

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Report of the Iowa Columbian Commission, containing a full statement of its proceedings, including a list of its disbursements, accompanied by complete vouchers therefor. Published by the Commission. Cedar Rapids, Iowa: Republican Printing Co., 1895.

This is a large octavo volume of 423 pages, which includes all the official transactions of the Commission and the reports of committees, together with the Iowa Hand-book, a work issued during the progress of the great Exposition and circulated by thousands. This last installment occupies about one half of the present volume, and treats of "The discovery, settlement, geographical location, topography, natural resources, geology, climatology, commercial facilities, agricultural productiveness, manufacturing advantages, educational interests, healthfulness, government, and the excellence of the social and moral life of The State of Iowa." It is illustrated with many fine portraits, and other engravings of permanent historical interest, with an excellent map of the State, and the binding is especially fine and substantial. The volume is not only a very complete setting forth of the part Iowa took in the great Columbian Exposition of 1893, but a clear and concise estimate of our history, progress, growth and resources. We regard the volume as one possessing high and permanent value, and a copy should find a welcome place in every public and private library in our State. It is however greatly to be regretted that it was not thoroughly and carefully indexed.

THE MISSOURI RIVER AND ITS UTMOST SOURCE. Curtailed Narration of Geologic, Primitive and Geographic Distinctions Descriptive of the Evolution and Discovery of the River and its Headwaters. By Hon. J. V. Brower, author of "The Mississippi river and its Source," etc., etc. St. Paul, Minn., 1895.

This is a highly illustrated and very beautiful volume of 150 pages, the contents of which are clearly set forth in the title-page which we copy in full. The author, Judge J. V. Brower, is a well-known western archeologist, explorer and writer. He has made many valuable contributions to the early history of Minnesota, aside from his pamphlet on the source of the Mississippi, which was published a year ago. During the summer of 1895 he made a journey to the head-waters of the Missouri, in order to ascertain its "utmost source." Upon the results of that journey this volume is based. His explorations led him up the Missouri river to where its name changes to that of Jefferson Fork; thence up that to where the name becomes Beaver Head; and from this up the Red Rock river—which streams he assumes to constitute "one unbroken and direct principal channel," the head-water branch of the Missouri. After exploring many streams he finally reached the "utmost

source of the great river, which had been discovered the previous year by Mrs. Lillian C. Culver, a resident of that region. This is "a pretty spring," issuing "from under a large black rock on the side of the mountain," in "a lonesome, wild place," on the continental divide between Montana and Idaho. This spot had been marked and the date of the discovery fixed beyond dispute. In chronicling his journey, the author discusses the history, archeology, geology and geography of the Far West, quoting freely from the writings of those who, from the earliest times, have preceded him in the work of exploration. Aside from his own narration he presents an epitome of the works of other writers, thus pointing the reader's way to all extant sources of information. This work is published by the author, in a limited edition of three hundred numbered copies.

PIONEER LIFE IN AND AROUND CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA—1839 TO 1849.
By Rev. George R. Carroll. Times Printing and Binding House,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 1895.

This is a handsome volume of 251 pages, containing the author's portrait and ten other illustrations, written, as he states, "to secure from the hopeless oblivion to which they would soon be consigned, a few facts, concerning the people and their doings, of those early times, that ought to be preserved, if ever a full and correct history is written." Mr. Carroll was "a participator in, or at least an eye-witness of, many of the things of which he writes, and was personally acquainted with, or knew well by reputation, almost every person of whom he has attempted a description." This book is of a class of which there ought to be a hundred more in this state, for it presents sketches of pioneers whose names should not be left to perish, with pen pictures of Iowa while still in its primitive freshness and beauty. Such personal recollections are the best sources of history.

NOTABLE DEATHS.

COLONEL ADDISON COCHRAN.—The death of Colonel Addison Cochran, a distinguished soldier and pioneer occurred at Little Sioux, Harrison county, on the 20th of May. He was one of the most noted of the settlers of western Iowa, and one who has left his mark upon the times in which he lived. Born in Virginia in 1816, his early days were passed, after attaining to manhood in that state and in South Carolina, in commercial pursuits. He then removed to Arkansas and soon after enlisted in a regiment raised in that state for the Mexican war, he being at first its lieutenant-colonel, afterwards its colonel. He took part in the contests on the Rio Grande and was present at the battle of Buena Vista, and was one of the bravest of the brave in the famous cavalry charge which insured the defeat of the Mexican army. The

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