

## Secretary of State

C. C. Stiles

ISSN 0003-4827

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### Recommended Citation

Stiles, C. C. "Secretary of State." *The Annals of Iowa* 16 (1928), 331-358.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.5207>

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*Continued from April number*

SECRETARY OF STATE

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### OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE

The office of the auditor of state was established January 7, 1840, and designated "Auditor of the Territory." The constitution of 1846 provided for the continuance of the office under the title of "Auditor of Public Accounts." The constitution of 1857 continued the office under the titular head of "Auditor of State."

From the nature of the business transacted by this branch of the state government, the documents are not generally considered so valuable historically as are the documents in some of the other branches. This, in part, is true, but a large number of documents are in themselves of great historical interest. The business of the different state departments has been so closely connected that documents in the office of auditor must be found to corroborate facts gleaned from other departments. Thousands of documents in this department, however, have no connection with any other.

To a student of history the growth of the state is more clearly portrayed in this department than in the others. For example, the tax lists in the early forties of the then organized counties were written out on a few sheets of foolscap, the totals of each county amounting to only a few dollars. At present the collections by the same counties are counted by the thousands and tens of thousands. We find that the documents for any one year in the earlier history of the state are numbered by hundreds while for the same period of time at present there are thousands. This growth of the state is also clearly portrayed by the increase each year in the number and amounts of the claims filed and paid and by the character of the claims.

#### MAIN DIVISIONS

SERIES I. CERTIFICATES  
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