

formed their difficult task most successfully. Their work in our opinion is one of the highest merit. In this number of *THE ANNALS* we have the pleasure of presenting from the pen of Dr. J. L. Pickard, long the President of the State University, an analytical review of this monograph which gives a good idea of its scope and literary quality, as well as a very fair summary of its contents. We bespeak for it a careful reading, and commend the little book itself as worthy a place in every public and private library in Iowa.

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### FORMS OF PUBLICATION.

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Throughout our State there is a rising tide in the matter of pamphlet publications relating to churches, educational institutions, the growth of towns and cities, etc. This is most praiseworthy, but the forms in which these publications appear are at once very distressing to the collector who essays to gather them together and put them into some accessible shape. Their pages vary from, perhaps, 3x4 inches in size, up to great folios. It is a puzzle how to preserve them. Manifestly they should be classified and bound into volumes. But as they are now running, this is simply an impossibility. By far the best form to adopt, looking to permanent preservation, would be that of the ordinary octavo. Then, all such publications can be easily classified and bound into volumes. Properly lettered, their contents are readily accessible. This is a most important matter. We are just now as a State at "the parting of the ways." All that is old is rapidly passing away, and new men, new methods, and new institutions, are coming to the front. In the matter of church pamphlets, which are now reaching the Historical Department, efforts are very properly being made to present the past history of these organizations. Such publications become at once highly valuable as historical data, and should be grouped together. But when one is small enough to be carried in the vest pocket, and the next, perhaps, a large folio, the task of caring for and arranging them in an easily accessible shape becomes very

perplexing. If this item should meet the eye of any party who is likely to be interested in such a publication, we trust that our suggestion may be borne in mind.

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### COLONEL GEORGE W. CROSLEY.

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From the pen of this well-known soldier and citizen of Iowa we publish an account of General Lauman's disastrous charge at Jackson, Miss., on the 12th day of July, 1863. No man could be better qualified to write of that event, for Colonel Crosley commanded his regiment, the gallant 3d Iowa Infantry, in that affair. The article possesses great historic value, from being the narrative of an eye-witness and actor in the dreadful tragedy.

Colonel Crosley was born in New Haven, Huron county, Ohio, March 4, 1839. Four years later his parents removed to the vicinity of Bloomington, Ill., but in 1856 came to Iowa, settling on a farm near the present town of Ames. He assisted his father in improving the farm until the spring of 1861, when he enlisted in Company E, 3d Iowa Infantry. His military history is that of the regiment. At the outset, he was appointed First Sergeant of his company, and subsequently First Lieutenant. Later on he was promoted to the position of Major, in which capacity he served until the command was reduced by the vicissitudes of war to the merest skeleton. At the end of his three years' service he was transferred to Hancock's First Veteran Corps, in which he served till the end of the war, receiving the brevets of Lieutenant-Colonel and Colonel. His military record is a proud one. He participated in the battles of Blue Mills, Shiloh, the Siege of Corinth, the Hatchie, the Siege of Vicksburg, the battles around Atlanta, and many small engagements and skirmishes. In civil life his record has been most useful and honorable. He served two or three terms as Sheriff of Hamilton county, and six years as Warden of the penitentiary at Fort Madison, everywhere enjoying the highest degree of public confidence. Such a man may well print his recol-

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