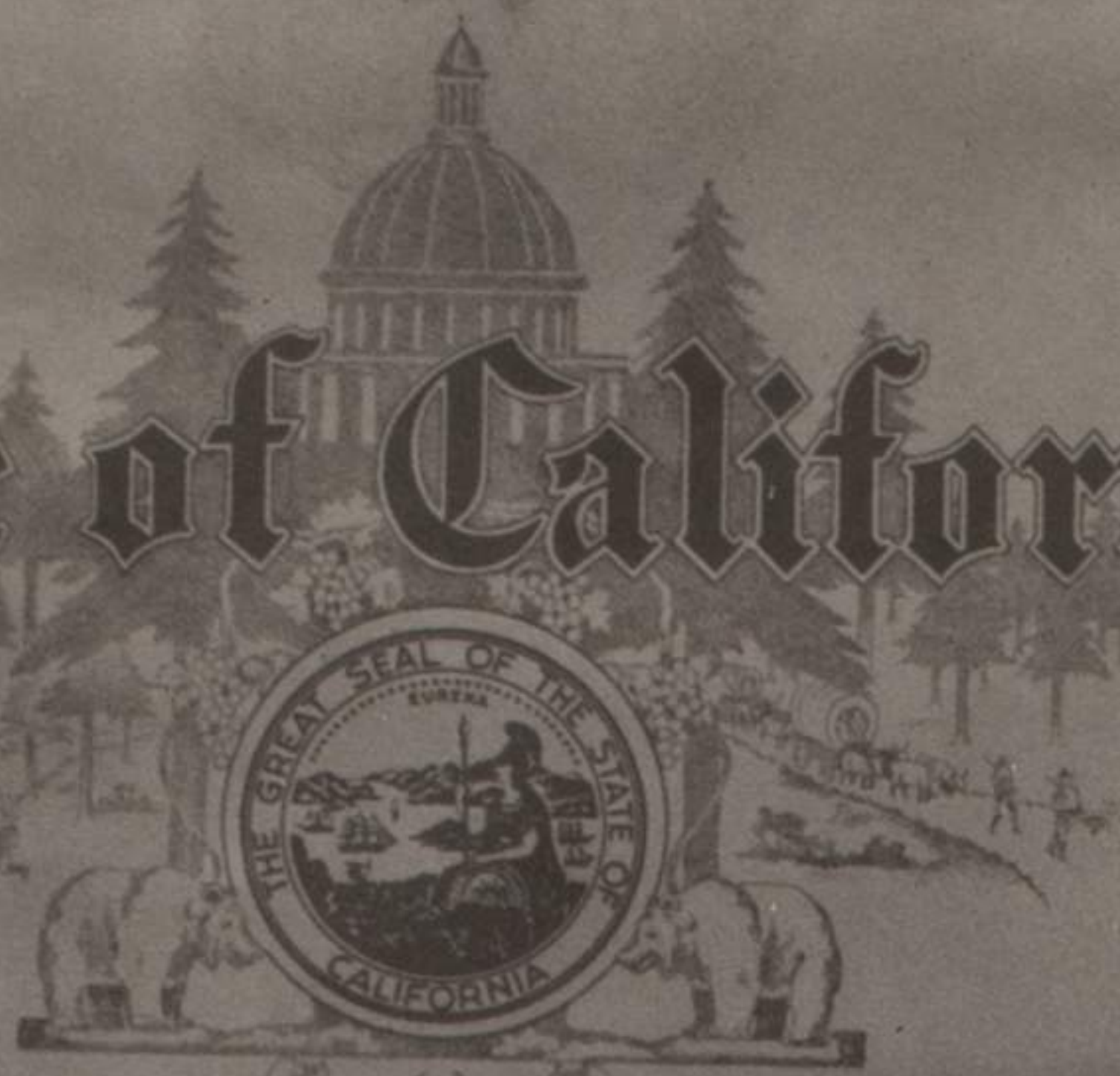


State of California



Office of
Frank M. Jordan
Secretary of State

The Great Seal of the State of California



INTRODUCED in the Convention which framed the Constitution of the State of California September 29th, 1849, and adopted October 2nd, 1849. Original cost, \$1,000. Designed by Maj. R. S. Garnett, U. S. A., who declined to present it to the Convention for its adoption, but gave Caleb Lyon, of Lyonsdale, N. Y., who was then Assistant Secretary of the Convention, authority to present the same, and expressed a desire that he alone should be known as its author. The Seal is explained as follows: "Around the bend of the ring are represented thirty-one stars, being the number of States of which the Union will consist upon the admission of California. The foreground figure represents the Goddess Minerva having sprung full grown from the brain of Jupiter. She is introduced as a type of political birth of the State of California, without having gone through the probation of a Territory. At her knee stands a grizzly bear, feeding upon the clusters from a grapevine, emblematic of the country's peculiar characteristics. The sheaf of wheat and bunch of grapes were adopted as emblems of the Agricultural and Horticultural interests of the State. A miner

is engaged, with his rocker and bowl at his side, illustrating the golden wealth of the Sacramento, upon whose waters is seen shipping typical of commercial greatness; and the snow clad peaks of the Sierra Nevada make up the background, while above is the Greek motto, 'Eureka' (I have found it), applying either to the principle involved in the admission of the State, or the success of the miner at work." Upon resolution offered by Hon. Myron Norton, the words "The Great Seal of the State of California" were added to the design.

To my very good friend, Leon Washington, Jr.

Augustus P. Hawkes
MEMBER CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE
Sixty-Second Assembly District

Frank M. Jordan
Secretary of State