

Museum Notes

Among the many interesting acquisitions recently donated to your museum were: a rifle and an 8-day clock. The rifle is reputed to have belonged to Jesse James, the outlaw. It was found by William J. Matthews tied to James' horse which had been shot after a bank holdup in Illinois while Jesse was escaping. Matthews, the grandfather of the donor, later used the weapon in an Indian uprising near Keokuk.

The old clock, with sculptured wood ornamentation, doubtless set the deadline for the recording of vast quantities of Iowa history as it ticked away its life in the old newspaper offices of the *Keokuk County News*, the *Hardin County Ledger* and the *Ames Milepost*.

Library Notes

Recently we received a copy of *Wells Hand Book of Iowa* including map, which was published in 1857. This book was sent to us by Mrs. Arnold J. Garbers, a resident of Minnesota, it having come to her from the Metcalf Estate. The Metcalfs were old residents of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

We also received from Dr. A. A. Beck, Panora, Iowa, two books of music, which were made by his father, Conrad Beck. He was a student at the University of Heidelberg, Germany prior to 1852 when he came to this country. Since books were so expensive at that time, they were made by students from the original copy. Conrad Beck later published a German newspaper in Des Moines.

* * * * *

The Historical Library, which is an integral part of the Department of History and Archives, is responsible for the preservation of published historical data on early Iowa history. Since these books are becoming very scarce, we would be very happy if friends of the ANNALS would make an inventory of their bookshelves and attics for such books, and place them with us where they would be permanently on file and readily available for historical research.

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.