

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE—CONTINUED.

NAMES.	PROFESSION.	P. O. ADDRESS.	COUNTY.	BIRTH PLACE.	RELIGION.	BOARDING-HOUSE.	AGE.	WEIGHT.	HAIR.	CONDITION.	AGE.
Williams, William	Lawyer	Oskaloosa	Malaka	Ohio	Congregational	Dr. Brockel	46	150	4	Married	4
Wilson, William	Physician	Williamstown	Chickasaw	Pennsylvania	O. S. Presbyterian	N. F. Mills	46	150	4	Single	4
Worth, William	Land Agent	Council Bluffs	Pottawattomie	Pennsylvania	Baptist	Des Moines House	34	150	11	Single	11
Wright, William	Farmer	Clinton	Clinton	Indiana	Methodist	Grant House	35	152	4	Married	4
Young, William	Lawyer	Marion	Linn	Pennsylvania	Methodist	Tiffin's	37	150	14	Single	14
OFFICERS:											
Rush Clark, Speaker of the House	Lawyer	Iowa City	Johnson	Pennsylvania	O. S. Presbyterian	Goodrell's	37	180	9	Single	9
Chas. Aldrich, Chief Clerk	Editor	Webster City	Hamilton	New York	Methodist	Des Moines	37	153	5	Married	5
Mason B. Lyons, 2d Asst. Clerk	Lawyer	Fayette	Fayette	New York	Methodist	Houston's	37	150	9	Single	9
J. F. Brown, Engraving Clerk	Lawyer	Eldon	Hardin	New York	Methodist	J. W. Jones	38	153	7	Married	7
E. C. Condit, Enrolling Clerk	Druggist	Clinton	Clinton	Ohio	Methodist	Condit's	38	155	4	Single	4
J. Patterson, Door-keeper	Wagon maker	West Liberty	Linn	Ohio	Universalist	Condit's	38	155	4	Single	4
J. E. Guild, Freeman	Clergyman	Ringling	Muscatine	Pennsylvania	Baptist	Cooly House	40	155	8	Married	8
G. McChin, 1st Messenger	Carpenter	Bloomfield	Polk	Indiana	Methodist	Kemper's	39	160	5	Married	5
J. Q. C. McChin, 2d Messenger	Farmer	Bloomfield	Polk	Indiana	Methodist	Peterson's	14	117	4	Single	4
L. E. Eaton, 2d Paper Folder	Carpenter	Des Moines	Polk	Indiana	Methodist	Cooly House	16	128	18	Single	18
							17	124	6	Single	6

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF IMMIGRATION,

TO THE GOVERNOR

OF THE

STATE OF IOWA,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1861.

REPORT.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF IMMIGRATION,

TO HIS EXCELLENCY, SAMUEL J. KIRKWOOD,

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Sir :—At the last regular session of the Legislature of the State of Iowa, an act was passed providing for the establishment of a Commissioner in the City of New York, to promote Immigration to our State. The duties of the Commissioner are, according to the aforesaid Act, “to give to immigrants the necessary information in relation to the soil and climate of the State, and the branches of business to be pursued with advantage therein; and the cheapest and most expeditious route by which the same can reach the State, and to give such further information, as well as far as practicable, protect immigrants against the imposition often practiced upon them.”

The undersigned was appointed by your Excellency, with the consent of the Senate, such Commissioner, and having entered upon the duties of my appointment accordingly, it becomes my duty to submit to you a Report of the observations and experiences which I have made in the discharge of my duties.

The immigration of foreigners to our State, landing at New York, was:

In 1859,.....	664 persons.
In 1860,.....	776 “
An increase over the preceding year of.....	112 “
1861, there were 1,665, being an increase of about 100 per	

cent. in nine months over the year 1859. The total number of immigrants arrived at New York since the commencement of the year is 64,306, against 100,008 for the corresponding period in 1860. These figures show a decrease of about 45 per cent., for the last year, while at the same time the increase of immigration to our State was nearly 100 per cent., would seem to warrant the conclusion, that the establishment of a Commissioner at New York has had very beneficial results. This, however, in my opinion, is, as far as the location of the office in New York is concerned, erroneous, for various reasons:

The impositions practiced, and the robberies committed upon immigrants in the City of New York, by all kinds of agents and runners, became so numerous and unbearable that the authorities of the State of New York, prompted by a sense of justice and humanity as well as State economy, found it necessary to establish a landing-place for all alien immigrants at Castle Garden. At this building all immigrants have to be landed, and all agents and runners, are strictly excluded and prohibited from all intercourse whatever with the so landed immigrants, and it was only on account of my official position as Lieutenant Governor of the State, that I was able to obtain a pass for myself or my deputy to enter the building at all times. But here I was prohibited from furnishing immigrants any information such as is prescribed by the law establishing the agency, and likewise from the distribution of documents, notwithstanding the marked courtesy with which I was treated by the officers of the institution, and all I was allowed to do was to invite those who wanted information in regard to our State, to my office, near by, where I kept maps and documents for their disposition. My efforts were, consequently, very limited. I have further learned from experience, that most immigrants, before landing at New York, have concluded upon a place of destination, and it is only in a few instances that such conclusions can be changed. The only way, therefore, to reach the object is to inform them about the advantages our State offers to them before they leave the old world. The good results, therefore, which are shown by the above figures, I mainly ascribe to the distribution of documents throughout Germany, and the correspondence to journals and newspapers, which I have made my principal object. But this could be done with much less expense to the State by an agent at home quite as effectually as by an agent at the City of New York.

From a careful investigation into the history of foreign immigration to this country, I have further learned that the competition which presents itself in all enterprises when great financial results are to be accomplished, has also grown up between the Western States for a controlling influence upon the European immigration, and it is only the best laid plans, systematised by long experience, that immigration can be directed to any particular locality. What has been accomplished by regularly organized Emigrant Companies in other Western States, is sufficient to show us the impracticability of attempting to successfully compete with these States simply through a New York Agency.

I have had an opportunity of informing myself as to the plans and purposes of some of these Emigrant Companies above referred to, and in my opinion the plan of the American Immigrant Company, if carried out, promises the most favorable results. A little effort on the part of our State—so long neglected—is only necessary to secure the same co-operation of these companies for our State, as has been done by other Western States, which have heretofore received almost the entire share of foreign immigration, which our own State naturally should have received. A comparison of figures will show this to convince everybody. Of a foreign immigration of 100,000 persons in 1860, Iowa received 776, and a still less number in the preceding year. This number cannot be regarded as a due and fair share for our State, when we have far more advantages to offer to the immigrant than any other State in the Union. Some neglect on our part must be the cause of this disproportion. The most practical plan for accomplishing the end, which our Legislature had in view by establishing the office in New York, would seem to be to send a Commissioner to Europe, but the question is, whether this would be advisable as long as the prosperity of our country is interrupted by insurrection and civil war. It is well known with what immense success the Illinois Central Railroad Company has sent agents all over the United States and especially to Europe. That Company is constantly selling its lands at high prices to immigrants, and is at the same time adding a large increase to the population of the State of Illinois, without a dollar of expense on the part of that State. If the different Railroad Companies, who have obtained the large and liberal grants of the most beautiful land in our State by Acts of her Legislature would follow the example of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, they would undoubt-

edly meet with the same success, not only to their own, but also to the immense benefit of the State.

From the reasons as before stated, I have arrived at the conclusion, that I could not recommend a renewal of appropriations for continuing the office of Immigrant Commissioner in New York, especially as long as our State shares the calamity in which our common country is involved.

The protection against imposition and fraud, which our Legislature intended to bestow upon the immigrant through the Commissioner of our State is amply and sufficiently given by the institution of Castle Garden, and much more so and better than it could be done by individual effort.

It is reasonable to believe that some good results have been obtained through the office in New York in regard to immigration to our State from other States in the Union. Numerous letters have constantly been received making inquiries in regard to soil, climate, etc., of our State, and have been answered and documents sent, and I really believe that in this way more good has been accomplished than by the efforts in regard to foreign immigration, though these results could be obtained quite as well with much less expense, through some agency in the State.

From the Auditor's report you will learn that from the sum appropriated for contingent expenses, as documents, etc., \$425 00 have not been expended. Having quite a sufficient number of documents in the English and German languages, for the present want, on hand, I did not deem it prudent, in the present condition of the country, to expend more of these funds than absolutely necessary. I also succeeded in saving from the sum appropriated for office-rent, in consequence of the falling of rents in New York, after the commencement of the war, \$150 00. The sum thus left from the appropriation would be sufficient for the issuing of a larger pamphlet in the English language to be distributed throughout the New England States, from which a much larger immigration to our State might thus be promoted, as the immense resources of our young State have heretofore not been sufficiently known.

If the Legislature should conclude so to appropriate the aforesaid funds, I would respectfully call their attention to an Immigrant Society, which has for several years been established in the city of Dubuque, and by which a highly recommendable pamphlet, concerning the northern part of our State, has been issued. If the

Society would so enlarge their pamphlet as to embrace the whole State, they might be considered the proper agents for issuing and distributing such pamphlet with the aid of the aforesaid sum, and the results, I have no doubt, would be most beneficial to our State.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

N. J. RUSCH,
Immigrant Commissioner.