

ANNALS OF IOWA.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

THE OUTGOING AND INCOMING GOVERNORS.

We are sure our readers will be pleased to receive in these pages portraits of Horace Boies, who in this month of January, 1894, retires from the highest office in the gift of the people of Iowa, and of Frank D. Jackson; who takes his place. So much has been said and written of these distinguished gentlemen during the past few years, that their names and the principal events in their lives are as familiar to the people of Iowa as household words.

Horace Boies was born on a farm near Aurora, Erie county, N. Y., eighteen miles from Buffalo, December 7, 1827. His father was a soldier in the war of 1812. The future Governor of Iowa was brought up on the farm—though he made his own way in the world, after he reached the age of 16, “roughing it” awhile in the West, then returning to the East, and acquiring his education as a lawyer through his own unaided efforts. He practiced as a country attorney a few years, finally removing to Buffalo. He was elected for a single term to the lower house of the New York Legislature, that being, we believe, the only office he has ever held besides that of Governor of Iowa. He came West in 1867 and settled in the city of Waterloo, which is still his home. He gradually built up a large legal practice which resulted in giving him a State-wide reputation. In 1889 he received the Democratic nomination for Governor, and was elected. He was re-elected in 1891. During these two terms the quiet, dignified and unobtrusive ways of Governor Boies have differed in no respect from his well known habits in private life. Known throughout the State for many years as one of its ablest lawyers, he has always been singularly free from any ambition for mere display.

Nothing has been more absolutely foreign to his nature. With a character unsullied by the faintest breath of suspicion or distrust, devoid of all pretense, his phenomenal success was, in a very large degree, due to his own personal qualities. Placed at something of a disadvantage, as being the only representative of his party in the Executive Council, his relations with his associates have always been marked by great kindness and cordiality. It has been made evident to all that his only ambition has been to render the best service in his power to the State. In retiring to private life he carries with him the abiding respect, the hearty good will, of those who have known him best, regardless of party affiliations. He will always be regarded as one of our best governors, and we have had some very excellent ones.

The last three months of Governor Boies' administration were clouded with misfortunes which have given him the deep sympathy of the people of Iowa. He was himself a stricken invalid, confined to his room for many weeks, during which time a beloved daughter was steadily fading away. She died on the first day of the new year.

Frank Darr Jackson was born January 26, 1854, at Arcade, Wyoming County, N. Y., probably not more than a dozen miles from the birthplace of Governor Boies. At the age of thirteen he came to Iowa with his parents, who settled at Jesup, Buchanan County. When he left the village school he became for a time a student in the Iowa Agricultural College. Later, he entered the law department of the State University, from which he graduated in 1874. He married Miss Annie F. Brock in 1877, in 1880, he settled in Greene, Butler County, entering into a law partnership with C. N. Greene. He was chosen Secretary of the Senate in 1882, and re-elected in 1884. In this laborious position he won very distinguished credit. Upon an Iowa Legislative chief clerk is devolved more hard work, more care and responsibility, during his term of service, than falls to the lot of public officers in general. But the place is full of opportunities for acquiring knowledge of men and affairs, of rendering the State excellent service.,

and of making friends. In this field of usefulness he acquitted himself so well that he was nominated in the summer of 1884 for secretary of State, the next place below that of Governor. In this wider sphere his usual good fortune attended him. He won "golden opinions," especially from the young men of the State. He was three times elected to this high office, but no sooner was his successor chosen, than he entered at once into an active business career, disconnected altogether from the arena of politics. His nomination and election to the governorship, which seemed quite foregone conclusions, are fresh in the public mind. He comes to the highest office in the State in the very prime of life, with great personal popularity, a wide knowledge of men, unusual familiarity with the affairs of State, and with hopes on every hand that his administration may be as successful as that of any of his predecessors. Very few men of his age have been so remarkably favored, and his future would seem to be full of splendid opportunities and high possibilities. If the idea can be true that some men are "men of destiny," then Governor Frank D. Jackson must indeed be one of those rare favorites of fortunes. Scarcely another man in our State has up to this time had such a career of uninterrupted success.

THE STATE BANK OF IOWA.

In response to our request Hon. Hiram Price—long a resident of Iowa, and its faithful servant in many public capacities, but who is spending his last years at the National Capital—has prepared a historical sketch of the old State Bank of Iowa which will be found in this number of *THE ANNALS*. It was particularly fitting that he should do this, for he was not only one of the foremost financiers in our State, but he was one of the chief actors in organizing and conducting the State Bank and its various branches. People who were in active life in 1858-9-60 too well remember the disturbed conditions which prevailed in money matters. With the panic of 1857 gold and silver had well nigh disappeared from circulation,

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