

NOTES.

LOCATION OF A MORMON TRAIL MONUMENT.

Mrs. D. W. Bushnell, for the Iowa D. A. R., seeking assurance for a correct location within the city of Council Bluffs for a monument marking the route of overland travel across Iowa upon the Mormon Trail, was advised by the writer as follows:

The flow of immigration from eastern Iowa through Council Bluffs and onward was like that of the water through Lake Pepin on the upper Mississippi. We can say with precision where it entered and with certainty at what point it left. But within the city there was the same phenomena of current and quiet, of swirl and stillness, of sweeping and of settling, as the excitement in the East and in the West ebbed and flowed; as the ground and the grass, the warmth and the coldness of the air affected the sensibilities of those bound west. Technically it is safe only to say that the main thread of travel entered Council Bluffs where the road from Lewis passes the state School for the Deaf; then its fraying fibers spread all about the hills and bottom-lands; that they were again gathered into one thread now reaching across the Missouri at one place at a ferry, then at another as the ferry was changed up or down stream. Absolute precision in the location of a marker is immaterial so long as it is found with ease by whoever seeks it and it states the essential facts in accurate language.

FROM THE ANDREW WESTERN DEMOCRAT, January 25, 1850.

A NEW FERRY ACROSS THE MISSOURI RIVER.

The subscribers having obtained from the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, a charter to keep a Ferry across the Missouri river at Council Bluffs, and a permit from the Indian agent at Council Bluffs Agency to land in the Indian Territory, are prepared with new and safe boats and tried watermen to attend faithfully to the duties of said Ferry. For those going to Oregon or California, this is decidedly the best crossing place. Aside from being over three hundred miles nearer than by Independence, it saves the difficult and dangerous crossings of the two forks of the Kansas river, the Platte river and several others, and insures the protection of the United States troops, as well as the Agency of the Ottos, the Omahos and Pawnees being at the Bluffs.

The roads to this Ferry from the various crossings on the Mississippi through the interior of Iowa are good, well supplied with

wood and water, and every other article needed by the emigrant, and at St. Francis and Council Bluffs all articles of food, furniture, &c., that will be needed in crossing the mountains, can be had on reasonable terms, as well as good and experienced guides and mountaineers; in fact it is designed to be prepared with all such articles as the traveler may need to add to his comfort or safety.

Those who wish to spend the winter here in order to cross the mountains early, can find abundance of all that they require for themselves and teams. This ferry being on the direct line from Chicago to the South Pass, gives it a decided advantage over the old route. All North of the Iowa should pass through Iowa City, via Trading House, 25 miles, (Bob Hutchenson's residence,) Snook's Grove, 24 miles; to Newton, 34 miles; this is the county seat of Jasper county; to Fort Des Moines (Raccoon Forks) 30 miles; here goods and stores of every kind needed can be had on fair terms. From this place the road is the best of any in the state. To Brown's ford on North river, 18 miles; Happy grove, 6 miles; to Marvin's grove, 6 miles; to Tucker's grove, 10 miles, ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile off the road;) to Allen's, 9 miles, at the bridge across Middle river; to east fork of the Nodawa, 13 miles, good ford; to west fork of the Nodawa, Campbell's grove, 15 miles, stream bridged—plenty of timber; to east fork of the Nishnabotany, 12 miles, Ferrin's ferry at the old Indian village. Here the northern road intersects the Mormon trail; to Mt. Scott, 17 miles; to west fork, 5 miles; to Silver creek, 10 miles; to Keg creek, 6 miles; here the road forks, the right hand leads to Kaneshville, the principal Mormon town, the left to St. Francis, opposite Council Bluffs Agency in Nebraska Territory.

SOUTHERN ROUTE.

Eddyville is the principal crossing place of the southern road—emigrants would do well to lay in their supplies here as there are some five or six large stores, flouing mills, &c.; to Clark's Point, 13 miles; to Prather's, 12 miles; to Chariton Point, 13 miles, center of Lucas county; to Watson's, 20 miles; to Pisgah, 40 miles, to Ferrin's ferry at the junction of the northern and southern roads, 60 miles. The distance from Iowa City to St. Francis, can be traveled in 12 days with good ox teams. From Eddyville in 14 days.

CLARK, TOWNSEND, WHEELING & CO.

St. Francis, July, 1849.

THE GETTYSBURG SPEECH IN THE IOWA NEWSPAPERS OF THE TIME.

Our file of the *Ottumwa Courier* for November 26, 1863, contains the following editorial upon Lincoln's Gettysburg speech on the dedication of the battle ground on November 19, 1863:

The consecration of a Cemetery on the Battle Ground of Gettysburg on the 26th, [19th] was one of the most solemn and impressive occasions ever witnessed in this country.—Over 50,000 people, including President Lincoln, several heads of Departments, Governors of States, and other persons high in civil and military life, were present. A very impressive prayer was made by Rev. Mr. Stockton, the eloquent Chaplain of the U. S. Senate. Hon. Edward Everett delivered an oration occupying 2 hours and 4 minutes, which is pronounced among the most eloquent of his discourses. Speeches were made by Col. Forney, and the best one of the occasion by Lieut. Gov. Anderson of Ohio. President Lincoln spoke as follows:

"Four score and seven years ago, our fathers established upon this continent a Government subscribed in liberty and dedicated to the fundamental principle that all mankind are created equal by a good God, and (applause) now we are engaged in a great contest. We are contesting the question whether this nation or any nation so conceived, so dedicated can longer remain. We are met on a great battle field of the war. We are met here to dedicate a portion of that field as the final resting place of who have given their lives to that nation that it might live. It is altogether fitting and that we should do this. But in a large sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men lying dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or to detract. (Great applause)—The world will little heed, nor long remember, what we say here; but it will not forget what they did here. (Immense Applause.)

It is for us rather, the living, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work that they have thus far so nobly carried forward. It is rather for us here to be dedicated the great task remaining before us; for us to renew our devotion to that cause for which they gave the full measure of their devotion. Here let us resolve that what they have done shall not have been done in vain. That the nation shall, under God, have a new birth. That the Government the people founded, by the people shall not perish."

The National Cemetery adjoins the Gettysburg Cemetery, sloping northwards, towards the long line of hills from which the foe made their attack. The old cemetery has been beautifully improved, though not all the monuments and iron fence demolished by shot and shell have been restored.—It is an elevated and commanding site, sloping down handsomely all around, except to the eastward, where a slight descent brings up to the hill, where the earth defenses of two batteries are as they were constructed.

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