

influenced by being awe-struck by a great cathedral, a Roman aqueduct, or the Golden Gate bridge.

[As long as man continues to try to understand life, he will continue to consciously study history; yet all men are influenced by the past, whether they will it or not. In periods of apparent or real change, this tendency to a more self-conscious study of the past exhibits itself the most, in both the individual and the world as a whole. Periods of extreme crisis are specially productive of self-examination. Unfortunately, periods of success do not so stimulate us, and periods of uncritical acceptance usually pave the way for crisis.] We should often remind ourselves, "It is later than you think."

From the Annals 100 Years Ago

ANNALS OF IOWA, JANUARY 1, 1864

The Seasons of 1863

The seasons in Iowa, for the past year of 1863, have been most remarkable and surprising to the "oldest inhabitants." Showers fell in January, February and March, accompanied with thunder and lightning. Frost, in some parts of the State, was observed every month in the warm season. And, from drouth continued in some places, through June and July, or from frosts in August and September, all vegetation of corn and potatoe crops was stopped; and the buckwheat crop was entirely cut off, a thing unknown before.

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