

REPORT.

IOWA CITY, December 6, 1871.

To His Excellency, Samuel Merrill, Des Moines, Iowa:

SIR:—Former legislative enactments impose the duty on the Board of Curators of the State Historical Society of making a biennial report to the Governor and Legislature of the management of its affairs, and to this end the statements here following are respectfully submitted.

For the better understanding of those unfamiliar with the inception and progress of the Society, a short sketch of its institution and advancement and a rehearsal in substance of the several legislative enactments in reference to it, will be advisable.

In 1857, the Society was organized under an act of the Sixth General Assembly, making an appropriation for its support of two hundred and fifty dollars per annum, and providing that it should be in connection with and under the auspices of the State University. "Some of the most distinguished statesmen and scholars, of this and other States, were at once embraced within its organization, either as active, honorary, or corresponding members, and many others by gifts to its library and cabinet; and by good words of encouragement its officers and active members, showed their appreciation of the importance of the Society and its work. Such men as A. C. Dodge, James W. Grimes, George W. Jones, George G. Wright, Wm. H. Cuthill, George F. Magoun, and Edward Johnstone, of our own State and such as George Bancroft, Wm. H. Prescott, Jared Sparks, Wm. Allen Bryant, and J. T. Headley, of others, were enrolled in its membership.

In 1860, the Eighth General Assembly, well satisfied with the use

the Society had made of the two talents it had been entrusted with, and acknowledging the usefulness of its work, doubled them by increasing the annual appropriation to five hundred dollars.

The biennial report of 1865 showed the Society to be in possession of 1453 bound works, and 2452 pamphlets, exclusive of legislative documents for exchange, which numbered 1726.

The biennial report of 1867 showed that the bound volumes in the library had increased to 1753 volumes, and the unbound books and pamphlets to 2952, exclusive of miscellaneous books and pamphlets for exchange, which had also increased in numbers, and reached an aggregate of 3020.

The Twelfth General Assembly, acting on the showing of this report, made an appropriation of three thousand dollars per annum for two years, in addition to the five hundred dollars per annum, which had been provided by the Eighth General Assembly. It would, doubtless, have been better for the interests of the Society had this appropriation been of a permanent character, even if smaller in amount.

The last biennial report (that for 1869) showed that the bound volumes in the Society's library had accumulated to the number of 2,053; the unbound books and pamphlets to 3,652, and the miscellaneous books and pamphlets for exchange to 3,205. Other articles of interest and value, weekly files of Iowa newspapers, maps and charts, souvenirs of various kinds, autographs and photographs of eminent persons living and dead, Indian relics, mineralogical and archæological specimens, and portraits of distinguished characters, together with valuable manuscripts relating to the early settlement of Iowa, written oftentimes, it is true, with the blunt directness of the pioneer, as he would blaze a tree, or set a witness stone, and unvarnished with the graces of literary elegance, had increased in like proportion, and occupied the walls, shelves, and drawers of the modest apartments of the institution.

But it was the mission of the Thirteenth General Assembly to make rather than preserve history. A great capitol was to be built, another asylum for the insane completed, an institution for the deaf and dumb founded, the Agricultural College endowment made available, the State University assisted, and the Penitentiary maintained

and amid the more persistent claims upon the Treasury of the State, the needs of the Historical Society were overlooked.

Undismayed, the Society, with energy and a remnant from former appropriations, has pursued its work with even more cheerful industry than before, believing that its failure of a recognition of its labors by the Thirteenth General Assembly is not to be attributed to intentional neglect on the part of that body, and that a future legislature would themselves honor by doing us justice.

It now only remains for us to place before your Excellency and the Fourteenth General Assembly, in a concise manner, the work achieved by the Society in the last two years and its present condition, and leave it to the judgment of the law-making body whether the work entrusted to us shall receive further assistance from the State, or be accomplished more slowly, but not less certainly, by private effort.

The following table will show the additions to the Library and Cabinet, for the biennial period ending Dec. 1st, 1871:

	VOLS.
Bound books received from the State for exchange.....	1115
Bound books received as donations.....	62
pamphlets received as donations.....	491
Periodicals	13
	Nos.
Daily newspapers published in Iowa	2
Weekly newspapers published in Iowa.....	71
Monthly newspapers published in Iowa	3
Maps	44
Engraved portraits ..	10
Photographs.....	7
Photographs	2
Maps	1

Besides the above, the Cabinet has been enriched by the receipt of specimens of mineralogy, archæology, Indian relics, souvenirs of the rebellion, and many articles of interest too numerous for detail which may be grouped under the general head of curiosities.

Some of the volumes received from the State are in much request

by similar societies, learned bodies, and those engaged in compiling historical works, as for example the Geological Report of Prof. C. A. White, the verbatim debates of the last General Assembly, and the Supreme Court Reports. Some of the works received from other quarters are highly to be prized, as for instance the six volumes given by the Hon. Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State of the United States, being the Report of the Paris Exposition of 1867. Another member of the National Cabinet, Gen. W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War, soldier and statesman, has shown a warm interest in the prosperity of the Society, by furnishing us with the official reports and maps of the War Department since his accession to his present office, and by other valuable donations, including a large sized photograph of the President, with autograph attached.

The following are the names of those to whom the society is indebted for additions to its effects during the past two years, together with the articles contributed :

Andrews, Deacon Alfred, New Britain, Conn.—

Genealogy and Ecclesiastical History. 1 volume, bound.

Belknap, Gen. W. W., Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.—

43 Military maps, illustrating operations of the armies during the rebellion.

Legends of the operations of the army of the Cumberland. 1 volume, unbound.

Siege Artillery in the campaigns against Richmond. (A report by Gen. H. L. Abbott, U. S. A.) 1 volume, unbound.

Tables in Meteorology and Hypsometry. (A report by Major R. S. Williamson, U. S. A.) 1 volume, unbound.

Barometer on Surveys and Réconnoissances. (A report by the same.) 1 volume, unbound.

Reports of the Chief of Engineers for the years, 1867-68-69. 3 volumes, bound.

Report of the Secretary of War for 1870. 2 volumes, gilt bound.

Practical uses of Meteorological reports. 1 volume, unbound.

Large sized photograph of President Grant. Framed.

Large sized photograph of the Secretary of War. Framed.

Weather maps of the War Department.

Carlton, M. G. Indianola, Iowa—

A file of the Iowa Citizen weekly newspaper, published at Oskaloosa, from Nov. 7th, 1867, to Nov. 1st, 1869.

Childs, C. Dubuque, Iowa—

13 pamphlets on various subjects.

Clark, Hon. E., Iowa City—

Transactions of the Historical Society of Ohio. Part 2, vol. 1, bound.

Clark, J., Norwood, Iowa City—

Proceedings of the 16th annual session of the Grand Lodge of North America of Good Templars. 1 volume, unbound.

Proceedings of the 17th and 18th annual sessions of the Grand Lodge of Iowa I. O. G. T. 2 volumes, unbound.

Two memorial sermons, preached Dec. 14th, 1800, in New Milford, Conn., by Stanley Griswold. 1 volume, bound.

Clarke, Robert, Cincinnati, Ohio—

Ohio Valley Historical Series.

Coffin, Prof. J. H. C., U. S. Navy Department, Washington, D. C.—

The American Eppernes and Nautical Almanac for 1872, 1 volume, unbound.

Tables of Harmonia. 1 volume, unbound.

Colburn, Jeremiah, Boston, Mass.—

The American Journal of Numismatics for 1871. 3 volumes, unbound.

Coldren, Capt. John M., Iowa City—

Headquarters Flag of Gen. Steele's Division.

Cooke, Jay & Co., Philadelphia—

The Northern Pacific Railroad. 1 volume, unbound.

Crozier, Thomas, North Liberty, Iowa—

Specimen of Pioneer Corn Mill.

Currier, Prof. Amos H., Iowa City—

Papers relating to the Iowa City University.

Davis, M. W., Iowa City—

Specimen of the first paper manufactured at the Coralville Paper Mills.

Dawson, H. B., Morrisania, N. Y.—

Copies of the Historical Magazine for the years 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871.

Ellis, Frank, Boston, Mass.—

Boston Relics.

Emonds, Rev. Wm., Iowa City—

Copy of the first issue of the Chicago Post after the great fire.

Fish, Hon. Hamilton, Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.—

Reports of the U. S. Commissioners to the Paris Universal Exposition, 1867. 6 volumes, bound.

Foster, H. R., Superintendent Blind Asylum, St. Louis, Mo.—

Message of Gov. McClurg to the 26th General Assembly of Missouri.

Garrison, Wendel P., New York—

Constitution and By-Laws of the New England Society of Orange.

Genin, Jno. A., New York City—

Selections from the writings of Thomas H. Genin. 1 volume, bound.

Goodman, A. T., Cleveland, Ohio—

Cleveland as a Naval Depot. 1 volume, unbound.

Green, Samuel A., M. D., Boston, Mass.—

The Tariff Question, by Erastus B. Bigelow. 1 volume, bound.

Count Wm. De Deux-Pont's Campaigns in America (in 1780, 1781). 1 volume, bound.

Fifty-eight pamphlets on various subjects.

Four rare newspapers.

Greeley, Capt. D. P., Iowa City.

Rebel torpedo lock, found at Haynes' Bluff, Mississippi.

Griffith, Lieut. Joseph E., U. S. Engineers—

Stalactite specimen of Iron pyrites, taken from a submarine cave 40 feet in depth, under the Mississippi, in making the excavation for the U. S. ship canal at Keokuk.

Griggs, Watson, & Day, Davenport, Iowa—

Morris's Iowa Reports, 1 volume, bound.

- Hammond, Hon. Wm. G., Iowa City—
Copy of Hardee's Tactics found in Fort Donelson after its capture by Grant. 2 volumes, bound.
- Hickok, W. O. & Son., Harrisburg, Pa.—
Two pamphlets.
- Hughes, Capt. Thos., Iowa City—
Specimens of Iowa City scrip, issued in 1858.
- Howard, J. J., England—
Copies of *Miscellanea et Heraldica*.
- Hutchinson, Robert, Iowa City—
Channing's Works. 6 volumes, bound.
Gazeteer of the United States, 1843. 1 volume, bound.
The Mechanics' Magazine, published in 1830-1-2. 2 volumes, bound.
1st and 2d Annual Reports of the Geological Survey of Missouri. 1 volume, bound.
General Laws of the State of Iowa, 1860. 1 volume, bound.
Coleridge's Aids to Reflection, published in 1829. 1 volume, bound.
- Irish, Hon. Jno. P., Iowa City—
Specimens of silver medals presented by him to graduates of the State University, at the commencement of 1870.
- Johnson, Sylvanus, Iowa City—
Indian relics, mineralogical and other specimens.
- King, Capt. Benjamin, Iowa City.
Cap of "Medicine Cow," a Yankton chief.
- Lathrop, H. W., Iowa City—
Annals of the West. 1 volume, bound.
- Lee, F. H., Iowa City—
Cambridge Mathematics, printed in 1826. 2 volumes, bound.
Revised Ordinances of 1870, of Iowa City.
- Luse, Z. C., Iowa City—
19 pamphlets on various subjects.
Marshall's Life of Washington, published 1804-5-7. 5 volumes, bound.
Annual Report for 1864 of the Q. M. General of Pennsylvania. 1 volume, bound.

The Clerk's Magazine, published in 1812. 1 volume, bound.

The Evergreen. 3 volumes, bound in one.

The Freemason. 4 volumes, bound in three.

A Voyage Round the World, from 1806 to 1812, printed in 1817. 1 volume, bound.

Report of the Commissioners of the General Land Office for 1868. 1 volume, bound.

The Water Power of Maine. 1 volume, bound.

14 bound volumes of Public Documents.

Chinese coins and relics.

McConnell, Joseph, Iowa City—

Copy of the first election ticket bearing the names of female candidates voted in Johnson county. Framed.

McLain, Hon. R. T., Chief Clerk, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.—

Monthly Reports of the Department of Agriculture for 1870-1.

Merrill, Hon. Samuel, Des Moines—

Copy of his Second Inaugural Address.

Money, M. H., Jefferson, Iowa—

Specimens of wood found in Greene county 33 feet underground.

Moulton, M. M., Monticello, Iowa—

Copies of the Jones county court calendar and other pamphlets.

Munn & Co., New York—

New Census and Patent Laws. 1 volume bound.

Murray, Dr. Henry, Iowa City—

Two pamphlets.

Park, John R., Salt Lake City, Utah—

Third Annual Catalogue of the University of Deseret for 1870-1. 1 volume unbound.

Parvin, Hon. T. S., Iowa City—

62 pamphlets on various subjects.

Proceedings of the Masonic Grand Lodge. 8 volumes bound.

Autographs, photographs, etc.

Pierce, Prof. Benjamin, Supt. U. S. Coast Survey, Washington, D. C.—

Report of the Coast Survey for 1867.

Ranch, Dr. John H., Chicago, Ills—

Report of the Board of Health of Chicago. 1 volume unbound.

- Sands, Rear-Admiral B. F., Supt. U. S. Naval Observatory, Washington, D. C.—
Astronomical and Meteorological Observation for 1867-8. 2 volumes unbound.
- Scales, N., Johnson county, Iowa—
Indian Relic.
- Stone, Rev. Edwin M., Providence, R. I.—
26th Annual Report of the Ministry at large in the City of Providence. 1 volume unbound.
- Talbot, Rev. Benjamin, Supt. Iowa Institution for Deaf and Dumb—
Annals of the Deaf and Dumb.
- Thompson, H. M., Ames, Iowa—
Annual of the Iowa Agricultural College for 1871.
- Tullop, Dr. N. H., Iowa City—
Photograph of the Dental Convention of Iowa, held at Iowa City, July, 1870; framed.
- Whittlesey, Col. Chas., State Geologist of Ohio—
Early History of Cleveland, Ohio. 1 volume bound.
- Williams, J. Fletcher, Saint Paul, Minn.—
Manufactures and Commerce of Minneapolis and St. Anthony. 1 volume unbound.
Bibliography of Minnesota. 1 volume unbound.
History of the Newspaper Press of St. Paul. 1 volume unbound.
- Wright, Hon. Ed, Secretary of State, Des Moines—
80 copies Census Reports for 1869.
80 copies Legislative Documents. Volumes 1 and 2.
80 copies Life Insurance Reports.
80 copies Fire Insurance Reports.
80 copies Agricultural Society's Report for 1869.
80 copies Agricultural Society's Report for 1870.
80 copies Legislative Supplement 13th General Assembly.
80 copies White's Geological Reports. Volumes 1 and 2.
80 copies Senate Journal, 1870.
Eighty copies House Journal, 1870.
Eighty copies laws of 1870.

Thirty-one copies Stile's Iowa Reports, volumes 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29.

Wright, Hon. Geo. G., Des Moines—

Seven pamphlets.

Wright, John C., Indianapolis, Ind—

Report of the 20th meeting of the American Association for Advancement of Science, 1 volume, unbound.

Besides the above, donations of pamphlets and periodicals on various subjects have been made by publishers whose names did not specifically accompany the gifts.

The Society is also indebted to the following named sister Societies for the courtesies of exchange:

The American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass—

Their proceedings for 1870-1, 2 volumes, unbound.

The Boston Numismatic Society—

Four numbers of the American Journal of Numismatics.

The Chicago Historical Society, Chicago, Illinois—

History of Illinois, and Life and Times of Ninian Edwards, 1 volume, bound.

The Last of the Illinois, a Sketch of the Pottawattamies, 1 volume, bound.

Twenty-six pamphlets on various subjects.

Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington, Delaware—

A Historical Inquiry concerning Henry Hudson, discoverer of Delaware Bay. 1 volume, bound.

Catalogue of the Historical Society of Delaware. 1 volume, bound.

The Essex Institute, Salem, Mass—

Essex Institute Historical Collections. 3 volumes, bound.

Bulletin of the Essex Institute, unbound.

Proceedings and Communications of the Essex Institute. 1 volume, unbound.

The Firelands Historical Society, Norwalk, Ohio—

Firelands Pioneer. Volume 10, unbound.

The Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Georgia—

Mortuary Record of the City of Savannah. 1 volume, unbound.

Stevens' History of Georgia. 2 volumes, unbound.

Georgia Historical Collections. 1 volume, bound.

Azilia, a Historical legend, from 1717. 1 volume, bound.

Wilde's Summer Rose, or the Lament of the Captive. 1 volume, unbound.

Nine pamphlets on various subjects.

The Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn, N. Y.—

Memoirs of the Long Island Historical Society. 2 volumes, bound.

The Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, Mass.

Bibliography of the Massachusetts Historical Society. 1 volume, unbound.

The early History of Massachusetts. 1 volume, bound.

A History of East Boston. 1 volume, bound.

Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society, 1867 to 1870. 2 volumes, bound.

The Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, Minn.—

Collections of the Minnesota Historical Society. 1 volume, unbound.

Annual Report of the Minnesota Historical Society for 1870. 1 volume, unbound.

The Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, Mo.—

The Constitution and By-Laws of the Missouri Historical Society. 1 volume, unbound.

Shepard's Early History of St. Louis and Missouri. 1 volume, bound.

Fifth Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Schools of Missouri. 1 volume, bound.

Autobiography of Elihu H. Shepard. 1 volume, bound.

The N. E. Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Mass.—

The Historical and Genealogical Register for 1870-71.

Quarter Century Anniversary Discourse. 1 volume, unbound.

The New Jersey Historical Society, Newark, N. J.—

Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society. 2 volumes, unbound.

The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, New York City—

The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record for 1871.

The Orleans County Society, Newport, Vermont—

Archives of Science. 1 volume, unbound.

The Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence, R. I.—

Publications of the Naragansett Club. 3 volumes, bound.

The Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Va.—

Robinson's Early Voyages to America. 1 volume, bound.

Washington's Private Diary. 1 volume, bound.

The Virginia Historical Register. 2 volumes, bound.

History of the College of William and Mary. 1 volume, unbound.

Three pamphlets.

The Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio—

Ancient Earthworks of the Cuyahoga Valley. 1 volume, unbound.

Papers relating to the first white settlers of Ohio. 1 volume, unbound.

The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin—

The Northwest During the Revolution. 1 volume, unbound.

The Removal of the Indians of Wisconsin. 1 volume, unbound.

Trade and Commerce of Milwaukee. 1 volume, unbound.

Two pamphlets.

Besides the foregoing, the following public libraries and public institutions have extended gifts and courtesies to us :

The Iowa Agricultural College.

The Mercantile Library Association, of San Francisco.

The Mercantile Library Association, of the City of New York.

The Iowa Institution for the Deaf and Dumb.

The Missouri Institution for the Blind.

The State University of Missouri.

The Ohio State Library.

The New York State Library.

The following persons, and others who will not allow their names to be publicly mentioned, have materially assisted the objects

of the Society, by contributing original manuscripts for its use, relating to the early history of the State, which have appeared, or are in course of publication in the Annals of Iowa. The titles of the manuscripts are given in connection with the names of the authors.

Hon. Lysander W. Babbitt, Council Bluffs—

The first Democratic Legislative Caucus in the State of Iowa.

Hon. D. C. Bloomer, Council Bluffs—

Notes on the Early History of Pottawattamie County.

Edmund Booth, Esq., Anamosa, Iowa—

Reminiscences of Twenty-seven years ago.

Early Education of Iowa Mutes.

Capt. A. K. Campbell, Newton, Iowa—

Biography of Col. John A. Garrett.

John Doe, M. D., Iowa City—

The Musquakas of Tama County.

Wm. M. Donnel, Esq., Otley, Iowa—

The Pioneers of Marion county.

A sketch of the Life of the Rev. Henry I. Scholte.

Hon. E. W. Eastman, Eldora, Iowa—

A Foul Murder and Nobody Killed.

Lieut. Joseph E. Griffith, U. S. Army—

The Des Moines Rapids of the Mississippi, and its Improvements.

The Magnesian Limestone of Iowa as a building stone.

The Importance of the Mississippi river to the State of Iowa and the northeast.

R. B. Groff, Esq., Marengo, Iowa—

Early experience in Iowa.

L. D. Ingersoll, Esq., Chicago, Ill.—

Biography of Gen. James A. Williamson.

N. Levering, Greenwood, Mo—

Recollections of the early settlement of northwestern Iowa.

Hon. Charles Negus, Fairfield, Iowa.

The early settlement of Iowa.

Prof. H. S. Perkins, Iowa City—

Musical Conventions.]

- Hon. Eliphalet Price, Guttenberg, Iowa—
 The Maniac of the Border.
 A scene in the Early History of Iowa.
 The Mysterious Grave.
 The conquest of Sodom.
 Lynch Law at the Dubuque Mines.
- Mrs. Nettie Sanford, Marshalltown, Iowa—
 History of Marshall county.
- F. Snyder, Esq., Marysville, Mo.—
 History of Linn county.
 Old Soldiers.
- Hon. Hawkins Taylor, Washington, D. C.—
 Early Days in Keokuk.
 Squatters and Speculators at the First Land Sales,
 Recollections of Thirty-Four Years Ago.
 Before and After the Territorial Organization of Iowa.
 Law Ministers of the Olden Time.
 A Politician of the Primary Days.
- Hon. Wm. L. Toole, Toolsboro, Iowa—
 History of Louisa county.
 Arwin's "Sattelment,"
- Hon. Wm. H. Tuthill, Tipton, Iowa—
 The Woodbridge Sell.
 The Garry Owen Vote.
 Harvey Hatton's Sermon.
- Hon. Philip Viele, Fort Madison—
 Address of Welcome to Gov. Chambers.
- N. Zeller, Esq., North Liberty, Iowa—
 The Big Bottom, or the North Bend of the Iowa River.

It is to be regretted that the publishers of the weekly press of our State do not more generally perceive the importance of forwarding to the Society for filing and eventually binding copies of their publications. Every newspaper permanently established in Iowa should have a place in the Historical rooms. The following are the names of those Iowa newspapers received during the last two years:

Advertiser, Tipton.

Anzeiger, Des Moines.
Age, Clinton.
Bee, Jefferson.
Citizen, Tama City.
Citizen, Centerville.
Courier, New Hampton.
Courier, Ottumwa.
Courier, Muscatine.
Constitution, (daily) Keokuk.
Conservator, Oskaloosa.
Classic, (monthly) Mt. Pleasant.
Copperhead, Ottumwa.
Democrat, Ottumwa.
Democrat, Bloomfield.
Democrat, Davenport.
Demokrat, Davenport.
Democrat, Clarinda.
Excelsior, Maquoketa.
Eagle, Vinton.
Eureka, Anamosa.
Enterprize, Birmingham.
Evergreen, (monthly) Davenport.
Express, Mason City.
Freeman, Webster City.
Fra Fjacrn Og Naer, Decorah.
Gazette, Cedar Falls.
Gazette, Davenport.
Gate City, Keokuk.
Gleaner and Herald, Prairie City.
Hawk-Eye, Burlington.
Herald, Clinton.
Herald, Dubuque.
Herald, Oskaloosa.
Harrisonian, Missouri Valley.
Head-Light, Grand Junction.
Independent, Dakota.
Journal, Elkader.

Journal, Muscatine.
Ledger, Eldora.
Leader, Indianola.
Monitor, Corydon.
Messenger, Fort Dodge.
North-West, Fort Dodge.
News, Prairie City.
New Broom, Des Moines.
Pilot, Storm Lake.
Press, Hampton.
Press, Iowa City.
Plaindealer, Fort Madison.
Post, Tipton.
Representative, Nevada.
Register, Fontanelle.
Register, Marion.
Register, Des Moines.
Republican, Marengo.
Republican, Iowa City.
Reporter, Waterloo.
Republican, Toledo.
Recorder, Monroe.
Republican, Osceola.
Reporter, (monthly) Iowa City.
Safeguard, Columbus City.
Standard, Montana.
Slovan Amerikansky, Iowa City.
Standard, Waukon.
Sentinel, Iowa Falls.
Times, Sioux City.
Times, Dubuque.
Times, Marshalltown.
Times, Cedar Rapids.
Union, West Union.
Union, Belle Plain,
Ventilator, Decorah.
Voter, Knoxville.
Vindicator, Estherville.

We have supplied the following named societies with our exchanges, either in whole or in part, during the past two years :

- The American Antiquarian Society.
- The Chicago Historical Society.
- The Dakota Historical Society.
- The Historical Society of Delaware.
- The Essex Institute.
- The Firelands Historical Society.
- The Georgia Historical Society.
- The Long Island Historical Society.
- The Massachusetts Historical Society.
- The Minnesota Historical Society.
- The Missouri Historical Society.
- The Maine Historical Society.
- The N. E. Historic Genealogical Society.
- The New Hampshire Historical Society.
- The New Jersey Historical Society.
- The Rhode Island Historical Society.
- The Smithsonian Institution.
- The Virginia Historical Society.
- The Western Reserve Historical Society.
- The State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

The Board of Curators, feeling that the people of the whole State, as well as the Historical Society, venerated the memory of Governor Lucas, on account of his virtues as a man, no less than because he was the first Executive of Iowa, incurred the expense partially, of having his portrait engraved, as an embellishment for the Annals of Iowa, Col. E. W. Lucas, (his son) generously contributed fifty dollars thereto, and it accordingly appeared in the number for January, 1870 of the periodical named, accompanied by the introductory part of his biography, which was continued in the two succeeding numbers. This procedure has not been without good effect. Entering into the spirit of the society, at the suggestion of eminent members of it, Henry Chambers, Esq., of Louisville, Kentucky, furnished the society, at his own expense, an engraved portrait and brief biographical sketch of his father, the late John Chambers, the second Territorial Governor of Iowa, which were published in the July number

of the Annals of Iowa for this year. It is hoped these examples will stimulate others to furnish like mementos of others of our pioneer public men.

The portraits, with accompanying biographies of the following eminent citizens of our State have been published in the Annals of Iowa during the last two years, viz : Robert Lucas and John Chambers, the first and second Territorial Governors of Iowa ; Col. N. W. Mills, the fourth, and one of the most gallant of the commanders of the gallant second Iowa Infantry, who fell at the battle of Corinth ; Gen. James M. Williamson, formerly Colonel of the fourth Iowa Infantry ; Gen. John Edwards, formerly Colonel of the eighteenth Iowa Infantry ; Col. John A. Garrett, late Colonel of the fortieth Iowa Infantry, and Hon. Charles Negus, of Fairfield, to whom the Society is so much indebted for the results of his devotion to the early history of Iowa. The entire cost of furnishing these portraits was \$471, only \$205 of which has been borne by the Society, the large remainder of \$266 having been generously contributed by individuals who take an interest in our labors.

The building at present occupied by the Society is the same that gave us shelter at the time of the last biennial report, known as "the old Stone Church," its crumbling walls and weather-beaten front attesting well its own antiquity. The Society, at a yearly rental of two hundred dollars, are its tenants at will—that is, at the will of the somewhat ambiguous proprietors, the ownership of the property undergoing at present legal investigation. It will thus be seen that a sum equal to two-fifths of the State appropriation is absorbed for the mere use of a building which is of little other use than for that of storage, not affording the necessary room for the ordinary business meeting of the Society, let alone room for audiences at lectures or discourses, and only held after all by a very uncertain tenure.

One of the legitimate objects of such a Society is conceded to be the encouragement of public discourses before its members and public on subjects kindred to the aims of the organization. Eminent gentlemen of the State have, from time to time, been invited to deliver orations before the society on historical subjects, and occasionally have complied. The Hon. Hiram Price, the Rev. Dr. Geo.

F. Magoun, and the Hon. T. S. Parvin are of this number. Since the last biennial report the Hon. Charles Negus favored the society and the public with a public address on "The Indians of Iowa," the Executive Committee of the University permitting the society to use for the occasion the University Chapel—a courteous and appropriate act, seeing that the law of the Legislature has placed the Historical Society "under the auspices of the State University."

The cost to the society of publishing the Annals of Iowa for the last two years, has been: for 1870, including portraits, \$906.60; and for 1871, \$501.40. The receipts from the Annals for 1870, amounted to \$174.65, about \$150.00 more than the previous year; and for 1871, \$372.95. The cost of printing the fourth number for this year is here included; though, its issue having been unavoidably delayed, there has not been time for its financial returns to be shown, which will, in a few weeks, most likely, be almost sufficient, as in the case of the other numbers for this year, to defray the cost of printing and binding it. So that the Annals for 1871, and hereafter, may be accounted a self-sustaining periodical, and if we give it credit for the cost of the portraits published in it this year without expense to the society, which seems but fair, it has already paid its own way for this year, and has a balance in its favor of \$137.55.

In asking the General Assembly to grant a more liberal allowance toward carrying on the work expected of the society by the public, reference to the pecuniary assistance rendered their Historical Societies by some of our immediate neighbor States, may be in order. The State of Wisconsin, of cotemporaneous birth with Iowa, grants her Historical Society an annual income of \$6,500 in money, besides providing it with ample rooms and halls, elegantly furnished, and in winter warmed, and also the requisite postage stamps and stationery; and the still younger State of Minnesota secures hers an annuity of \$2,500, and provides it with commodious quarters and fuel. These societies are thus enabled to annually increase their libraries by purchase, the library of the Minnesota Society having been increased this year by the addition of nine hundred purchased volumes; whereas, ours, with our present means, has to depend entirely for its expense, if we except the public documents received from the State, upon private bounty—a slow and uncertain method—while the files

of our State newspaperers, collected from year to year, lie inaccessible and comparatively useless; and, still worse, liable to injury and destruction, for the means to bind them.

The treasurer's report, which, together with his vouchers, is hereto appended, will set forth the financial condition of the society, and the uses to which its moneys have been appropriated.

The officers of the society for the society year of 1870-71, were:

President—William G. Hammond.

Vice-Presidents—William Emonds, William Vogt, George G. Wright, J. A. L. Tice, and N. H. Brainard.

Recording Secretary—William C. Gaston.

Corresponding Secretary—F. Lloyd.

Treasurer—H. S. Welton.

Librarian—Silas Foster.

Curators—F. H. Lee, President of the Board, Thos. M. Banbury, Moses Bloom, J. H. Boucher, George G. Cornell, William Crum, M. W. Davis, George W. Dodder, Harvey Graham, David Griffiths, Thomas Hughes, Robert Hutchinson, James Lee, Charles Lewis, Henry Murray, S. E. Paine, S. C. Trowbridge, and A. C. Younkin.

The officers for the Society year beginning on the 17th of October, 1871, are as follows:

President—George G. Wright.

Vice-Presidents—William Emonds, William G. Hammond, John P. Irish, William B. Allison, Charles Negus, and Levi Robinson.

Recording Secretary—William C. Gaston.

Corresponding Secretary—F. Lloyd.

Treasurer—H. S. Welton.

Librarian—Silas Foster.

Curators—William G. Hammond, President of the Board, T. M. Banbury, George G. Cornell, M. W. Davis, George W. Dodder, William Emonds, Harvey Graham, David Griffiths, Thomas Hughes, Robert Hutchinson, John P. Irish, George E. Kimball, James Lee, Charles Lewis, Henry Murray, S. E. Paine, S. C. Trowbridge, and A. C. Younkin.

In conclusion, the Board of Curators would respectfully ask that, if the General Assembly approve the past action of the officers of

the Society, they would restore the allowance made by the Twelfth General Assembly of three thousand dollars per annum, and make a special appropriation for the erection of a fire-proof building for the sole uses of the Society.

All of which is respectfully submitted by the Board of Curators.

FREDERICK LLOYD,

Corresponding Secretary.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

To the Curators of the Iowa State Historical Society.

RECEIPTS OF 1870.

Per balance in Treasury.....	\$ 1694 80
Per annual State appropriation.....	500 00
Per revenue of the "Annals".....	174 65
Per engraving of Gov. Lucas.....	50 00
Per expenses refunded.....	25 00
Per annual fees of members.....	35 00
Total	<u>\$ 2479 45</u>

DISBURSEMENTS OF 1870.

For salary of Librarian, 4 vouchers.....	\$ 250 00
For salary of Corresponding Secretary, 4 vouchers.....	500 00
For publishing the "Annals," 4 vouchers.....	701 60
For publishing engravings, 4 vouchers.....	205 00
For rent of building, 4 vouchers.....	200 00
For stationery, 3 vouchers.....	23 85
For freight and express, 9 vouchers.....	28 45
For printing and desk, 3 vouchers.....	44 50
For postage, 8 vouchers.....	31 45
For fuel, 2 vouchers.....	21 90

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