

of personal memoranda, and of facts and events, which our limited space prevents any attempt to follow. Suffice it to say, that all this valuable historical matter was carefully preserved in the State Historical Department, in convenient shape for reference or use hereafter. The capital city and county did themselves great credit in thus observing the close of the first half century of their existence.

THE INDIAN CHIEF WAPELLO.

McKenney and Hall's great work on the Indian Tribes of North America contains a fine portrait—a lithograph colored by hand—of this distinguished Musquaquee Chief, in all the glory of feathers, bead work and red and yellow paint. We have attempted its reproduction by the half-tone process, but not with as good a result as we had hoped. No portrait of this estimable, peace-loving Indian, whose name was given by law to one of our richest and most populous counties, has ever before been published in our State. A better one may some day appear—when some artist paints his portrait in oil—but this presents a good representation of his dress and general appearance.

According to the late Hon. A. R. Fulton's "Red Men of Iowa," (p. 252), Wapello was born at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, in 1787. The name signifies prince or chief. At the time of the erection of Fort Armstrong, Rock Island, he is said to have ruled over one of the principal Indian villages in that vicinity. In 1829 he removed to Muscatine Slough on the west side of the Mississippi, and afterward to a point in the vicinity of the present city of Ottumwa, near which he died, March 15, 1842. Judge



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Fulton says that "he had started to visit some of the scenes of his former days, but was taken with sudden illness at his camp in what is now Jackson township, Keokuk county, where he lingered but a few days." "To the curious," says the author, "it may, in the years to come, be a matter of interest to know that the closing scene in the earthly career of this good Indian chief was on the north-west quarter of section 21, township 74, range 11, west." He begged to be buried near the last resting-place of his friend General Joseph M. Street, and his wishes were carried out.

Wapello was short in stature, but stoutly built. Every account that has come down to us in regard to him is to the effect that he was kindly in his nature and disposed to be at peace with the whites. Whether this arose from his own personal qualities—an inborn amiability—or from the fact that he saw the hand-writing on the wall, and knew how futile it would be to contend against the tide of settlement which was sweeping his people from the face of the earth, we need not stop to inquire. The impression we derive from the scanty information now accessible, is, that he possessed a most kindly disposition, and was endowed with considerable natural ability. He was next in rank and consequence after Keokuk. He went to New York, Boston and Washington, with Keokuk and others of his tribe, in 1837. While in Boston he replied to a speech of the eloquent Governor Edward Everett, in the State House, expressing friendly sentiments toward "the white man." The record says that his remarks were "received with applause."

An engraving from a photograph appeared in *THE ANNALS* for July-October, 1895, showing the graves of General Street and some members of his family, with that of Wapello. The crumbling monuments over these graves may be seen on the south side of the railroad track, about half a mile east of Agency City station. "The spot is

classic ground in Iowa's aboriginal history." Many years ago Judge Fulton copied the following inscriptions from these grave-stones:

In
Memory of
GEN. JOSEPH M. STREET,
Son of Anthony and Molly Street.
Born Oct. 18, 1785, in Virginia;
Died at the Sac and Fox Agency,
May 5th, 1840.

In
Memory of
WA-PEL-LO,
Born at
Prairie du Chien, 1787:
Died near the Forks of Skunk,
March 15, 1842.—Sac and Fox Nation.

WAS JOHN BROWN IN IOWA IN 1841?

An interesting old relic lately came into the possession of the Historical Department. It is a folio volume of printed receipts for books loaned from the Territorial Library of those remote days—the year 1841. The signatures of many noted men—and “there were giants in those days”—appear as constant borrowers of the few books then owned by Iowa Territory. Most of the men whose names are in this volume have passed away—only here and there one remaining far advanced in years. On the first page we see that Jesse Williams, our first Territorial Secre-

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