

finances of the entire State. For purposes of legislation this is essential. Law-makers, under the present law, can not secure ready access to the results of local taxation and expenditures, and profit by a comprehensive study of the general expense of the State. It is astonishing that Iowa has gone so long without any State report that would show not only the local receipts and disbursements, but the nature and financial costs and results of local public activities for the supply of water and light, etc., the receipts from franchises and the like. Important advantages would be gained if the State officer having the compilation of such a State report in charge, were given general supervisory powers that would enable him to secure some degree of uniformity in the terms, schedules, and methods of presentation.

---

COUNCIL BLUFFS RAILROAD.—Among the many enterprises projected in our day, none possess more intrinsic importance than the one named at the head of this article. This road is designed to form a link in the great western railroad, that will, at no distant day, pass beyond the Rocky Mountains and meet the commerce of Asia on the shores of the Pacific. We have not time nor room, at present, to go into an elaborate argument to show the merits of this work. It can not be doubted seriously by any one that this place is deeply interested in the success of this road. When built and brought into successful operation, Bloomington will sustain her relative advantage to the neighboring towns. Our citizens will present an undivided front, and work together for once, undoubtedly. Let there be no flagging of spirits, but one united effort, and the thing can be done.—*Bloomington (Muscatine) Herald, December 2, 1848.*

Copyright of *Annals of Iowa* is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.