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REPORT
OF
CENSUS BOARD

ON PLANS FOR A

NEW CAPITOL BUILDING.

REPORT OF CENSUS BOARD
ON PLANS FOR A
NEW CAPITOL BUILDING.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
DES MOINES, February 1, 1870. }

TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA :

In accordance with the provisions of an Act, entitled "An Act authorizing the Census Board to procure Plans and Specifications for a State-House, and making appropriation for repairs on the Capitol building," approved, April sixth, 1868, the undersigned Census Board, respectfully submit the following report of the result of their action in the matter of procuring plans for a new Capitol.

One of the first duties assigned the board, was to "advertise for at least twenty days in two daily papers of this State, and in one newspaper in each of the cities of Chicago, New York and Philadelphia, for plans and specifications for a State Capitol, to be erected on the Capitol Square, at the Capitol of the State."

Pursuant to the foregoing provisions, the board held a meeting on the twentieth day of June, 1868, and authorized the publication in the *Daily State Register*, *Daily Davenport Gazette*, *Daily Chicago Tribune*, *Daily New York Tribune* and the *Philadelphia Press*, of a notice that plans and specifications would be received by the Governor until the first day of December, 1868, for three styles of building; one to cost one million dollars; one to cost one and a half million dollars; and one to cost two million dollars.

As an inducement for architects to enter into competition, the board proposed to pay the sum of twelve hundred dollars for the most approved plan that might be presented, for each of the three styles mentioned; provided plans should be presented which in the opinion of the board were meritorious. On the 12th of October, 1868, the board ordered that the time for the reception of plans be extended until the first day of March, 1869.

February 12th, 1869, the board having been requested by a number of architects to again extend the time, the request was granted, and the time again extended until September 1st, 1869.

Pursuant to this notice, some fourteen plans were presented, of the several styles designated, three of which were adopted by the board, and with the drawings and specifications are herewith presented to your honorable body for consideration.

The plans based on an estimated cost of two millions, and one half million dollars, which in the opinion of a majority of the board, were best adapted to the wants of the State, and the most likely to not cost more than the estimated amounts, were presented by W. W. Boyington of Chicago. The plan based on an estimated cost of one million dollars, as adopted as the most meritorious of that class of plans was presented by J. C. Farrand of Des Moines.

Section three of the aforesaid act requires the board to procure specimens of stone from the several quarries of the State, and have them tested as to their fitness for use in the building of a Capitol.

In this, the board have in a measure been unsuccessful; as specimens have only been received from four quarries, none of which were accompanied with a statement of the cost of the stone at the quarry, or the cost of transportation from the quarry to the Capitol.

In consideration of the fact, that but few specimens were received, the board did not feel warranted in causing any expense in having

them tested, believing that this could be done with more satisfaction by the architect or person appointed to superintend the erection of the building.

The board do not deem it proper to make any suggestions as to the comparative merits of the plans adopted, and herewith presented for your consideration.

We have selected from the plans those which were the most meritorious, either of which would, in our opinion meet the wants of the State for many years.

The following abstract, from the books of the Auditor's office, will show what disposition has been made of the funds placed at the disposal of the board for the purpose of procuring the plans hereinbefore referred to.

ABSTRACT—NEW STATE-HOUSE PLANS.

Chapter 91, Section 4, Acts 1868, Appropriates, \$5,000.00

1868.	Expenditures as follows:	
Aug. 5.	To warrant "Philadelphia Press" advertising	\$ 84.87
Sept. 18.	To warrant "N. Y. Tribune" advertising.....	164.80
Oct. 8.	To warrant "Chicago Republican" advertising	24.00
Oct. 26.	To warrant "Davenport Gazette" advertising	26.25
Dec. 29.	To warrant "American Express Co." (Ex. chs.)	2.50
1869.		
Jan. 18.	To warrant "Register Printing Co." advertising	21.00
Feb. 18.	To warrant "Tribune Co." Chicago advertising	10.00
Mar. 4.	To warrant "Chicago Even'g Post" advertising	3.00
Apr. 3.	To warrant "American Exp. Co." (Exp. chgs.)	13.40
Apr. 5.	To warrant "Register Printing Co.,".....	4.80
July 1.	To warrant "U. S. Exp. Co.," (Exp. chgs.)....	4.50

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Oct.	4.	To warrant "U. S. Exp. Co.," (Exp. chgs.)....	2.80
Dec.	10.	To warrant J. C. Farrand, arct. (1 million plan)	1,200.00
Dec.	11.	To warrant W. W. Boyington arct. (1½ million plan).....	1,200.00
1870.			
Jan.	12.	To warrant W. W. Boyington arct. (2 million plan).....	1,200.00
Jan.	27.	To warrant "U. S. Exp. Co.," (Exp. chgs).....	3.25
Feb.	1.	To warrant Jno. C. Merrill, clerk.....	10.00
			\$3.974.67
Balance unexpended, Feb. 1, 1870.....			\$1,025.33

The drawings hereinbefore referred to are so large and numerous, that it is impossible for the board to formally present them to your honorable body, hence it is deemed proper to state that said plans can be inspected in the offices of the Auditor and Secretary of State.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL MERRILL,

ED WRIGHT,

JOHN A. ELLIOTT,

SAMUEL E. RANKIN,

Census Board.

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