

disturbed. The results thus far indicate that there are many facts concerning these mounds and old graves which are not yet understood, and that they promise to yield abundant material to the systematic explorer.

And then, if two or three interesting groups of mounds can be found which have never been disturbed they should be preserved intact to coming times. For the most part these groups are located on timbered bluffs where the acres are not valuable, but properly cared for they will never cease to be objects of deep interest. These purposes might well be carried out under the general direction of the Anthropological Society of the State, aided by the State, and once on foot, no one would begrudge the small expense.

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#### THE EARLY HOME OF JAMES W. GRIMES.

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The frontispiece of this number of *THE ANNALS* was engraved from a recent photograph of the birthplace of Governor and United States Senator James W. Grimes. It is said by those who have seen it to be a faithful picture of this typical New Hampshire farmer's home, where the illustrious Iowa Senator was born and where he spent his boyhood. We are indebted for this courtesy to Capt. Elbridge D. Hadley, of Des Moines, who passed his boyhood in that vicinity. In his "Life of James W. Grimes," the Rev. Dr. William Salter has the following paragraph referring to the Grimes family and their home:

He was the youngest of eight children, of whom one died in infancy; the others survived him, except a sister, Susan, who became the wife of Mr. Alden Walker, and died October 31, 1846. She was the mother of Captain John G. Walker, United States Navy. Being thirteen years older than her brother, she assisted very much in the care of his childhood. Through life he cherished a grateful recollection of her kindness, and regarded her children with peculiar tenderness and affection. His father, whom he resembled in temperament and appearance, was a substantial farmer, a man of unpretending goodness, warmly attached to his family, hospitable and kind to all, of thrifty habits, and highly esteemed among

his neighbors and in the surrounding region for sterling integrity and worth. His mother was a woman of energy and determination, and gave herself to the duties of home with careful industry and devotion. The happy parents lived together more than half a century, the mother dying in 1850, and the father the next year. His father's farm was situated in the northern part of Deering, about two and a half miles from the village of Hillsborough Bridge, upon the broad expanse of a hilltop that affords an extensive outlook over the valley of the Contoocook, and far away to distant hills that ennoble the landscape on every side. In 1806, the house which his grandfather built in the early settlement of the town gave place to a large two-story double house, erected by his father. Here was his birthplace. A short distance down the road was a district schoolhouse, where the child mingled with his mates in study and play. The town of Deering had ten school-districts, each with a schoolhouse, and possessed a social library.

Capt. John G. Walker, who rose to the rank of rear-admiral, was placed upon the retired list of the United States Navy March 20, 1897. He is now (January, 1905) serving at the head of the Panama Canal Commission. He entered the Naval Academy as a cadet from Burlington, Iowa, in 1850, graduating four years later.

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### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

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*The Evolution of the Constitution of the United States of America and History of the Monroe Doctrine.* By John A. Kasson, LL. D., pp. XVIII, 273. Boston, Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1904.

*Party Organization and Machinery.* By Jesse Macy, pp. XVII, 299. New York, The Century Co., 1904.

The evolution of the fundamental law governing our national government, determining its work and powers and its relations to its constituent states, is a story of perennial interest and instruction. In 1887 the centennial anniversary of the adoption of the constitution was appropriately celebrated at Philadelphia. The committee in charge of the arrangements asked a distinguished Iowan, Mr. John A. Kasson, to prepare an account of the growth and preparation of the constitution. His exposition was not an ordinary, perfunctory performance, consisting of rapid prosaic platitudes and oratorical fustian that often goes under the name of patriotism. On the contrary Mr. Kasson presented a dissertation that exhibited not only a wealth of historical knowledge of colonial and revolutionary times, but a rare discernment of the vital causes, the determining conditions and the converging forces that evolved in the adoption of the great charter of the American commonwealth. The fruits of his labors

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