

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.

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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.

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### 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

war over, he devoted himself to other pursuits in the western territories, residing several years at Santa Fe. Then in 1854 he came to Iowa and settled in Council Bluffs. He at once engaged in the real estate business, bought and sold great quantities of land and city property, and died the owner of many thousands of acres of farming lands as well as of many city buildings and lots. His largest purchases of the former were in Harrison county, and here he owned a grain and stock farm of large extent. He was an intensely southern man in his feelings, and perhaps it was for that reason he passed most of his time during the war in mining operations in Colorado. Returning to Council Bluffs in 1866, he has left his mark in many directions upon that city. He was mainly instrumental, while Mayor, in the establishment of Fremont Park, and other important improvements, and at a later day he donated to the city a smaller park which has since been greatly improved, and bears his name. He was a wonderfully reticent man as to all his personal affairs, and only his most intimate friends could gain any knowledge in reference to them. A wife whom he married in early life, and also a son born to them, were removed by death as were also brothers and sisters, and only nephews and nieces remained, among whom he divided his large estate by will, in equal proportion. His funeral took place in Council Bluffs on the 22nd of May, and his remains were laid to rest in Fairview Cemetery. A suitable monument will be erected over them on the summit of the bluff, overlooking, for a long distance, the surrounding country, upon which he was wont to gaze during his lifetime with so much pleasure.

D. C. BLOOMER.

Dr. ASA HERR, scholar and scientist, died at his home in Dubuque, June 2, 1896. His birth-place was Worthington, Ohio, and the date September 2, 1817. His education began early and he was a student during his whole life. While educated as a physician and surgeon, and while he attained great distinction in his profession, he yet found time to study science and investigated along many lines. Removing from Baltimore, Ohio, in 1846, Galena, Illinois, became his first western home. In 1847 he removed to Dubuque, Iowa, where he resided until his death. He was identified with local societies for the advancement of knowledge, and was one of one hundred American and English short-hand writers who were chosen to make improvements in phonography. He excelled in the study of botany and made large collections. He was president of the Dubuque County and the Cedar Valley Medical Societies and a member of the National Public Health Association. He was interested in geology, mineralogy and astronomy, and paid particular attention to meteorology. To him and Professor Lapham of Milwaukee, is due the present method of forecasting the weather, for the U. S. weather reports. Dr. Herr was an honored member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. All of the societies to which he belonged were benefitted by his labors, and he was successful in bringing the sciences to the comprehension of those interested who were without scientific knowledge. He was liberal but unostentatious, ever aiming to be helpful without becoming conspicuous. He made a donation of four hundred volumes of choice books to the State Historical Department, and he was especially liberal with other public institutions. His contact with others has had the effect to stimulate to more careful and thorough work, so that the good he did will live after him. In politics he was a whig and then a republican. Hundreds of friends deeply mourn his loss. Dr. Herr continued in the active practice of medicine until failing health compelled him to relinquish it a few months

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