

champion of Methodism in Southeastern Iowa, and of Father Asa Turner, who performed such hereculean labors for the Congregationalists. These distinguished old-time clergymen labored for the most part in Southeastern Iowa. (See the ANNALS, Vol. I, pp. 454-66 and pp. 526-31; and Vol. III, pp. 53-62.) We have another of these articles in hand at this time and others are promised.

AN EARLY IOWA PHILANTHROPIST.

From the first discovery of this country the Indians have been steadily fading away, and at the present time there only remain the feeble and for the most part decaying remnants of a once numerous and powerful people. That much of this decay would have resulted from contact with the whites, even if the Indians had always received kind and honest treatment, is possibly true—for it seems to be the order of nature that all wild races shall disappear before the advance of civilization. But the red man has almost invariably been the victim of the most grievous inhumanity—treatment which not only cheated him in the dealings of the day, but which, through intemperance, needless wars, and the introduction of infectious diseases, has hurried him to ruin. He easily acquired the vices of civilization while utterly failing to be benefited by its advantages. A "Century of Dishonor" has brought many of the tribes to the verge of extinction. But there has occasionally appeared one who has striven to deal justly by these wards of the nation, and whose conduct stands out in striking contrast to that of many who have been connected with Indian affairs. Such a man was Gen. Joseph M. Street, an illustrious pioneer, who devoted many years as a government official, to the best interests of the Indians of Iowa and Wisconsin. His last years were spent at Agency City, near Ottumwa, as a U. S. Agent for the Sacs and Foxes. He died there, May 5, 1840, and his decaying monument may be seen from the car window, just east of the little village. Unfortunately,

however, his labors were long ago forgotten by the general public and only borne in mind by two surviving members of his family—a son who is now an aged man, and a granddaughter. Documentary evidence of his efforts exists only in long-neglected government archives at Washington.

Miss Ida M. Street in this number of the ANNALS presents the first of a series of papers relating to her grandfather's connection with Indian affairs. Her present effort is mainly directed to showing how heroically he strove to establish schools and various handicrafts at his different agencies, for the education, improvement and comfort of the Indians. The series of letters which he wrote to the authorities at Washington is incomplete, through the loss of one of greatest importance and the mutilation of others, but sufficient appears to show that Gen. Street was a man of large ability, a broad-minded philanthropist, and a Christian statesman. We are glad—though it is late in the day to make these matters known—to print these records of actions so worthy at all times of public approval. They show that while the Indian service was so largely controlled in the interests of thieving speculators one Iowa man stood firmly for the right.

IS IT A "KITCHEN-MIDDEN?"

The vicinity of Lehigh, Webster county, was a favorite section of country with the Mound Builders. South and west of the town on the high bluffs, there are some twenty or more large mounds, one of which was originally fully ten feet in height and probably fifty feet in diameter. Many others are in the immediate vicinity, and in one place the traces of an embankment, which would probably be considered the remains of a line of fortifications, are visible for many rods. Several of these mounds have been partially explored, but there are doubtless many relics of the old race still left to reward the pains of whoever searches for them. Fragments of pottery, curiously ornamented, are occasion-

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