

APOLOGETIC.

The contraction in the size of the *Annals* from one hundred to eighty pages—a temporary measure very reluctantly resolved on by the Board of Curators for imperative pecuniary reasons—has crowded out several interesting papers which will appear in the next issue, and the unavoidable delays (for which no one is to blame unless perhaps the Editor) incident to a change of publishers have deferred the appearance of the present number somewhat after the time it was due.

We confidently hope that next year the Society will be able to restore the *Annals* to its late size, and that this is the last time we shall have to apologize, in the capacity of Editor, for being late.

HISTORICAL LECTURE.

The Hon. Charles Negus, of Fairfield, on the evening of January 27th, in the Chapel of the State University, at Iowa City, delivered an entertaining and instructive lecture before the State Historical Society and the public on "*The Indians of Iowa*," in response to an invitation from the Historical Society.

The lecturer was introduced to the large and critical audience of ladies and gentlemen that filled the Hall by the President of the Society, the Hon. William G. Hammond, who took occasion to congratulate the Society on the happy event, and to augur auspiciously from it for the future.

Although the subject chosen by the learned orator is not one calculated to enchain the attention of a promiscuous assemblage, yet on this occasion the attention given was marked, and the satisfaction expressed general.

This is the third public lecture which has been elicited by

the Historical Society, the first having been delivered by the Hon. Hiram Price, of Davenport, and the second by the Rev. Dr. George F. Magoun, of Grinnell, and it is to be hoped and expected that a practice so happily re-inaugurated will be repeated at shorter intervals, and by speakers equally able and learned as those mentioned.

GRATITUDE AND CONSISTENCY.

The Editor of the "Historical Magazine," in a recent number of his periodical, makes a gratuitous attack on the State Historical Society of Iowa—saying in effect that it costs more than it comes to, recommending the State Government to withhold its encouragement and support from it, and finally adding oracularly that it does not belong to the State of Iowa to pay for editing and publishing a magazine on any subject.

We make bold to inform the ill-natured Oracle of Morrisania that the Annals of Iowa, which it would seem is in some manner or other in his way, and which he would have our Legislature discontinue at its next session so that his Magazine may take its place, is self-supporting, and that his other comments on our Historical Society are based on equally false premises as those which allege the Annals to be a burden to the Iowa tax payer, or in any way subject to the caprice of the Legislature or Executive; and also that neither the people of Iowa nor their Legislature are in the habit of going so far away from home for advice as to the suburban hamlet of Morrisania.

When we add that this gabbling Editor, whose lofty historical name is *Dawson*, (which might well be shortened to

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