

plaint as any of the institutions under which we live.
—Judge Emlin McClain in *Midland Monthly*, December, 1898.

Forerunners of Official Register

Nearly everyone conversant with Iowa state officials of the past recalls that William H. Fleming was the private secretary of seven governors, and a well-informed man on Iowa history. But now, few know that he also served as deputy secretary of state under Gen. Ed Wright, who entered upon his duties January 2, 1867.

In Mr. Fleming's "Autobiography of a Private Secretary," *ANNALS OF IOWA*, Vol. XV, p. 11, is related that then for the first time under state authority, information in regard to former state and territorial officers, legislators and judges was assembled and printed officially, such data having previously appeared in a private publication termed a State Almanac and issued in 1860, by Richard Sylvester, at Iowa City, and Theodore Eagal, of Davenport.

Information of this character officially compiled and published for general distribution by the state, first appeared in the state census report, on suggestion of the Census Board, now known as the Executive Council, whose responsibility it was to take the state census until it was discontinued during Gov. Dan W. Turner's administration.

In 1886, Frank D. Jackson, secretary of state, issued the first compilation of the state Official Register, the publication of which has since continued, and now is compiled by the superintendent of printing.

The Functions of Government

Pres. Grover Cleveland: The lessons of paternalism ought to be unlearned and the better lesson taught that, while the people should patriotically and cheerfully support their government, its functions do not include the support of the people.

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