

adjoining, for the purpose of establishing an agricultural college, the same to be a branch of the State University. The memorial said "the location was in one of the finest agricultural portions of the State, and will soon be surrounded by a dense population." This memorial proved of no avail.

Three years later, i. e., in 1851, the General Assembly by a joint resolution, asked Congress to donate the site of the fort (together with all lands attached) to the State of Iowa for a State Normal, Manual Training and Military Institute. This, too, was a fruitless appeal.

In 1853 the site was sold at auction for \$3,521, and a considerable portion of the material was used to build up a new Fort Atkinson in the valley where a railway line had been laid that is now known as the Iowa & Dakota division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway.

PORTRAITS OF GOVERNOR CHAMBERS.

We have heretofore alluded to the doubt cast upon the authenticity of an engraved portrait of Maj. John Chambers, second Governor of Iowa Territory, which we published facing page 432, Vol. I, of this periodical. It appeared as one of the illustrations of a biographical sketch by Hon. William Penn Clarke. The descendants of the Governor, some of whom reside in Louisville, Ky., and others in Cincinnati, O., have never been willing to accept it as his portrait. The engraving came to our notice with every indication of authenticity. Copies had long been offered for sale in catalogues of engraved portraits by an eminent house in New York City, as that of "Governor John Chambers, of Iowa". It was also brought to our attention by a distinguished gentleman, now deceased, who was a personal acquaintance of Governor Chambers while he resided in Iowa Territory. Recently, we have received further letters from surviving members of the family of Governor Chambers who seem to discredit the idea that this by any possibility could have been his portrait. They state, as a matter quite well understood by themselves, that this engraving is a portrait of "John Chambers of New York," who was long ago a Judge of one of the higher courts of that state. The portrait is a mezzotint which was engraved by H. S.

Sadd, from a daguerreotype. Of course, it was made in the old days sixty or seventy years ago. It may therefore be considered as settled that this portrait was not that of our Territorial Governor, and parties who have files of our first volume are requested to make a memorandum to that effect upon the margin of the portrait itself. It is a matter of regret that this error occurred, but under the circumstances it was not to be avoided. Unless the truth had come to light as it has now happily been brought out, the portrait was liable to appear in future years when its character could not be determined. The only known genuine portrait of Gov. Chambers is that which we published facing page 441, Vol. I, of *THE ANNALS*, and this was engraved from the oil painting of George H. Yewell, N. A., who visited Kentucky many years ago for the purpose of painting it for the State of Iowa to which it now belongs.

INDIVIDUAL COLLECTORS.

They are often stigmatized as "cranks"—sometimes perhaps, in sorrow for their peculiar mental aberration—by unappreciative or unsympathizing people whose tastes run in other directions. But communities, states and the world, are vastly in their debt. Their work is one of the most prolific sources from which accessions come to libraries, museums, and art galleries. Probably there is not a county in Iowa which does not possess one or more collectors. Their tastes are as various as their names, running through every field of literature, art, archaeology and natural history. Their treasures are jealously guarded and cared for, but sooner or later will mostly go into museums or libraries, occasionally by purchase, but more often as gifts. The public at last is benefitted by their sacrifices and their good judgment. We have two gentlemen in Iowa who are doing a noble work in the collection of historical literature

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