

the failures and successes of the makers of Iowa? And perhaps these are no less important and of no less interest to Iowans than the story of Rhode Island or Delaware.

By all means let us have a historical society.—*Burlington Hawk-Eye, Sept. 7, 1903.*

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IMPORTANT DECISION IN FAVOR OF THE MINERS.—We are informed by the citizens of the Upper Des Moines Lead Mines, that the United States District Court for Illinois (Judges John McClain and Nathaniel Pope, presiding) decided at its late session that the acts of Messrs. Flannegan and Cunningham, superintendents for leasing the lead mines, etc., etc., were without authority of law and therefore void. The court decided, as our informants state, that the old act of 1807, authorizing the President to lease Lead Mines and Salt Springs, in what was then called the Indiana Territory, is rendered inoperative or virtually repealed by the law of 1834, establishing the Galena and Mineral Point land districts. It was but a short time since that we had the pleasure of noticing a similar decision made by the Supreme Court of our own Territory—and of offering our congratulations to our northern brethren in Iowa. We now extend them to the people of northern Illinois and Wisconsin. They cannot but feel that their day of deliverance from the odious tythe system, so repugnant to the genius and spirit of our institutions has arrived. The officers sent by the administration in the shape of superintendents, agents, etc., etc., have, we understand, on account of the vexatious manner in which they harrassed the citizens of the mineral district with petty law suits, become extremely odious. We are of those who believe that the Federal Government is departing from the high purposes for which it was created when it descends to an interference with the business and avocations of its people. It was never made for a lead mine digger or a salt water boiler.—*Territorial Gazette. [From The Bloomington (Iowa) Herald, June 30, 1843.]*

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