

was to become the largest printing institution of its kind, the Osborne-Murphy Calendar Company.

In 1891, my father retired from the farm and moved into Red Oak. He disposed of the old home and other land except the 480 acres which he retained until his death in 1918.

I could not be so unmindful in closing without paying the highest tribute to him—my father. He cultivated friendship through his fairness and consideration for his fellow men. He was charitable to the needy; faithful to his family; loyal to his country and honest with himself. When I thumb through the pages of history, and turn back to that day in August, 1854, when he walked across the prairie to the Page County line; how he fiercely fought the fangs of starvation in 1857; how he finally emerged from the pangs of poverty to a life of comfort, I am thankful and proud of the right to bear his honored name.

The Turnverein

The local turnverein or gymnastic society was at one time quite common in Iowa. German settlers brought the institution from their homeland in the belief that physical training and exercise was an essential part of the educational system. Members of these clubs held regular public meetings in German for the purpose of exercise and drill.

The turnverein at Holstein met in a hall above a store for some time after its organization in the 1880's. A new building containing a gymnasium equipped with the most modern apparatus was erected in 1890. Classes were held every evening, two nights for the men, two for boys, two for the ladies, and the afternoons given to the children after the dismissal of public school. Qualified instruction was provided by Prof. Carl L. Jones, a graduate of the German-American College at Milwaukee, which provided many teachers for these turnvereins. Holstein's Turner Hall gave an exhibition each fall and spring, and also entered a team in the state turnfest. Its activities were well patronized, and by 1905 had a membership of 170, contributing much to the spirit and progress of the community.

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