

people. To all the officers and men of my army, I am under obligations. No men or officers were ever more ready and prompt to meet and repel an enemy. Governor, we are confident of the future.

“STERLING PRICE,
“Maj. Gen. Com'd'g M. S. G.”

HISTORY OF DAVIS COUNTY, IOWA.

CHAPTER IV.

[Continued from page 702.]

On Wednesday, the 20th day of June, 1860, the second year's publication of this paper was completed. In that number of the paper, the editors say: “This issue completes two full years of the publication of the “Clarion” in Davis County. Without missing a single number or any delay whatever, we have issued the paper regularly every week for two years. We commenced the “Clarion” here under many discouraging circumstances, at a time of general business depression, which has continued unabated ever since, yet by the practice of rigid economy and untiring industry, we have weathered the storm thus far, and have reason to hope that we have established the paper on a permanent basis.”

On the 31st of October, 1860, the last number of the “Clarion,” in which Mr. Steckel's name appeared as one of the editors, was issued.

On the 19th day of June, 1861, the “Clarion” completed its third year's publication in our town, without a change of proprietors, or any delay in its publication, and with the publication of only one half sheet during the three years. There had been no change in the editors, except the retirement of Mr. Steckel, which took place at the close of the last Presidential campaign. In announcing the end of the third year, the editor says, “We think this ought to give assurance to the people of this county that the paper is established on a basis entitled to confidence. * * * We still live, and the “Clarion” notes are not yet hushed, but are still heard

from week to week." The first number of the "Clarion" was published July 1st, 1858, thus the proprietors issued three full years of the paper, (fifty-two numbers each year) in two years, eleven months and eighteen days, and every number of the paper was full size, with the exception of one half-sheet.

On the 14th of August last, the proprietor gave notice of a change of the day of publication from Wednesday to Saturday, and on Saturday the 24th, the "Clarion" began to appear on that day of the week, and on the 21st day of December, 1861, completed three and one half years' publication at our place, and in that number announced that the next number of the paper would be issued on Saturday, January 4th, 1862. From and after that date, the price of the "Clarion" would be *only one dollar a year*. But at the same time it was also announced that "no paper will hereafter be sent to any subscriber unless *paid for in advance*," and that "this rule will be without exception."

On the 11th day of January, 1862, Mr. Bently reduced the "Clarion" in size from seven columns to six. From that time until the paper ceased to be published in November 1864, it was printed on that size sheet. On Saturday, April 26th, 1862, Mr. Bentley retired from the "Clarion," at number twenty-eight of the fifth year of its publication. One week thereafter, Mr. William G. Ward became the publisher and proprietor, and Amos Steckel, Esq., the editor. Mr. Steckel continued to edit the paper for a time, and then his name disappeared, and the political department of it was controlled by Messrs. Israel Kister, D. P. Palmer and S. T. Ballard, although none of their names appeared in the paper as editors. In the autumn of 1863, Mr. Ward ceased to be a publisher, the *Democratic Clarion*, having died for want of patronage. Why the paper could not be sustained in a democratic county, having all the county printing and patronage, I cannot say; but it has been suggested that it was not outspoken enough on the side of the government; that its

friends and the friends of the policy it advocated, resided too far south to render it material aid.

On Saturday, the 20th day of June, 1863, the first number of the *Union Guard* made its appearance. Mr. A. M. Karns publisher and proprietor, and M. H. Jones, Esq., and Capt. S. A. Moore, editors. Capt. Moore, I. H. Drake and the writer of this sketch, acting as a committee for the Union men of our county, visited several places on the Mississippi river to procure a printing press and fixtures, and to find a publisher. At Fort Madison, we found and bought the press and fixtures, and at Keokuk we found the publisher. After entering into a written guarantee that the publisher should not be left to starve or go without clothing, Mr. Karns took hold of the concern for an association. The *Guard* has met with a liberal support, and is still published. Messrs. Jones and Moore continued to be the editors until the call was made for the one hundred days volunteers. Both the editors enlisted, and Col. Jas. B. Weaver became the editor. At the expiration of the term of service of the *hundred daizers*, Mr. Jones returned to the tripod, and in connection with Colonel Weaver continued to be editor to the close of the second year of the publication of the *Guard*. He then retired and left the paper under the control of Col. Weaver. I understand, however, that afterwards both Jones and Moore returned to the tripod of the *Guard*.

On the 7th of January, 1864, the Democratic Association of the county having made an arrangement with Messrs. A. C. Barr and W. S. Hamlin, the *Democratic Clarion* was revived. These gentlemen were practical printers and made a readable paper, but the political part of it being under the control, to some extent, of the association and a political club, the *Clarion* did not meet with the success it would have deserved, and, we think, received under the control of the publishers alone. The paper was kept alive until the 24th of November, 1864, when at the forty-seventh number it died. The association had promised the publishers a living support, but it seems that the ten months publication of the paper not

only failed to support itself, but cost the publishers about four hundred dollars of their private funds.

Thus we have briefly sketched the rise, progress and downfall of the *Gazette*, with its many editors and proprietors; the *Radiator*, the *True Flag*, the *Union*, the *Iowa Flag*, *Ward's Own*, the *Index* and the *Clarion*, and have noted the beginning and continuation of the *Guard* from June 1863, to this time. We have a complete file of each of these papers except the *Guard*, and we presume we have the only files in existence of the first eight papers published in our county.

At the time of their publication, newspapers were considered by most people, of very little value, and as soon as looked over, they were destroyed. We consider the country newspaper the most valuable record of the time and place that can be made. The local items and the home advertisements in our county papers afford a more complete and satisfactory record of the times, the business and the history of our town and county, than can be gathered from every other source. And while the editor and publisher of a country newspaper labors from day to day, furnishing his readers and the public with local and general intelligence regularly and continually, thus making a record of events, not for a day only, but for all time to come, it has always been a mystery to us why so few people patronize the local press. Fifty-two numbers of a newspaper containing 208 pages, 24 by 36 inches each, filled with local, general, miscellaneous, foreign and domestic news, poetry, history, anecdotes, wit and humor, is certainly worth as much in *any family* in Davis County, as a dollar's worth of anything else. Those who conduct country papers, must generally forego many pleasures enjoyed by almost every other pursuit. The sweet song of the robin, warbled from the tree tops, scarcely ever salutes his ear. The fields may be clothed in their gayest robes of emerald, and he have no personal knowledge of the fact. The herd may low to each other as they luxuriate among the sweet scented grasses, and the brooks dance away with joy,

while he is confined to his inky desk. The bob-o'-links may chatter amongst the shrubbery, and skim along the dew-covered blossoms, and the world blush with beauty, all unknown to the printer, while he toils at his *case* or his *press*.

Illustrative of the appearance and the value, to some extent, of our newspapers in the earlier days of their publication in our town, we will relate the following:

Mr. Johnson, who established the *Gazette*, and published the first number, was a practical printer. Mr. Kister, who afterwards became a partner and editor with him, was not. Mr. Johnson was considerable of a trader, but not over fond of setting type, the greater part of which he had to do. As a labor saving expedient, he would from week to week "double" his advertisements. In doing so, he would usually select those most easily handled. Such advertisements were generally those of patent medicines—they being stereotyped. Finally Mr. Ward came to our town and procured a situation in the office. Upon the appearance of the first number under Mr. Ward's superintendence, Mr. Kister hastened to the press room and ordered the press stopped, remarking at the same time that there was something wrong. This astonished Mr. Ward, who had taken much pains to have everything right. He immediately enquired what it was that was wrong? "Why," said Mr. Kister, "John Bull's advertisement and picture is only on one side of the paper!" Amid the uproar that followed, Mr. Kister retired and the press went on.

Although *Ward's Own* was not as large as some other papers, it attracted quite as much notice, and during its first year's publication, obtained legislative notoriety. Some member of the House introduced a bill authorizing school districts to subscribe for a certain number of copies of the *Voice of Iowa*, an educational paper then printed at Cedar Rapids. This bill being before the Committee of the Whole, Mr. Patterson of Muscatine, moved an amendment, by striking out the *Voice of Iowa* and inserting *Ward's Own*. The proposed amendment was lost, however, but created some surprise as

well as merriment in the committee. Now, we have no doubt Mr. Patterson acted in good faith in thus moving the amendment, and had he followed up his motion with argument, we have little doubt but it would have become the law of our State. It must be borne in mind by the reader, that the *Voice of Iowa* and *Ward's Own* were about the same size—both printed on a sheet about 12 by 18 inches—and that *Ward's Own* was headed with large block wood type, not much less than 2 by 4 inches, which made a very *large*, not to say formidable head for so small a paper. Now, it is an admitted fact, that the brain is the organ of the mind, and that size is indicative of power, hence a large head indicates a powerful mind. All this, no doubt, was plain to the mind of Mr. Patterson at the time he moved the amendment, but the stupidity of a majority of the committee overriding these plain truths and the better judgment of Mr. Patterson, the amendment was lost.

Soon after Mr. Pollard became a partner in the publication of the *Gazette*, he found that there was a great scarcity of type. Having determined to make an addition of two or three fonts, he called on Mr. Ober the foreman, to make a bill of the sizes, kinds and quantity needed for immediate use. Mr. Ober furnished the necessary memorandum, and Mr. Pollard made the purchase at the foundry of Sellev & Co., at St. Louis. In due time the new material arrived, the box was opened, and "all hands" in the office took part in the general examination then and there had. Mr. Pollard is not a practical printer, and although a gentleman of much general information, and one of the most obliging persons ever connected with the Press in Bloomfield, could know but little about type or the tricks of printers. Well, the new type having been fully inspected, and found to be a good thing in the *Gazette* office, Mr. Ober remarked to Mr. Pollard, that in packing up the type, they had omitted to send the *italic spaces*! There being no other italic letter in the office, this announcement disturbed the pleasant feelings of Mr. Pollard, who instantly exclaimed, "My God! what an over-

sight! I told those fellows particularly to put up every thing! What can we do about it?" Mr. Ober remarked, very innocently, that his brother Harry, (who, by the way, was something of a typo as well as a silversmith,) he thought could make a few, and that if they had a pound, they could get along for the present. Mr. Pollard forthwith proceeded to consult with Harry, and ascertain the cost of making a pound of italic spaces! He found Harry, and in a very short time returned to the *Gazette* office, bearing a box of number one *Cuba sixes!* and from that time forward, there was no complaint in the *Gazette* office on account of *italic spaces!*

THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF IOWA.

BY CHARLES NEGUS.

Soon after the organizing of the territorial government of Iowa, there arose a dispute between Missouri and Iowa, about the jurisdiction of the State and territorial authorities over a tract of country in the southern part of Iowa, which Missouri claimed as being within the boundary of that State, as defined by Congress.

The act of Congress passed March 6th, 1820, authorizing the Territory of Missouri to form a State government, provided that (if the State should ratify the boundaries,) the State of Missouri "should consist of all the territory within the following boundaries, to-wit: Beginning in the middle of the Mississippi river, on the parallel of thirty-six degrees north latitude; thence west along that parallel of latitude, to the St. Francois river; thence up and following the course of that river, in the middle of the main channel thereof, to the parallel of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes; thence west along the same to a point where the said parallel is intersected by a meridian line passing through the middle of the mouth of the Kansas river, where the same empties into the Missouri river; thence from the point aforesaid, north

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