

The book contains much valuable information and is written and illustrated attractively. It is in great demand and has been widely distributed, thereby attracting attention to our advantages and resources.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL.

It is the duty of the State Fire Marshal as defined by the Act of 1894, Chapter 248, which created the office, to examine into the causes, circumstances and origin of all fires occurring in the State to which his attention may be called, and which in his judgment require examination.

These duties have been faithfully performed, and it is believed the fire insurance companies carrying risks in this State have been saved much more than the expenses connected with the support of the office by reason of the exposure of the criminal and incendiary origin of many fires, but it is also reasonable to hold that much has also been saved because of the knowledge of the fact that the origin of every fire will be investigated should any occur under suspicious circumstances has a deterrent moral effect, intangible it is true, but nevertheless wholesome.

The narrow duties of the Fire Marshal might profitably be enlarged so as to clothe him with authority and power to investigate the construction and arrangement of buildings designed for use as places of amusement, and to house large crowds of people, with a view to determining their safety and the convenience for escape in case of fire. This simple precaution may save the State some terrible disaster.

LAND OFFICES.

The General Assembly of 1900 and 1902 passed several Acts which add materially to the efficiency of the Land Office, and the performance of the duties and work prescribed by law.

By the reorganization of the clerical force and placing the same under the control of the Land Commissioner copying and recording has been done with dispatch.

Copies have been furnished promptly, much to the