

Helena, Montana, and gave it a final blow. In 1890 the last commercial boat left Fort Benton. Railroad transportation triumphed over the steamboat.

The government improvement of the Missouri river, for which millions have been expended, though giving occasional and local relief, has proved a final failure. In an enlightened spirit Captain Chittenden asks in a closing chapter as to the destiny of the river. Does it still hold the germ of a future empire? Shall its waters that now run to waste be diverted into reservoirs and canals, be spread over vast tracts of arid land, and a population of twenty-five millions be sustained thereby? The disastrous floods of the Des Moines river in May, 1903, awaken a not wholly dissimilar inquiry, whether such desolations might not be guarded against by the construction of reservoirs to hold back the redundant waters.

W. S.

The Hamlin Family. A Genealogy of James Hamlin of Barnstable, Massachusetts, eldest son of James Hamlin, the immigrant who came from London, England, and settled in Barnstable, 1639. 1639-1902. By Hon. H. Franklin Andrews, author of "The Andrews Family, 1890," "The Hamlin Family, 1894," and "The Hamlin Family, 1900." Published by the author. Exira, Iowa, 1902.

This volume is one of the most considerable literary enterprises ever undertaken by a resident of our State. In fact, we know of none which in point of the labor involved can fairly compare with it. Its data was scattered all over the United States, Canada and Great Britain. Important facts were gathered from old letters, deeds and wills, and from other records preserved in public offices, from crumbling headstones and monuments over long-forgotten graves, from the memoranda set down in family Bibles and church registers. Its author is the Honorable H. F. Andrews, who was a well-known and influential State Senator in 1892-94, from the 17th District, composed of Audubon, Dallas and Guthrie counties. As the genealogy of an illustrious family it is most comprehensive. Aside from this it is a vast compendium of family and general history and biography. The book fills 1411 large octavo pages, and gives the names of 13,000 descendants of the family, among whom we find that of Hannibal Hamlin, who was elected Vice-President of the United States with President Abraham Lincoln in 1860. The work traces the genealogy of some members of the Hamlin family from the time of William the Conqueror to the present day. It has a copious index of nearly 100 pages. Altogether it is one of the fullest and most exhaustive family histories that has yet been published. It is illustrated with many steel and half-tone portraits of members of this and allied families. Mr. Andrews has achieved a distinguished success, which at once places him among the leading genealogists of these times, and he is to be congratulated upon having brought his stupendous task to such a satisfactory conclusion. The book has come from the press in superb style, so far as its printing, engraving and binding are concerned. It sells for \$10 per copy.

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