

ADMIRE'S  
POLITICAL AND LEGISLATIVE  
HAND-BOOK  
FOR  
KANSAS.

1891.

WITH MAPS.

Compiled by W. W. ADMIRE.

TOPEKA, KANSAS:  
GEO. W. CRANE & CO., PUBLISHERS.  
1891.

*Topeka, Kansas, January 15, 1891.*

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TO MY BROTHER,  
JACOB VEATCH ADMIRE,  
WHO TOOK "CHARGE" OF THE COMPILER, WHEN LEFT, IN  
EARLY CHILDHOOD, AN ORPHAN,  
AND WHO HAS  
EVER EXTENDED TO HIM A FATHER'S CARE AND LOVE,  
THIS BOOK  
IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED,  
WITH THE  
DEEP AND LASTING GRATITUDE OF  
W. W. ADMIRE.

*AUTHENTICATION.*

STATE OF KANSAS, OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE,  
TOPEKA, January 11, 1891.

*To Whom it may Concern:*

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, That the Kansas election tables contained in "Audre's Political and Legislative Hand-Book for Kansas for 1891," have been compiled from the official returns on file in my office, and are correct, as I verily believe.

[ SEAL ]

WILLIAM HIGGINS,  
*Secretary of State,*

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## PREFACE.

As a newspaper correspondent, during several years last past, I have often experienced the need of a volume similar to this, containing in compact form a compilation of political facts and figures pertaining to our own state; *i. e.*, a political hand-book for Kansas. The task of compiling such a volume appeared at first to be a very easy one, requiring but little time or labor, no particular originality, and — George W. Crane would pay the printer. But it is human to miscalculate in matters of this character, as well as to err, and I am free to confess in this public manner that had I known as much about political hand-books a year ago as I do to-day, "Admire's Political and Legislative Hand-Book for Kansas" would never have appeared in print.

However, here is the result of time, labor, worry and vexation of spirit. And Mr. Crane will probably always remain poorer because of that public spirit which prompted him to undertake this publication. As Mr. D. W. Wilder well says in his introduction, which follows: "Heretofore the publishers of Kansas books have been sold, while the works themselves have not. Kansas books go like hot cakes — when freely given away."

In presenting this volume to the public I realize that it is not complete; it is not up to the high standard I had intended it to be. In looking over the printed pages it is now plain to be seen that there are some things that might have been omitted which would not have lessened the value of the book. And there are many others, no doubt, that should have had an abiding place between these covers. But it is the present intention to issue this hand-book every two years, with such additional data as newspaper publishers, politicians and those interested in politics, legislators and others, may have occasion to refer to. With this purpose in view, the election returns herein and other expensive tables have been stereotyped, so that future editions may not bankrupt the publisher.

A particularly valuable feature of this volume is the very able treatise on "Legislative Practice in Kansas," by Hon. A. P. Riddle, ex-Lieutenant Governor, who is beyond question one of the ablest parliamentarians in the country. Mr. Riddle has taken great care to cover every point

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upon which the legislator should be posted in order to acquit himself creditably as the representative of an enlightened constituency and as a law maker for a great commonwealth. This treatise will no doubt commend itself, not only to the legislators at present assembled in the Kansas capitol, but to those of former sessions, as it should, also, to every one desiring to be informed upon parliamentary practice. (See Appendix.)

In many of the states of the union political and legislative hand-books similar to this are published at the expense of the state governments, under the direction, generally, of the secretary of state, who is especially charged with their compilation. But in Kansas no such legislative enactment has been had, and the work and expense of producing such a book has remained for private enterprise alone. Whether this particular compilation will meet the requirements of those into whose hands it may fall, is not for me to say. I can only hope that it will meet with a patronage sufficient to reimburse the printer, and that it will not be too severely criticised.

To Mr. George W. Crane, who has kindly and generously undertaken the publication of this work, I cannot return too warm thanks. His generosity, public spirit and energetic character are known and honored all over Kansas. He has suffered disastrously by fire, but he never falters or stops business. His great publishing house is constantly issuing books and other publications which the public of Kansas feel proud of, and which will make his name permanently prominent in Kansas literature.

To Hon. D. W. Wilder, upon whose almost limitless fund of information I have most frequently drawn, am I particularly indebted. His generous nature, ripe scholarship and kindly counsels have for years been of great benefit to me. His "Annals of Kansas," that complete history of the state, has also been frequently resorted to in search of reliable data. It has never been "found wanting."

I also wish to give special thanks to Hon. James Smith, long secretary of state, and the private secretary of Governors Martin and Humphrey during the past six years. To have been associated with him during this period, and to have enjoyed his friendship, confidence and assistance the while, I esteem the greatest felicity of my life.

W. W. ADMIRE.

## INTRODUCTION.

Admiré's Political Hand-book for Kansas is a storehouse of political information, and covers an extensive field — more than a century. The legal documents on which the political foundations of Kansas rest are here found in full. The early national federation compacts, declarations and constitutions are given without abridgement. The early treaties, organic act and constitution of Kansas are also accurately copied. Nothing that was dull, dry and decisive has been skipped. We do not need these documentary deliverances every hour, but when we do, we want them as they are, and in compact form. Mr. Admiré has completely met the emergency, in 117 pages of constitutions and "statutory enactments." The United States government, the presidents, cabinets, congresses and national elections — all these file before us in formal array, and in fitting typography. All of the States, all of our counties, are nomenclatured, and the "cause why" given. The fat little book lards the lean earth with oceanic statistics, as it passes from one constituency to another. The Kansas legislator turns the pages of destiny and feels that the wings of statesmanship are growing out of his own proper person, and wants to fly — to the Kaw or to the Potomac.

The page given to early discoveries I know is right, because I wrote it for the "Annals of Kansas." It was published, and its correctness has never been questioned.

The vote of Kansas for presidents, congressmen and state officers, from 1854 to the present year, is given in full. This vote has been carefully compared with the official returns on file in the office of the secretary of state. No other compiler has ever made such a comparison and correction. Mr. Admiré has also given, for the first time, the residence and politics of all candidates. His industry and accuracy are worthy of the highest praise.

Heretofore the publishers of Kansas books have been sold, while the works themselves have not. It is very generally believed that Kansas entered upon a new era when the votes were counted last November. If she did, book buying may take the place of book begging. Kansas books

*INTRODUCTION.*

go like hot cakes — when freely given away. If we are deceived again, and there has been no book-buying revolution, then it will remain with George W. Martin, T. Dwight Thatcher, D. W. W., George W. Crane and Mr. Admire to place their unsold books in a government warehouse, (to be built by the government in Shawnee county,) and take the warehouse receipts of the United States government for the books. These receipts are in fact greenbacks, as good as money, and, therefore, money. I have never talked with a person who did not freely say that every copy of the "Annals" would be worth one hundred dollars fifty years from now; say in 1940. Well, the government can hold them and make a very handsome profit. "Annals" now on hand will be warehoused at ten dollars a copy. Admire is younger and can put the "Hand-Book" into the crib for five dollars.

Very truly,

D. W. WILDER.