attorney General, Circuit Solicitors, Clerks of Court: 1809-1829; 1833
 Bank of the State: 1813-1819; 1821-1864/65; **1868/69; 1880**
 Banks, monthly reports of: 1848-1862; **1868/69-1885**
 Catawba Indian Agent: **1869/70-1872/73; 1874/75-1881; 1883-1894; 1896-1897; 1899-1900**
 Charleston Canal, Commissioners of: **1881/82**
 Circuit Solicitors: **1877/78-1894; 1896-1900**
 Claims against the state: **1889-1891**
 Columbia, Commissioner of: 1817-1831, 1833 (mentioned)
 Contingent Accounts: **1873/74-1875/76; 1877/78-1887; 1889-1894; 1896-1900**
 County Commissioners: **1869/70-1882; 1884-1894; 1896-1900**
 Deaf, Dumb, and Blind, School for: **1877/78-1886**
 Education, Superintendent of: **1870/71; 1873/74**
 Financial Agent in New York: **1869/70-1875/76**
 Free Schools, Commissioners of: 1833 (mentioned)
 Health Officers: **1871/72-1886**
 Inland Navigation, Commissioners of: 1809, 1811, 1821, (mentioned)
 Insurance Companies: **1870/71-1894; 1896-1900**
 Lunatic Asylum: 1831 (mentioned); **1868/69-1887; 1889**
 Military Academy: **1883-1886; 1889; 1892**
 Military Engineer: 1819-1820 (mentioned)
 New State Capitol: 1855-1863; **1885-1887**
 Orphan Asylum, State: **1877/78-1879**
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 Poor, Commissioners of: 1805-1820 (mentioned); 1822; 1823-1833 (mentioned)
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 Public Works, Board of and Superintendent of: 1820 (mentioned); 1827
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 Roads, Commissioners of: 1809-1833 (mentioned)
 South Carolina College: 1814; 1815-1821 (mentioned); 1822; 1823-1826 (mentioned); 1827; 1830-1831 (mentioned); **1869/70-1874/75; 1882-1886**
 Taxes: 1800; 1801 (mentioned); 1802; 1805 (mentioned); 1806-1807; 1808 (mentioned); 1809-1864/65; 1866; **1868 (Special)-1869/70; 1872/73-1894; 1896-1900**

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- Tobacco Inspection, Commissioners of: 1807-1811, 1814-1816, 1818-1822, (mentioned); 1823; 1824 (mentioned)
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- Confederate Records. See Special Reports: Confederate Records, Historian of
- Confederate Troops, Enrollment of. See Adjutant and Inspector General
- Constable, Chief: **1869/70-1870/71**
- Cotton Tax. See Special Reports: Governor, Special Message on Cotton Tax
- County Commissioners: **1869/70-1874/75**. See also Comptroller General: County Commissioners; Secretary of State: Poor Returns
- County Lines. See Secretary of State: County Lines
- Court of Claims, Commissioner of. See Special Reports: Court of Claims, Commissioner of
- De La Howe, John, Estate of: 1814; 1835-1838; 1842; 1844-1852; 1855-1856; 1858-1867; **1868-1874/75; 1882; 1884; 1887-1888; 1890-1891; 1896-1899**
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- Debts due the State. See Comptroller General: Circuit Solicitors
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- Education, Superintendent of: 1812; 1815-1829; 1831-1860; 1862-1864; 1866; **1868/69-1894; 1896-1900**
Clemson Agricultural College: **1898-1900**
Colored Normal, Industrial, Agricultural and Mechanical College: **1898-1900**
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- General Assembly, Legislative Business: 1784-1789; 1791-1866; **1868 (Special)-1891; 1894; 1897-1900**

Governor, Annual Message: **1883-1886; 1899-1900**. See also Special Reports: Governor, Special Message

Governor, Pardons and Commutations: **1868 (Special)-1869/70; 1871/72-1872/73; 1875/76; 1877-1878; 1879; 1881/82-1894; 1896-1900**

Harbor Commissioners, Charleston, Board of: **1881/82-1882; 1890**

Health, State Board of: **1879-1894; 1896-1900**

 Births, Deaths, and Marriages, Committee on Registration of: **1880**

 City of Charleston: **1883-1887; 1892-1894; 1896-1897; 1899-1900**

 Drugs and Medicines, Committee on: **1880; 1882**

 Endemic and Epidemic Diseases, Committee on: **1880-1888; 1890; 1899-1900**

 Executive Committee: **1879; 1881/82-1894; 1896-1900**

 Food and Drink, Committee on: **1881/82**

 Local Boards of Health, Vital Statistics: **1896-1900**

 Medical Topography, Committee on: **1883**

 Meteorological Reports: **1882-1887; 1892-1894; 1896-1900**

 Ordinances and Sanitary Codes, Committee on: **1880; 1882; 1886; 1899**

 Quarantine, Committee on: **1880-1894; 1896-1900**

 Sanitary Conditions of Jails, Committee on: **1897; 1900**

 Sanitary Conditions of Penal and Charitable Institutions, Committee on: **1880; 1883-1894; 1896-1900**

 Sanitary Conditions of Schools, Committee on: **1883; 1890; 1897; 1899-1900**

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 ler General: Penitentiary; Special Reports: Charitable and Penal Institutions, Com-
 mission Report on; Special Reports: Penitentiary, Commissioners to Inquire into the
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 Pharmaceutical Association of South Carolina: **1877/78; 1879; 1881/82**
 Phosphate Commissioners, Board of: **1891-1894; 1896-1900**
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 Board of; Phosphates, Inspector of; Special Reports: Phosphate Industry
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 Public Records Commission: **1893-1894; 1896**. See also Secretary of State: Public Records
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- Wilmington and Carolina Railroad Company. See Wilmington, Columbia, and Augusta Railroad Company
- Wilmington and Manchester Railroad Company. See Wilmington, Columbia, and Augusta Railroad Company
- Wilmington, Columbia, and Augusta Railroad Company: 1853; 1861; 1863; **1871/72-1872/73; 1878-1881/82; 1884-1885**. See also Comptroller General: Railroads; Railroad Commissioner; Railroad Commissioners, Board of; Secretary of State: Railroad Certificates of Consolidation
- Railroads. See Comptroller General: Railroads; Railroad Commissioner; Railroad Commissioners, Board of; Railroad Companies; Secretary of State: Railroad Certificates of Consolidation; Special Reports: South Carolina Railroad Company Stock, Proxies for the State on
- Reapportionment. See Comptroller General: Taxes; Secretary of State: Census; Special Reports: Census
- Recording Agent. See Special Reports: Recording Agent to Collect and Record the Names of Deceased Soldiers from South Carolina
- Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages: 1857-1860
- Republican Printing Company. See Special Reports: Republican Printing Company, Special Committee Report on Discrimination of
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- Foreign Corporations: **1894; 1896-1900**
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- Winthrop Normal and Industrial College: **1892-1894; 1896-1900**. See also Special Reports: Industrial School for Women, Commissioners' Report on
- Yorktown Centennial Commission. See Special Reports: Yorktown Centennial Commission

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