

ARTICLE II.

HISTORY OF SCOTT COUNTY, IOWA.

BY WILLARD BARROWS, ESQUIRE, OF DAVENPORT.

[Continued from page 85.]

Col. Davenport was a native of England, and removed to the United States in 1804. He was attached to the army from 1805 to 1815, was with Gen. Wilkinson on the Sabine during the trouble with Aaron Burr, and in the war of 1812, was in the defence of Fort Erie, and at the battle of Lundy's Lane. He was with the first expedition which ascended the Mississippi to quiet the hostile Indians, and assisted in selecting and planting Fort Armstrong upon Rock Island, upon which he settled in 1816, and resided there until his death. He was a partner in the American Fur Company until its withdrawal from the Mississippi, and then carried on the trade with the Indians alone until he retired from business. He was of a free, generous, open-hearted disposition, full of anecdote connected with his wild and adventurous life, pleasing in his conversation, and full of wit and humor. Long had he lived upon the frontier amid wars and fightings; often had his life been in imminent danger from the scalping knife or the tomahawk, and yet, in the broad light of day, in a civilized land, and amid the life and bustle of the celebration of our natal day, he was doomed to die by the hands of desperadoes!

For many weeks, no trace could be found of the murderers. Edward Bonney, of Lee county, in the Territory of Iowa, undertook to ferret out their place of concealment. He left here about the middle of August and proceeded to Nauvoo, where he first got trace of them by representing himself as one of the gang, which might have been true, and on the 8th of September arrested Fox, at Centreville, Ia., and committed him to jail there. On the 19th he arrested Birch and John Long, at Sandusky, Ohio, and brought them to Rock Island by way of the Lakes and Chicago. These three men were well known in the West as leaders of a gang of desperadoes, although they went by different names. Richard Baxter and Aaron Long, a brother of John's, were soon after

arrested near Galena, Ill., and Granville Young at Nauvoo. These three last were taken as accessories.

On the 6th of October following, bills of indictment were found by the Grand Jury of Rock Island county against the whole, except Fox, who had escaped from jail on the 17th of September, in Indiana. On the 14th of October the two Longs and Young were put upon trial, a change of venue being denied, found guilty and sentenced to be hung on the 29th of the same month. Birch, the greatest villain of the whole, turned State's evidence. Baxter was tried separately, convicted and sentenced to be hung on the 18th of November. A writ of error was sued out of the Supreme Court, a new trial was granted, when he was found guilty and sentenced to the penitentiary for life, where he died in about two years after. Birch took a change of venue to Knox county, and while awaiting trial escaped from jail. Upon the gallows John Long confessed all, but died a hardened wretch, without the least signs of repentance or fear of death.

The shock given to the Western banditti by the prompt and energetic measures taken to bring these murderers to justice, so effectually broke up the gang, that for a long time the country was free, in a measure, from such men.

The river closed this year the 30th of November.

The first of January of the year 1846, there was but one retail liquor shop in the city. The corporation election came off in April, and resulted in the election of James Thorington for Mayor Seth F. Whiting, Geo. W. Alvord, A. H. Miller, John Morton, Wm. S. Collins and A. W. McLosky for Aldermen.

At the April term of the District Court this Spring, there was but one case on the common law docket, and none on the criminal, for trial, showing the peaceable and harmonious manner in which the people of Scott county lived at that day.

The Fourth of July was celebrated this year, in due form. Rev. E. Adams delivering the oration; prayer by Rev. Mr. Brabrook; A. C. Fulton, being Marshal of the day. It was about the first of this month that A. C. Fulton commenced the building of the first steam mill in the city of Davenport.

At the August election, S. C. Hastings was elected to Congress; Loring Wheeler, of Clinton county, to the State Senate; James McManus, to the House; James Thorington, Clerk of the District Court; A. H. Davenport, Sheriff; V. M. Firor, Prosecu-

ting Attorney; Asa Foster, County Commissioner; H. H. Pease, Assessor; and A. H. Miller, Treasurer.

John Bechtel opened his Plow Factory this year, and carried it on with success for some years, when it passed into other hands, and is at present carried on by Mr. Krum, whose plows are known throughout the State of Iowa, as the best manufactured in the West.

The "Iowa College Association" was formed in April, 1844, but no decided steps were taken, or location made, until 1846, when Davenport was selected as the place of location, "provided the citizens would raise \$1,500 for buildings, and furnish grounds for a site." Trustees were elected the following Spring and a building erected on the bluff near Western Avenue, between Sixth and Seventh streets. The Institution was incorporated in June, 1847. In March, 1854, the College grounds, (being liable to have streets cut through them,) were sold, and a new location of ten acres purchased between Brady and Harrison, above Tenth street. Here the present College edifice was erected, with boarding houses, in 1855, and in August, of this year (1859,) the present location was sold to the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa, for school and educational purposes, and the Iowa College is removed to Grinnell, a village in the interior of the State, in Poweshiek county.

At the April election of this year, James Grant was elected District Judge, over his opponent, Platt Smith, by 448 majority. James Thorington was elected District Clerk, and Hiram Price, School Fund Commissioner.

A new paper was started about this time called the Democratic Banner by Alexander Montgomery, Esq., who sold out to R. Smetham. T. D. Eagal afterwards became its editor and proprietor, and after passing through several other hands, it was purchased in 1855 by Messrs. Hildreth, Richardson & West. Mr. Hildreth, the senior editor, died in September, 1857, since which time Messrs. Richardson & West have continued to publish the same under the name of the Iowa State Democrat. Recently a couple of new partners have entered the office, the Daily News has been purchased, and is now combined and published under the name of the Daily Democrat and News. A more extensive notice may hereafter be given of this Democratic paper.

1847.—At the August election, H. Leonard was elected Sheriff

against Robt. Christie; A. H. Miller, Recorder; A. W. McGregor, Prosecuting Attorney; Asa Foster, Commissioner; John Pope, Clerk; J. Thorington, Judge of Probate; Wm. L. Cook, Coroner.

The immigration of Germans was large, this year. On the 23d of June, one hundred were landed from the Anthony Wayne steamer, most, if not all of whom, settled in this county.

Pork was worth, this year, but \$1.75 to \$2 per 100 lbs., in trade. The first railroad meetings were held this year in relation to building a road from Chicago to Davenport.

The returns of the Assessor for the year 1847 were on valuations.

73,264	acres of land valued at.....	\$238,375
	Value of Town Lots,.....	71,970
	Money at interest in the county,.....	1,675
	Mercandise,.....	10,885
918	Head of Horses valued at,.....	29,244
	Machinery,.....	5,840
2,883	Head of Cattle,.....	25,286
2,748	Head of sheep,.....	4,013
3,960	Head of hogs,.....	4,224
5	Head of mules,.....	210
	Miscellaneous property,.....	800
	Furniture,.....	1,960
48	Wagons,.....	1,825
	Amount of Assessment,.....	\$396,307

There were 3,652 white inhabitants in the county and two negroes.

The first Land Agency was opened this year by Cook & Sargent, in a small one story wooden building, on the corner of Main and Second streets, where the present banking house now stands.

On the 4th of October of this year David Hoge, one of our prominent citizens, died of the bilious fever. Mr. Hoge was from Ohio, and had emigrated to this country in 1840, was first engaged in merchandise, and afterwards Clerk of the District Court to near the time of his death. He was a man of talent and ability, kind and gentlemanly in his intercourse with mankind, of unswerving integrity, and of a high tone of moral character. He was cut off in the prime of life, and by his death, Scott county lost one of her most valued citizens.

The river closed January 3th, and opened March 21st.

1848.—This year opened with much brighter prospects than had been known for years. Immigration had been on the increase. A home market had been created for surplus produce; agriculture had become an object and the hearts of many that had been desponding, began to look for better times.

Up to this time, no flouring, or saw mill had been erected in this city of any kind. On the 17th of January, the first steam mill in Davenport was put in operation by A. C. Fulton. It had been but five months and twenty-two days in building. The main building was fifty-seven by sixty feet, four stories high with an engine room twenty-seven by fifty feet. Mr. A. Nugent was the first miller. Upon the completion of this mill, there was a general burst of rejoicing among the citizens of Scott county. Mr. Fulton gave a grand opening, by inviting the farmers and citizens of the town to a sumptuous repast, served up in the new mill, on the 17th of January, 1848. Bread was made from the flour ground in the mill on the same day of the celebration. The tables groaned with luxuries. Pigs, turkies and chickens, pies and cakes, were piled upon the festive board, and coffee served bountifully, and when Mr. Fulton appeared with all his men who had been employed upon the mill, three tremendous cheers were given him, to which he responded in a most happy and becoming manner, recounting his many difficulties and trials in pressing forward the work upon this mill. About three hundred partook of the dinner. The Hon. James Grant spoke on the occasion. He had been in attendance at the Legislature in Iowa City, and in his speech announced that he had procured a charter from the Legislature for a Railroad from the Mississippi river to the Missouri. This information excited applause, and three hearty cheers were given. He was followed by Hiram Price, Esq., who descanted upon the progress of the age, the happy results of the energy and ambition of Mr. Fulton, amid all discouragements, and closed with an anecdote connected with the building of the mill. He said that when Mr. Fulton began that mill, an old man, a resident of the city told him "that he had always believed Mr. Fulton to be crazy, but now he knew it." Mr. Fulton had commenced a steam mill near the site of the old one, and after completing the building, sold it to Burrows & Prettyman, who put in the machinery, and completed it in the same month with that of Fulton's, which he commenced soon after he sold to B. & P.

The opening and celebration of Burrows & Prettyman's mill followed on the 29th of January. It was more magnificent than that of Fulton's, if possible. His mill was forty-two by sixty feet, three stories high, and built of brick, and since enlarged. (That of Fulton was of wood.) There were four pairs of four and half French burrs, two bolts, and they would turn out about two hundred barrels of flour per day. Hiram Johnson was the first miller in this mill, one of the best millers west of the Alleghany mountains. A further notice of this mill, its present capacity for flouring, will be given, together with some remarks upon the character of those who thus early did so much to build up and maintain the interests of our county.

The Fourth of July was celebrated in due form. The oration was by John F. Dillon, Esq.

The official returns of the August election announced Shepherd Leffler for Congress; John D. Evans, Representative; James Thorington, Clerk of the District Court; and E. S. Wing, for County Commissioner.

There were thirty-five houses erected, this year, nearly all brick.

The Winter of 1848 and 1849 was long and severe.

It is not our intention to write the biography of individuals or to fill up this history with personal achievements, but so closely are some of our early settlers identified with our history, that it becomes necessary to bring them out in order to trace our progress and prosperity as a city and a county, to its true and proper source. There are individuals in the midst of us, prominent citizens, who have passed the ordeal of a pioneer life in the West, and whose early struggles well deserve a passing notice. One among the many is Mr. J. M. D. Burrows, of the house of "Burrows & Prettyman," merchants and manufacturers in our city for more than twenty years.

Mr. Burrows, well known to the old as well as the new settlers, first came to Iowa, (then Winconsin) in the spring 1837. He was a native of New York city, but spent his early life with his uncle at Elizbbethtown, New Jersey. At the age of fourteen, he removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, where in the course of ten years he accumulated by his own industry a little property and married. Being in the furniture business, he had sold to Western merchants along the Mississippi river and consigned on commission to others.

In the Spring of 1837, he took a trip to St. Louis and the Upper Mississippi, to look after his business. His ardent and energetic mind was soon awakened on beholding the beauty and magnitude of the Mississippi Valley, and he seemed to comprehend at once the prospects for the future of this promising land. He returned to Cincinnati, however, without making any investments, or even deciding upon any future operation here. During the following year his mind seemed to dwell continually upon the beauties and prospects of the West, and of Davenport as the centre of attraction. So strongly was he impressed with the prospects here, that he decided on a second visit. A trip to the West was no small undertaking.

There were others in Cincinnati turning their attention this way, and among them our esteemed fellow-citizen, John Owens, Esq. It was at this time Mr. Burrows first became acquainted with him. Together, in a one horse buggy, they set forth in the Spring of 1838 for Davenport, in the Wisconsin Territory, and made the trip by land in ten days and a half. They spent a month here examining and admiring the country, during which time they purchased a "claim" of eighty acres, long known as the "Owens and Burrows tract;" a part of which is still owned by Mr. Burrows, and upon which his beautiful dwelling now stands, amid grounds tastefully laid out, and covered with vineyards, shrubbery, and the choicest fruits, planted by his own hands. They also, as was the custom in those days, took each of them a "claim" of 320 acres of prairie land back of the town, feeling, probably, that if the town ever became of importance the land might be valuable for farming purposes. This claim was the entire section seventeen, lying back of West Davenport, on Duck Creek, and through which the Railroad now passes. Messrs. Owens and Burrows drew cuts for choice of halves, dividing the section North and South. Mr. Burrows drew the East half, nearest the town. As some demonstration had to be made in the way of improvements in order to hold the claim from being "jumped," they employed Strong Burnell, Esq., to break five furrows around the entire tract at a cost of fifteen dollars, which was done. Some two years after this, when the land was brought into market and offered for sale, these two claim speculators held a consultation as to the entry of the land at government price; whether the prospects would warrant such an investment. Upon mature deliberation,

Mr. Owens abandoned his at once as not being of sufficient value, so far from the village and all prairie, some of which has since been sold for one hundred dollars an acre. Mr. Burrows gave his part to Dr. Hall, on his paying the fifteen dollars paid to Mr. Burnell for the breaking.

Before Mr. Burrows returned to Cincinnati, however, he made arrangements for some improvements upon his first claim purchased in connection with Mr. Owens, of forty acres, (his present homestead.) There had been seven acres broken upon his forty acres, and he contracted with our fellow townsman, B. F. Coates, Esq., to erect a dwelling house, the same that now stands in front of his present residence. This forty acre claim cost Mr. Burrows two hundred and fifty dollars and Mr. Owens paid two hundred for his.

Mr. Burrows returned to Cincinnati, with a determination to return West again, if he could dispose of his property in Cincinnati. He was full of excitement on the subject of emigration to the West. He seemed anxious to be among the first, and to cast his lot with the emigrating throng. But in his more thoughtful moods he began to cast about him to see what he could do to maintain his family in this new country. He was doing well were he was. His ambitious views began to dampen, and his excitement began to settle down upon a more solid basis. He felt that there was an uncertainty, a risk, in a step so important. He therefore, to save himself the mortification of a square back out on emigration, offered his property for sale, putting on such a price that he was sure no one would purchase. But in this he was mistaken. In a very short time a purchaser appeared and took the property at his offer. In a very few weeks after, all this property was consumed by fire without any insurance. Mr. Burrows had secured his money, and seemed to feel that all things pointed in the direction of his desired object. He therefore removed to Davenport with his family, and in 1839, cultivated his seven acres upon his forty acre homestead, and also rented a small tract that had been broken on the DuBuque road, near Duck Creek, north of the Lindsley place. Here he labored faithfully the first season, and succeeded in raising a crop, walking to and from his work with his little tin dinner pail, eating his lonely meal on the banks of Duck Creek. Just before harvest, the cattle broke in and destroyed his entire crop. Winter was coming on, and the prospects to our old friend, just at that time

must have looked rather dreary. But his energies and ambition were ever adequate to the exigencies of the case.

With fresh thought and new courage, he determined to build a store house in the town, and in the Spring apply to his friends in Cincinnati for assistance to commence merchandizing. He accordingly set about cutting trees and hewing timber for the frame of that little store house that stood so long and was occupied by the firm of Burrows & Prettyman, on Front street, and has since disappeared to make room for the present spacious edifice. The frame of this first store house, he got out with his own hands, and with the help of Mr. James Rumbold, erected the building, covering it with clap boards made from the native oak, with the rude tools of the pioneer.

The Spring of 1840, found Mr. Burrows with his pecuniary means nearly exhausted, and no favorable prospects of business of any kind. The future was dark. He went on to Cincinnati, told his story of the West, its present condition and future prospects. His uncle purchased him a stock of goods, selecting them himself and Mr. Burrows returned as a commission merchant, with new energy and a lighter heart. This was his first attempt at merchandizing. He succeeded well, and in the fall went back to Cincinnati and renewed his stock, his uncle becoming his security. This time his cousin assisted in the selection of his goods.

There was a surplus of wheat for the first time in the country this fall, and Mr. Burrows purchased and shipped the first bushel of wheat that ever went out of Scott county. It was raised by Messrs. Moss and Bradley, just above the mouth of Duck Creek, and sold at forty-five cents a bushel. This was the beginning of the produce business in Davenport, a business which in after years as will be seen, Mr. Burrows entered into very largely. Nearly all produce at that day was shipped up the river, for the supply of military posts, and the Indian trade. He also bought and packed the first pork that was ever sold in our market. This he took in the Spring of 1841, with the hams and shoulders, to Prairie du Chien, and sold them to Rice & Dowsman, Indian traders, receiving his pay in the only currency then known, silver dollars and half dollars, with a little gold coin. This was much annoyance to him, as it was bulky and heavy. He had no trunk nor even a valise, such things not being considered indispensable for such a trip in those days.

His business being finished, he found there was no boat for his return to Davenport for some days. By traveling some twelve miles across the country, and crossing the Wisconsin river, he would reach a place where the stage passed. It was nearly noon, when wrapping his specie in separate parcels to keep them from rattling, putting some in one pocket, and some in another, taking some in his hand tied up in his pocket handkerchief, he left Prairie du Chien on foot. The Wisconsin river, three miles below, was very high, rushing and foaming among the willows upon its banks. No ferryman could be found, and Mr. Burrows took a canoe that was often used to cross foot passengers, and attempted to cross himself. Although most emphatically a western man, yet his experience in paddling the Indian canoe was very limited, and as he entered the boiling current, his frail bark became unmanageable, and he was whirled round and round among the willows and snags at the most imminent peril of his life. He could not paddle his canoe, and being left to the mercy of the waves, he quietly awaited the opportunity in his downward passage of being thrown near the opposite shore, a chance which soon offered, when he leaped from his canoe and by wading some distance, reached the shore, fastening his treacherous bark to some willows. He regained his path and in a short time came to a creek overflowed and the bridge gone. Searching for a narrow place, he took a running jump and barely landed on the opposite bank. But the sudden deposit of himself and load caused the specie in one of his coat pockets to break loose and fall into the creek, carrying with it pocket and all. Nothing daunted, our hero soon fished it up from the bottom of the creek, and pursued his way to the stage station where he expected to find conveyance, but was disappointed.

He at once determined to pursue his way on foot to Dubuque. It was late in the afternoon, and the country very sparsely settled, but when nearly dark he came to a farm house. His load of specie began to grow heavy, his weary limbs sought rest; but where to deposit his treasure for the night, was his greatest trouble. He was afraid to meet a fellow man for fear of robbery; but he wanted shelter. He first thought of burying his money until the morning, but he had been observed in his approach to the house, and he boldly walked to the door and asked for entertainment for the night, of the lady of the house. He was referred

to the husband at the stable, who of course turned none away. At supper three other dark visaged, unshaven men appeared at the table, which much excited the already burdened mind of our friend. The weight of the coin was so burdensome that he had removed a portion of it from his pockets to his hat, which he kept close by his side, and on being invited to the table, carried his hat along and set it down by his side. The dim light of the cabin revealed but partially the company with whom he was destined to spend the night, and robbery and murder seemed to be uppermost in his thoughts. "All were seated," says Mr. Burrows, "when the divine blessing was invoked upon the frugal meal, and a weight rolled from my mind greater than the one I had carried through the day." He was beneath the shelter of a professed disciple of Christ. His supper was taken with a keen relish, and his sleep refreshing.

In the morning he pursued his way at an early hour, and reached Dubuque about ten o'clock at night, traveling the whole distance of seventy miles on foot in less than two days. He soon found a boat and returned to Davenport. Such were the difficulties and dangers incident to a pioneer merchant and trader of that day.

We remember Mr. Burrows as he was in 1839, full of energy and ambition, shrinking from no labor however hard or menial that required his attention. In the Summer of 1839, while he was living in his first home, under the bluff, I called with my wife. He was engaged digging a well. The dirt tub was soon lowered by the attendant at the windlass, and in due course of time, Mr. Burrows was drawn up from the bottom of the well, covered with mud and dirt, the very picture of a Du Buque miner. This was our first introduction to him, and although time has wrought many changes since, yet have I never been able to discover any labour too arduous for him where his personal attention was required. The perseverance, industry and sterling integrity of Mr. Burrows, in addition to his business capacity, have always secured him a host of friends.

It was about the year 1840, we believe, that he associated with him in business R. M. Prettyman, Esq, from Maryland, who has stood side by side with him and buffeted alike the financial waves that at times rolled over our western country. Mr. Prettyman has shared alike in the burdens and difficulties of a commercial life,

and is deserving of all credit for prompt, persevering application to business. He is known for honest, honorable and high toned principle as a business man, and is kind and unassuming in all his dealings, and of sound moral worth.

1847.—The first attempt at manufacturing flour by this celebrated firm, Burrows & Prettyman, was at Rockingham, five miles below this city. On account of the foreign demand, produce was high all over the United States. In February, 1846, wheat was worth here seventy cents, and before April it fell to twenty-five cents. There was no probability of a continuance of the war with Mexico, and Burrows & Prettyman had purchased heavily at rates ranging from sixty to seventy-five cents. Their capital was all invested in wheat, and but for the timely aid of a friend, utter insolvency would have followed. That great financier and friend to the deserving, James E. Woodruff, of St. Louis, stepped forward, advanced money, and Burrows & Prettyman rented the Rockingham steam mill, and manufactured the wheat into flour. This operation not only saved them from bankruptcy, but they made more in the same time out of the same capital than ever before or since. "Mr. Woodruff," says Burrows, "was the best friend I ever had." It will be recollected that Mr. Woodruff left home for Europe, to relieve an overwrought brain, by too close application to business, which was fast hurrying him to an early grave, and was lost, with his wife, on the ill-fated Arctic at sea.

The manufacturing of flour at Rockingham, and the profits on a government contract for the supply of military and Indian stores at the Forts and trading houses above on the Mississippi river, in the Spring of 1847, were what gave this firm their first start in business to any great extent.

The mill at Rockingham being too small for future operations, the new mills then nearly completed in Davenport by A. C. Fulton, were purchased. The building alone was completed, ready to receive the machinery. Burrows & Prettyman immediately commenced putting the mill in running order; and on the 29th of January, set it in operation. This was an undertaking of no ordinary kind, at that early day. The enterprise was an experiment of doubtful issue, when we take into consideration the small quantity of wheat grown, and the slow progress of settlement then going on in our county. Messrs. Burrows & Prettyman entered into it with many fears, but with stout hearts. But scarcely had the con-

tract been closed before Mr. Fulton, without stopping to reflect upon consequences, started for St. Louis, and with the money and paper, received for his mill, purchased the machinery and materials for another mill still greater in proportions than his first one, and such was the perseverance and energy of Mr. Fulton, that he had it completed and running before Burrows & Prettyman got theirs in operation. It stood close by the other, on Front street.

Amid all these discouragements, and as they thought, uncalled for and unfair opposition, Burrows & Prettyman had their mill in operation in a few days after that of Mr. Fulton's, and Davenport, which before had never possessed a mill of any kind, now sent up the steam from two first rate flouring mills, while one could have done the business and was amply sufficient, as was afterwards shown. Mr. Fulton ran his mill about a year and failed. It was then rented to G. L. Davenport, Wm. Inslee and L. A. Macklot, who ran it a year and a half, and lost some three thousand dollars in the operation, when it was sold to Burrows & Prettyman for the sum of ten thousand five hundred dollars, who ran it a year, lost money, and then used it two years as a warehouse. The machinery was then sold to parties in Le Claire, and was consumed by fire a few years since. The building was torn down to give room for the block of stores built by Mr. Burrows in 1855.

The present mill was remodeled in 1854, at a cost of twenty-five thousand dollars. The machinery in this mill is said to be the most perfect in the West. The Albion Mills are capable of manufacturing five hundred barrels per day of twenty-four hours run. There were on one occasion five hundred and forty barrels of flour made in this mill, in twenty-four hours. It manufactures yearly more than any other three mills in the State of Iowa, and its flour brings in the New York market twenty-five cents per barrel more than St. Louis brands made from the same wheat. In 1855, this mill made eighty thousand barrels of flour, grinding four hundred thousand bushels of wheat. The largest amount of business ever done by this firm in any one year, was in 1855, when it amounted to over seven hundred thousand dollars.

The pork packing business, in former years, was another important branch of business by this house. In 1854, they packed nineteen thousand hogs, which was their heaviest year in this business, although they have done more or less at it for the last twenty years. The present value of the Albion Mills is rated at for y

thousand dollars, and the block of brick stores, five in number adjoining them, is rated also at forty thousand dollars, besides the ground.

In the social relations, Mr. Burrows stands high. Liberal and sensitive, he has ever been the friend of the poor man. In earlier days and times of financial distress, when the little necessities of life were hard to be obtained by the emigrant and pioneer settler, the liberal hand of Mr. Burrows was always open, and his great heart always yielded to the wants of his fellow man. Many are the old settlers in Scott, Clinton and Cedar counties, who can well remember these numerous acts of kindness: that when there was no flour to be obtained elsewhere, nor goods to be had of other merchants, Burrows & Prettyman's store was always open, and the "latch string always hanging out." In times of scarcity for seed wheat, and when farmers did not preserve it, Burrows & Prettyman, in their foresight and wisdom, had taken care to have a supply and freely loaned it, receiving their pay back from the crop produced from it. These acts of kindness and benevolence, many remember, and to this day may be seen farmers in our streets, with loads of wheat, refusing all other offers until Burrows & Prettyman should have the refusal of it.

But few of the early settlers of Scott county have done so much towards the settlement, progress and general prosperity of it as Mr. Burrows. His long, arduous, energetic and constant application to business, seems not to have impaired his health, nor dampened his mental vigor. His slender frame but iron nerve still stands unshaken amid the storms of commercial life, and he may be seen early and late at the counting room and the mill, in New York or St. Paul, pursuing his business with that same elastic step and with as much life and ambition, as he did twenty years ago. By his own industry he has carved out for himself a fortune, and there is none better calculated to enjoy it, nor having more sincere friends, desirous of his happiness, than J. M. D. Burrows. A Christian, not only by profession, he loves and lives by its pure principles, and with a most liberal hand gives of his abundance into the treasury of the Lord. He is an elder in the Presbyterian Church in this city, of which, we believe, he was one of the founders, and has done much for its support and prosperity. Long may he live, enjoying the comforts his industry has purchased, amid friends new and old; and, in the bosom of his

pleasant family, in quiet and in peace spend the winter of his days; and, as his locks whiten with age, be able to look back and feel that he has not lived in vain, nor been a drone in the hive of humanity.

1849.—GENERAL HISTORY.

In February of this year, when the ice broke loose it gorged in the islands below, and caused the backwater to overflow Front street from Brady up to Le Claire street, running into Second street. The water on the floor of Burrows & Prettyman's store on Front street, was about four inches deep. It only remained from eleven o'clock, A. M., till early next morning. The Spring was early.

At the April election in the city, Jonathan Parker was elected Mayor; John L. Davis, Wm. McCammon, N. Squires, Jas. M. Bowling, W. S. Collins and Sam'l Lyter were elected Aldermen; James Thorington, District Clerk; John Evans, Treasurer, and L. J. Center, Marshal. The census, taken by the Assessor this year, makes the population within the corporate limits to be twelve hundred, and fifteen hundred in the Township. At the August election, H. Leonard was elected Sheriff, Hiram Price Recorder, John Rouser Commissioner's Clerk, A. C. Fulton County Commissioner, W. Barrows Surveyor, A. W. McGregor Prosecuting Attorney, and J. Thorington Probate Judge.

On the 5th of July, the first case of cholera made its appearance in the city. Samuel Sloper and Thomas Dillon, two of the pioneer settlers, were struck down, and a general panic seized upon the inhabitants. The epidemic spread; emigrants landed from steamboats with cholera and ship-fever, and died in considerable numbers.

On the 20th of April of this year, A. C. Fulton made a proposition to the City Council to grade and fill Front street, with adjoining streets and alleys, from Rock Island to Ripley streets, for the sum of four thousand and two hundred dollars, payable in five years, but was refused the contract. On the 25th of May following, he made another proposition to fill and level every street and alley two feet above the level, from the east side of Rock Island to Ripley, and as far back from the river as Fourth street, for the sum of four thousand and two hundred dollars, payable in

yearly instalments with interest, but was refused. Such were the prudence, caution, and fear of indebtedness in the City Fathers of that day. This same work has since cost the city more than ten times that amount under the modern rule, and the extravagant progress of the age.

The census was taken this year in June, by Jabez A. Birchard, the Assessor, and amounted to four thousand eight hundred and seventy three in the county. The report of the County Commissioners made the expenditures two thousand five hundred and fourteen dollars and twenty-three cents, and the receipts five thousand eight hundred and eight dollars and sixteen cents. D. C. Eldridge again received the appointment of Postmaster. Land, at this time, good prairie, could be entered within nine miles of the city.

There were, at this time, in the city of Davenport, twenty-two carpenters, nine stone masons, two stone cutters, five brick makers, six bricklayers, five plasterers, six printers, ten cabinet makers, five chair makers, seven wheel-wrights, two coach makers, twelve blacksmiths, fifteen coopers, five saddlers and harness makers, one trunk maker, eight shoemakers, three tin and coppersmiths, seven tailors, four engineers, three millers, two sawyers, eight draymen, nine teamsters, three butchers, one dyer and scourer, one gunsmith, one watchmaker, one turner, one baker, one upholsterer, one barber, nine ministers, four physicians, two lawyers, two weekly papers. The public buildings were, two steam flouring mills, one steam saw mill, the Iowa College, the Medical College, five school houses, three hotels, two billiard rooms, two coffee houses, nineteen stores, one public hall, one exchange office, two pork houses, one livery stable, and one plow factory.

The commercial business of 1849 may be understood by reference to the following exports of that year, which furnish data from which the increase of business may hereafter be determined:

There were shipped of	Flour,.....	30,200	bbls.
"	"	Pork,.....	1,425 "
"	"	Lard,.....	720 "
"	"	Wheat.....	16,700 bus.
"	"	Beans,.....	200 "
"	"	Potatoes,.....	300 "
"	"	Onions,.....	11,160 "
"	"	Barleo,.....	5,020 "

There were shipped of Flax Seed,	128 bbls.
“ “ Bran and Shorts,	\$20,000 “
“ “ Hides,	20,400 “
“ “ Bacon,	212 hhds.

While the imports for the same time amounted to—

Merchandise,	\$148,500
Pine and Oak Lumber,	790,000 feet.
Shingles,	1,120,000
Square Timber,	6,000 feet.
Reaping Machines,	42
Laths,	310,000

This amount of business may seem meager, but when we consider the difficulties under which we labored, at that time, having no railroad nor other communication with distant markets except St. Louis, by the Mississippi river, it was by no means small. We were upon the eve of a brighter destiny, a general prosperity. Our railroad to Chicago had come to be a settled fact. Our State had gained notoriety abroad, for her genial climate and her rich and valuable lands, and the year 1850 was ushered in with every prospect of better times. The river closed, the 27th November. Population the of county, five thousand and five hundred. Twenty-two thousand acres of land were entered this year in the county.

1850.—The Spring opened early, but was cold and backward. Grass did not start until nearly May. In March of this year, Mr. Strong Burnell commenced his steam saw mill, situated on the corner of Front and Scott streets. This was another important improvement, and a great acquisition to the business and prosperity of the city. As a mechanic and a man of genius in machinery, Mr. Burnell stands high. He came to Davenport in April, 1839, with a complete outfit of implements and stock for farming; His first Summer was spent in breaking prairie, and after farming upon the prairies, he removed into the village with the conviction that he was not destined for a farmer. He then commenced business in the line of his trade as a carpenter, and in 1841 built the brick house that now stands on the Southeast corner of Sixth and Brady streets. In 1842, he received the appointment of Deputy County Surveyor. In the Summer of 1844, he built the Congregational Church; and the same Autumn, he returned to Massachusetts and remained nearly five years. In 1849, on his return to

Davenport, at the earnest solicitation of the citizens of Davenport, and with promises of assistance, he commenced his mill, making his own engine at Moline; and in the Summer of 1850, with many hard struggles, he got his mill raised and enclosed, the machinery in, and in October, set it running. It was remodeled soon after and more machinery added, when it ran with much success, clearing the first three and a half years over twenty-four thousand dollars. In 1854, the mill was enlarged, more machinery added, and a new company formed, Burnell, Gillett & Co. They attached a shingle machine, sash, door, and blind factory. It was propelled by two engines of one hundred horse power, employed about ninety hands, and made about fifty thousand feet of lumber per day. But large investments in the pine regions, with borrowed capital, speculations in real estate, and bad management of the concern, caused a failure in 1858, and the mill stood idle. Through all the trials and difficulties that Mr. Burnell has been called to pass, he has maintained unswerving principle, and stands unimpeached in his moral and Christian character.

In May of this year, Mr. Le Claire laid out his fourth addition to the city of Davenport. It extended from the East side of Rock Island street to the West side of Iowa street, South of Seventh street to Second. The first district school was opened this year by James Thorington, and the first regular book-store by W. H. Holmes. The *Der Demokrat*, a German newspaper, was commenced by Theo. Guelich. M. C. Davis opened the Old Pennsylvania House on Second street, below Main.

On the 18th of April, the second fire in Davenport took place. The house of Mrs. Dillon was burnt. The assessment in June by Jabez A. Birchard, Esq., showed the valuation of taxable property to be seventy-five thousand dollars. Dr. James Hall was Mayor of the city, with the same officers of the year before. The August election resulted in the election of Wm. E. Leffingwell to the Senate; Laurel Summers to the House; Thorington, Clerk of District Court; McGregor, Prosecuting Attorney; and John W. Wiley, County Commissioner. The supposed population of the city on the 1st of September was two thousand. One hundred new houses were erected in the city during this year, and twenty-two thousand and forty-one acres of land entered in the county, at the Land Office in Iowa City. The subject of bridging the Mississippi river at this point was also agitated this year. Scott

county subscribed seventy-five thousand dollars to the stock in the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad. Business men, merchants, mechanics, professional men, and others, began to settle here.

1851.—In February of this year, on petition of citizens of Davenport, the Legislature granted a new city charter. There was much opposition to it at the charter election and it succeeded by a vote of only twenty-six majority. Charles Weston, Esq., was elected Mayor at the same election; Leonard, Wygant, and Dr. Barrows, Squires; E. Cook and H. Price, Aldermen. At the August election, Wm. Burriss was elected County Judge, and Harvey Leonard, Sheriff.

The fore part of the season this year was very wet. An unusual amount of rain fell; crops were backward. Immigration continued to come in slowly, composed mostly of those who designed settlement. Much prairie was broken this year, and considerable improvement made in the county. Immigration increased over all former times. In July, over three hundred landed at one time from the steamer Wyoming, all intending to settle in Scott county.

The cholera was very bad this year. About thirty of the citizens died and many immigrants. The Le Claire Foundry was started this year in June, and another steam saw mill called "Howard's Mill," in the lower part of the city. Davenport now had two steam saw mills and two steam flouring mills. Pork was worth from two dollars and fifty cents to three dollars a hundred. The new stone Catholic church was built this year, the Le Claire House enlarged and Cook & Sargent's new brick exchange office was erected on the corner of Main and Second streets. A large number of private dwellings were built. Merchants and mechanics had sought homes here until houses were so scarce that many left the city for want of room.

The pork market opened this fall at high rates—four dollars a hundred for good hogs. In October of this year, East Davenport was laid out into lots and the present village commenced. In November, William Russell, of St. Louis, commenced purchasing property here, which gave the first rise in property that afterwards attained to such extravagant prices.

The city at this date, contained about forty-five stores. Cook & Sargent's Addition to the Town of Davenport was made this

year. The river closed on the 16th of December. Population of the city, three thousand. Nine steam establishments were now in operation in the city. Over three hundred houses were built this season, and there were nine organized churches, and six church buildings in the city at the close of the year. Cotes & Davis' Planing Mill was built, and Christie's Mill, at East Davenport, was also erected this year, and the first wholesale grocery was established by S. Hirschel. The Second Baptist church was organized.

1852.—On the 22d of February, Mr. Le Claire laid out his Fifth Addition to the City of Davenport, containing one tier of blocks between Iowa and Le Claire streets, below Seventh to Second. The river opened this year, on the 4th of March. The ice had broken up several times, gorged and stopped. Boats were in waiting to come up and down for some days, the river being clear of ice above and below. On the 3d of April, snow fell to the depth of six or eight inches, followed by sleet which weighed down the branches of the trees with ice until many limbs were broken. On the 5th of April, 1851, a similar snow and sleet fell, followed by disagreeable, cold weather.

On the 15th of April, the first immigrants arrived, and were followed by large numbers, both by land and water.

On the 5th of May, the corner stone of Trinity church was laid, on the corner of Fifth and Rock Island streets, by Bishop Kemper. There was some cholera this year. The steam ferry boat was put in operation this year by John Wilson, so long and favorably known as the ferryman between the two cities. Population in the city at the close of the year, three thousand. J. M. Cannon's saw mill, built. John Jordan, Mayor; A. F. Mast, Clerk; Sam'l Parker, Marshal; Wm. Van Tuyl, Treasurer. Aldermen, H. Leonard, Weigand, Squires, G. P. Cook, H. Price and Bechtel.

1853.—This year, a County Poor House was built by Judge Burris, five miles from the city on the road to Du Buque, the county having purchased eighty acres of land for that purpose. Pork, on the 1st of January, was worth from five dollars and an half to six a hundred.

The Mississippi and Missouri Railroad Company was organized, with a capital stock of six million dollars, the corporation to continue fifty years from date. On the first of September, the ceremony of breaking ground on the road took place. It was a day

full of interest to the people of Davenport. Many of the old citizens, who had for years been living on in hope and confidence, now began to feel all their most sanguine wishes gratified. The Rock Island and Chicago Road was near completion, and the first locomotive was soon expected to stand upon the banks of the Mississippi river, sending its shrill whistle across the mighty stream, and longing for its westward flight across the prairies of Iowa. The occasion was one of universal rejoicing. A great and important object had been accomplished for our city, our county and our State. As Mr. Le Claire, who was selected to perform the ceremony of removing the first ground, came forward, pulling off his coat and taking the wheel-barrow and spade, he was greeted by a most tremendous and hearty cheer. The ceremony took place near the corner of Fifth and Rock Island streets. A large procession was formed of citizens, Odd Fellows and musicians. The dinner was served at the Le Claire House, by Mr. Lowry, and the occasion was one long to be remembered. A vote was taken, in September, in regard to the county taking stock in the road. There were but three hundred and nine votes cast, and out of these but two were against subscribing to the stock. The amount taken by the city was seventy-five thousand dollars, by the county fifty thousand dollars, and one hundred thousand dollars by individual subscription.

The Le Claire Foundry was burned in August. An Express and Telegraph Office was opened this year. The population in the city was forty-five hundred. The sixth addition to the city of Davenport by Mr. Le Claire was made this Autumn, extending from Le Claire street to Farnam, south of Seventh to the river.

The city officers elected this year were John A. Boyd, Mayor; R. K. Allen, Clerk; Sam'l Parker, Marshal; J. Drake, Treasurer. The Aldermen were, A. Weigand, John Weeks, John P. Cook, Joseph Kingerlee, Hiram Price and Wm. Gray. The progress of the city was rapid; the immigration continued with but little abatement, and the city and county filled up with many enterprising citizens, and we began to assume the appearance of a real city in form and fact.

1854.—On the 22d of February of this year, the long contemplated Railroad from Chicago to Rock Island was completed, and by it the Atlantic and Mississippi were united. As it might well be expected, it was a day of jubilee to the residents of the Upper

Mississippi. For years, the more enterprising had looked forward to the time when we should be placed in connection by railway with the East. For years had the settlers been dependent on the river navigation for all their commercial wants, and been subject to long and tedious routes to the Atlantic seaboard. It was no wonder, then, that it was a day of general rejoicing. I can no better represent the occasion than by copying an article from the *Chicago Press* on that occasion :

“On Wednesday last, the 22d inst., that event looked forward to for years with so much interest by our citizens—the connection of the Mississippi with Lake Michigan by a continuous line of railroad—was consummated. The honor of arriving first at this goal belongs to the Chicago and Rock Island road—an honor, by the way, well worthy the Herculean efforts which have been made to achieve it. In February, 1851, the Legislature chartered a company. In October of the same year, the contract for its construction and equipment was taken. In April, 1852, the first estimate for work upon it was paid; and in February, 1854, three years from its charter, and twenty-two months after ground had been broken upon it, the work is completed, and cars are running daily its entire length, one hundred and eighty-one miles! This is certainly a proud monument to all who have been instrumental in pushing the work forward to completion, and especially so to those sagacious and energetic men who have had it in special charge, Messrs. SHEFFIELD and FARNAM.”

During this winter there was but little snow and no rain. The weather was mild; the atmosphere pure and clear; roads good, and business lively in our streets. The average temperature by the thermometer was but eleven and a half degrees, while in 1851 it was twenty degrees; in 1852 it was fifteen and a half, and in 1853 twenty and two-thirds degrees. In 1851, the mercury fell below zero five times; in 1852, it fell four times; in 1853, it fell but once, and in 1854, it fell five times. In January, pork was three dollars and seventy-five cents a hundred; flour five dollars, and wheat sixty-five cents for spring, and winter seventy-five cents. In February, flour advanced to six and six and a half dollars.

The year eighteen hundred and fifty-four was one of the most distinguished and busy years in the existence of Davenport. The foundations of her prosperity were laid this year. The immense emigration that had settled in the county for the two years previous, now began to exhibit the fruits of their industry. The city had kept pace with the back country in her improvements, and added to her population, three thousand, while the county contain-

ed about thirteen thousand. The onward progress of both city and county for three years had been such, that all looked for better times. The "Great River" was to be spanned this year by a bridge. The increase of population created a great demand for dwelling houses, stores, and workshops. Labor of all kinds was in demand. The railroad westward was to go on with increased exertions. Money began to be plenty. Emigration began to pour in at the opening of Spring; and the streets of Davenport seemed thronged with strangers. Material for building was scarce. There was but little or no seasoned lumber in the city. All lumber for building had to be ordered at the mills, or shipped from other ports. Rents began to be scarce and high, and families who had been the occupants of spacious dwellings in other places, were now crowded into small apartments, until new ones could be built.

This year, the Le Claire Row was finished, and also the block from Main to Brady streets. Witherwax and Orr's building was completed; the Second Baptist Church erected, and the Ladies' College built by T. H. Coddington, Esq. The Davenport Commercial, a newspaper was started by N. H. Parker. The first extensive wholesale iron and hardware store was opened by T. Close & Co. Daily lines of stages began to run to Iowa City, Tipton and Cedar Rapids. Another foundry was started by Davis, Boyd & Co. Renwick & Son built their saw-mill. The Davenport Gas-Light and Coke Company was organized. Luse & Coles opened the first exclusive job and printing office in this city. Hildreth & Dalloon's steam flouring mill at East Davenport was put in operation this year.

We had been placed in direct communication with the East, by railroad and telegraph. On the first of September, the corner stone was laid of the Bridge, which aroused the jealousy of St. Louis, that had heretofore enjoyed unmolested the commerce of the Great West. And not only had the Company to contend with St. Louis, that seemed to think that she had indisputable right to all the commerce of the Upper Mississippi, unmolested, but obstacles were thrown in the way by those who were in power, by ordering the United States Marshal to prevent all operations on the Island, probably, for fear that a bridge across the Mississippi at this point, would interfere with the prospects of a "Southern Pacific Railroad." Congress had made appropriations for remov-

ing obstructions in the rapids of the Mississippi river at this place. The surveys of the channel had been made, and the contracts let.

On the 20th of June, Mr. Le Claire laid out his seventh addition to the city of Davenport, extending from Rock Island street to Farnam, north of Seventh and south of Ninth street. Hon. James Grant was Mayor, B. B. Woodward, Clerk; L. J. Center, Marshal; L. B. Collamer, Treasurer. The Aldermen were, H. Wilhelm, G. G. Arndt, Charles J. H. Eyser, E. A. Gerdtzen, B. Atkinson, D. P. McKown, H. H. Smith, E. Cook, Wm. Burris, and A. A. McLoskey. Four hundred houses erected this year.

1855.—The year 1855, was but a continuation, and carrying out of the plans and progress of 1854. Emigration increased. Rents were high and houses scarce. Six hundred houses were erected. The imports on the first of February, amounted to eight hundred and thirty hogsheads and six hundred and thirty-seven barrels of sugar; molasses, eighteen hundred and forty-two barrels; four hundred and seventy-three barrels of vinegar, forty-one hundred and twenty-six barrels of salt, two hundred and ninety-two barrels of cement, four hundred and seventy sacks of salt, twelve hundred and forty-eight sacks of coffee, eleven hundred and seventy-five sacks of dried fruit, and one thousand barrels of apples. The exports amounted to thirty thousand bushels of wheat, forty thousand and seven hundred bushels of barley, sixty thousand bushels of corn, twenty-nine thousand bushels of potatoes, twenty-one thousand bushels of onions, thirty thousand one hundred and fifty barrels of flour, eight hundred barrels of pork and three hundred barrels of lard. The population at this time in the city was seven thousand, and in the county fifteen thousand.

At this time, Davenport ranked with any city in Iowa, in a commercial point of view, as well as for beauty of location. The facilities for shipping had greatly enhanced the value of produce, farmers were encouraged, and great efforts made in agriculture. A large sum of money was expended in the improvement of the Rapids by Government, and the building of the Bridge across the Mississippi river. These were some of the principal causes that led to the sudden rise in real estate at this time, and which caused large investments in the city and county. The immediate construction of the Railroad west, seemed certain, and land was sought after along its route at extravagant prices. Although

money was plenty, it commanded high rates of interest for investment in lands and improvements in the city.

The East end of the Le Claire Block was finished this year. Many beautiful residences were built upon the bluffs. Among them were Messrs. Price's, Dillon's and Dessaint's. The George L. Davenport Block, on the corner of Main and Second streets, and several steam manufactories were erected. The city limits were enlarged so as to include North Davenport. At the city election in April, Enos Tichenor was elected Mayor; B. B. Woodward, Clerk; Sam'l Parker, Marshal; Wm. Van Tuyl, Treasurer. Aldermen, G. G. Arndt, G. C. R. Mitchell, E. A. Gerdtzen, Charles I. H. Eyser, D. P. McKown, Austin Corbin, E. Cook, H. Price, A. A. McLoskey, A. H. Owens, Joseph Lambrite, Samuel Saddoris. The population, in March of this year, was estimated at eight thousand. Upon the passage of the Prohibitory Liquor Law in April, by a vote of the people of the county, there were nineteen hundred and seventy-seven votes polled. A Temperance ticket was formed at the August election, at which eighteen hundred and fifty-one votes were polled in the county. Wm. L. Cook was elected County Judge, Harvey Leonard, Sheriff; James McCosh, Recorder.

The total receipts into the Treasury ending March 17th, 1856, were forty-one thousand one hundred and seventy-eight dollars and thirty-one cents; and total expenditures forty thousand five hundred and eighty-six dollars and fifty cents; leaving a balance in the Treasury of five hundred and ninety-one dollars and eighty-one cents. The county at this date owned as assets, fifty-nine thousand and four hundred dollars worth of stock in the Rock Island and Chicago Railroad, and seventy-five thousand dollars in the Mississippi and Missouri Rail Road, while at the same time their liabilities were for subscription to one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars worth of stock in the Mississippi and Missouri Rail Road, and forty-four hundred and thirty-one dollars and sixty-five cents interest money on the same.

The amount of taxable property in the county by assessment, was four millions, four hundred and eighty thousand dollars.

1856.—Crops of all kinds were abundant this year, and commanded a good price. The lumber trade had become very extensive. The sales in this city alone this year amounted to upwards of seventeen million, four hundred and twenty thousand

feet, and nearly seven millions of lath. Ten million feet of lumber were manufactured in the city; the balance came from Chicago, and was rafted down the river. Twenty thousand eight hundred hogs were packed, and over four hundred and fifty thousand bushels of wheat were purchased in our market. On the 21st of April, the first locomotive came across the bridge. Le Claire's eighth addition to the city of Davenport was laid out, on the 26th of March of this year. It extended from Perry street to Farnam, all lying North of Ninth street to the line of "Le Claire's Reserve."

At the city election in April, G. C. R. Mitchell was elected Mayor; Wm. Hall, Clerk; Sam'l Sylvester, Treasurer; and John H. Taylor, Marshal. The Aldermen were, James O'Brien, John Schutt, C. I. H. Eysler, A. Smallfield, Austin Corbin, James M. Bowling, Hiram Price, John Forest, Wm. S. Kinsey, S. K. Barkley, Sam'l Saddoris, Joseph Lambrite. At the August election, N. J. Rusch was elected to the State Senate, and Messrs. Rogers, Wing and Barner Representatives. J. W. Stewart was elected Prosecuting Attorney, and J. D. Patton, Clerk of District Court. A vote was taken and carried for a Convention to form a new State Constitution, and George W. Ells was elected Delegate. The year ended in the full tide of commerce, speculation, and excitement.

1857.—At the spring election, Gen. G. B. Sargent was elected Mayor; H. W. Mitchell, Marshal; John Johns, Police Magistrate; E. Peck, Clerk; Samuel Sylvester, Treasurer. The Aldermen elect were, J. M. Cannon, A. Jennings, H. Ramming, Theodore Guelich, J. M. Bowling, Austin Corbin, John Forrest, J. C. Washburne, James O'Brien, Geo. Hubbell *vice* A. Le. Claire, resigned, Wm. Guy, I. H. Sears. There was also at the same election a vote taken for and against licensing the sale of spirituous liquors, and three hundred and ninety-eight majority against it.

At the August election, Charles Weston was elected Judge; James McCosh, Treasurer and Recorder; Harvey Leonard, Sheriff; W. P. Campbell, Surveyor; and Wm. Effey, Coroner. A vote was taken, also, and carried by one hundred and nineteen majority, for a tax to be levied for building a Court House and City Hall, but the work has never been commenced. At the general election in October, there were thirty-one hundred and twenty-one votes cast. N. J. Rusch was elected to the State Senate; John W. Thompson, B. F. Gue and Robert Scott to the House. G. C. R.

Mitchell was an independent candidate for District Judge, and was elected.

In our city affairs, everything seemed prosperous. The opening of our railroad, the constructing of the bridge across the Mississippi, the public expenditures upon the rapids, all had a tendency to invite strangers to our city. Money was plenty, investments of all kinds were made, merchants and mechanics were all busy, and the laboring man found ready employment at good wages. The public works upon our streets, the building of Metropolitan Hall by R. B. Hill, Esq., the erection of the banking house of Cook & Sargent, and the private residence of E. Cook, Esq., the engine house and numerous other private and public buildings, scarcely inferior to any in the West, all combined to draw men and means to this city. Improvements beyond all former years were begun and carried to completion. From the 1st of August, 1856, to the close of this year, 1857, over thirteen hundred houses were erected within the corporate limits of the city.

Gen. Sargent, the Mayor, in his "inaugural," recommended the most extensive, if not the most extravagant improvements. Among which, were the grading and filling a steamboat landing; the grading and filling of Brady street; the same between Harrison and Brady; the macadamizing of the levee; the construction of water works for the use of the city; fire engines and apparatus with engine house; stock taken in the "Davenport Gas Light and Coke Co.," and the streets lighted with gas; a city hospital and a city prison; a city hall, and other improvements in the city. Elections were held, loans voted for, and the bonds of the city issued and sold. Appropriations were made for many of these improvements.

At the close of 1857, two miles of street had been macadamized, four and a half miles of gas pipe had been laid and over two hundred and fifty street lamps erected, and thirteen miles of sidewalk laid. In this estimate, none of the improvements made extended to East or North Davenport, except Brady street to Locust. All other improvements in these two places have been made since. The sidewalks now laid in the city extend over twenty miles. About one thousand houses were erected.

From the Treasurer's report rendered the 31st of March, there appears a nominal balance in the Treasury of forty-four thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight dollars and fifteen cents. We

here append the report in order to exhibit at this date, the financial condition of the city.

CITY TREASURER'S REPORT.

ABSTRACT OF RECEIPTS.

Balance received from Treasurer last year,.....	\$2,563 06
Dividends on Chicago and Rock Island Railroad Stock,.....	5,440 00
Taxes in arrear for year 1855,.....	1,048 09
Road fund in arrear in 1855,.....	1,849 75
City Clerk Licenses, Cemetery Lots, &c.,.....	434 45
Mayor for fines,.....	58 00
Redemption of Lot for Taxes,.....	3 00
Marshal Taxes for 1856,.....	14,600 39
Real Estate owners on account paving Main street,.....	718 26
Real Estate owners Macadamizing Front street,.....	1,602 08
Sale of ten City Bond loans of 1856,.....	5,000 00
Sale of eighty-four shares Chicago and Rock Island Rail Road Stock,.....	8,400 00
Two fractional shares Chicago and Rock Island Rail Road Stock,.....	100 00
Dividends on Mississippi and Rail Road Stock,.....	3,648 00
	<hr/>
	\$45,465 07

ABSTRACT OF EXPENDITURES.

Current expenses as per city orders,.....	\$7,247 22
Interest, commission, and expenses on Chicago and Rock Island Rail Road Bonds,.....	5,025 00
Interest, commission, and expense on Mississippi and Missouri Rail Road Bonds,.....	7,631 61
Cash paid from Treasury for Road work,.....	6,931 73
Cash paid Street Commissioner, road fund, Mayor's order....	1,849 75
" on account paving Main Street,.....	2,568 00
" " Macadamizing Front street,.....	2,088 62
" " Brady street and steamboat landing,...	1,197 92
" " Macadamizing Main street,.....	510 50
" revising ordinances,.....	250 00
" on account printing and binding ordinances,...	500 00
" note and interest on account Road fund,.....	1,081 67
" interest, commission and expense on Davenport Gas Stock,.....	204 00
	<hr/>
	\$87,081 02

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE CITY CITY OF DAVENPORT, MARCH 31, 1857.

27 Shares Chicago and Rock Island Rail Road Stock, at \$100	2,700 00
Interest Scrip Mississippi and Missouri Rail Road Company, ..	54 14
40 shares Davenport Gas-Light and Coke Company,	1,000 00
162 shares Mississippi and Missouri Rail Road Stock at \$100, ..	16,200 00
Estimated amount due from County Treasurer to Road fund, ..	4,000 00
Due from Real Estate owners on Main street,	1,845 00
Due from Real Estate owners on Front street,	60 96
Cash in the Treasury, .. .	8,384 05
City Tax List for 1856, .. .	1,900 00
Due from City Clerk, .. .	634 00
	\$39,778 15
Deduct estimated expenditures due and maturing,	5,000 00
	\$44,778 15
Leaving nominally a balance over indebtedness,	

The assessed property of the city at this time amounted to five million two hundred and twenty-five thousand and ninety-one dollars. Such had been the increase since 1851, when it amounted to only one hundred thousand dollars, and in 1854, to one and a half million, and in 1855 three millions, and 1856 three and a half millions. The population had increased to eighteen thousand; real estate had steadily risen to "New York prices," and all the elements of prosperity seemed sure and lasting. The year was one of uncommon energy and life. But few that desired business or labor could be found out of employment.

Some dissatisfaction arose among the residents and owners of property on Fifth street, on account of the non-fulfillment of the contract on the part of the Mississippi and Missouri Railroad to grade and pave the street for the right of way. This was agitated, and the Mayor recommended the City Council to prosecute the Railroad Company without delay, and suit was ordered, when the Company offered fifty thousand dollars in their Bonds, issued upon the third division of their road West, for a release of their contract. To the astonishment of parties interested, the proposition was accepted by the Council, and the Rail Road Company were released. Since which time suit has been brought to invalidate the acts, not only of the Council who granted the right of way to the Company, but to the Council of 1857, who released

them from their contract. A late decision of the Supreme Court of Iowa, in a case wherein the City of Dubuque brought suit against the proprietor of an adjacent lot for digging out into the street in order to make a coal or wood scuttle, decided "that the fee in the public streets of Iowa belong to the adjacent lots, to the centre of the street. That the public have a fee in the highway, only for its use as a highway, and that corporations have no such interest in the streets as will empower them to use, or permit them to be used for any other purposes than a highway.

We copy from the Annual Report of the Board of Trade in this city, the following statistics, showing the progress of business, in the different branches of trade up to the close of the year.

"The footings in some of the principal branches of trade, for the year ending December 31st, 1857, show an aggregate in the same of \$14,485,812 24. Of this amount

\$8,539,744 28	has been Banking and Exchange ;
2,628,602 57	Sales of Merchandize ;
1,158,000 00	Sales of Grain and Provisions ;
353,000 00	Sales of Consignments and Forwarding ;
751,059 00	Manufacturing not estimated in sales ;
450,029 00	Freight and Cartage ;
555,406 39	Lumber, Doors, Sash, etc.

The Banking Department shows an aggregate of \$6,616,737 34 for Exchange, and \$1,923,006 94 for Discounts.

The sales of Merchandize, together with the stock on hand, show as follows:

	SALES.	STOCK.
Agricultural Implements,.....	\$ 25,000 00	\$ 12,000
Boots and Shoes,.....	72,000 00	34,000
Books, Wall Paper, etc.....	34,000 00	12,000
Bakery, Confectionery, etc.,.....	8,000 00	3,000
Clothing,.....	163,700 00	61,000
Dry Goods,.....	600,902 57	164,500
Furniture, Mattresses, Carpeting,.....	89,000 00	44,300
Groceries,.....	771,800 00	163,000
Hardware, Iron and Nails,.....	264,500 00	120,500
Hats, Caps and Fur,.....	84,000 00	14,000
Jewelry, Watches, etc.,.....	27,000 00	18,500
Leather and Saddlery Hardware,.....	87,000 00	24,200
Millinery,.....	42,000 00	12,700
Drugs, Paints, Oils, etc.,.....	70,000 00	35,300

Queensware,.....	25,000 00	18,000
Stoves, House Furnishing, etc.,.....	125,000 00	44,000
Assorted Merchandize,.....	116,200 00	16,000
Tobacco and Cigars,.....	59,000 00	14,000
Wines and Liquors,.....	13,500 00	7,000
		7,000
Total Stock on hand,		\$818,700

Owing to the monetary difficulties, which came upon us so suddenly in October, there has been a falling off in all branches of trade. In no department have the figures been so effected as in Banking. During sixty of the last last ninety days, exchange has not been procurable at any price, or under any circumstances, except in very small sums. Notwithstanding this, our local business has suffered far less diminution than was at first apprehended.

Careful inquiries have developed the fact beyond dispute that, during the last few months, we have had important accessions to our trade, from various sections of the country hitherto tributary to other points. It is presuming very little to say, that the acquaintances thus formed, cannot but result mutually advantageous. Whether the first introduction was the result of purely superior inducements in stock and prices, which our merchants are ever ready to offer, or more directly the effect of the local currency, that has been so exclusively the agent of our transactions, is not left for decision here, and indeed it is no matter, having gained so much of a point, it only remains to retain it.

The high price of exchange has operated more manifestly upon the stocks of grocers, in the articles of coffee, sugar and molasses, and has maintained the price of these articles, at quotations much above the ordinary margin between this and Eastern and Southern markets. The indications being favorable for a speedy equalization of funds, we may reasonably hope for an improvement in these articles, and a corresponding increase of sales of the same.

The estimates of Grain and Provisions exhibit as follows:

Bushels Wheat,.....	1,019,005	Value.....	\$509,000
do Barley,.....	34,000	do.....	13,600
Barrels Flour,.....	175,800	do.....	879,600
Tons shipped stuff,.....	8,640	do.....	129,600
Bushels of Potatoes,.....	20,000	do.....	5,000
do Onions,.....	25,000	do.....	12,000
Barrels Pork,.....	3,500	do.....	52,000
Tierces Bacon,.....	1,280	do.....	32,000

Of the wheat received during the comprised period, there were manufactured into flour eight hundred and seventy-nine thousand barrels.

The number of hogs packed at this point was thirteen thousand.

The estimated value of the same, after allowing for the wheat etc., manufactured, is one million, one hundred and fifty-eight thousand dollars.

The Commission and Forwarding Business, with an aggregate of three hundred and fifty-three thousand dollars, shows an advance for freight and charges of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

The following list of different branches of manufactures shows for

Agricultural Implements,...	\$49,000
Boots and Shoes,	20,000
Book Binding, Printing, etc.,.....	108,000
Bakeries and Confectionery,.....	35,000
Clothing,.....	28,000
Carriages, Wagons, etc.,.....	87,000
Furniture and Mattresses,.....	67,000
Plows, Castings and Iron Work,.....	205,000
Paints, Oils, etc.,.....	4,000
Stove Furnishing, etc.,	10,000
Cooperage,	105,130
Lumber, Sash, etc.,.....	235,154
Flour, Feed, etc.,	957,000
Hog Product,	113,750
Sundry Manufactures,.....	32,909

There are few points in the West where the manufacture of flour is more largely engaged in.

The value of this department alone approximates one million of dollars, while the brands of the different mills enjoy an enviable reputation in foreign markets."

1858.—The Pioneer Settlers' Association of Scott county was organized in January, and its first Festival held at the "Burtis House" on the 22d of February. It was decidedly the greatest occasion of the season. Some time during the month of December, 1857, a call was made through the city papers for all the Old Settlers of Scott county who had become residents prior to the 31st of December, 1840, to meet at Le Claire Hall on the 23d of January, 1858. In answer to this call, about sixty were present. The meeting was called to order by D. C. Eldridge, Esq., one of

the first settlers of the county, and E. Cook, Esq., was elected chairman, and John L. Coffin, Secretary of the meeting. At this meeting, an Association was formed, a preamble and resolutions were passed, and Antoine Le Claire elected the first President. At a second meeting, on the 30th of January, a Constitution and By-Laws for the Society were presented, approved and adopted, and the Pioneer Settlers' Association was duly organized. The Constitution provides for an annual Festival, to be held on the 22d of February of each year, the first of which came off, at the Burtis House, on the 22d of that month. It was an occasion of deep interest to the Old Settlers, who had braved the storms of many winters, and, for long years of poverty and exile, watched with anxiety the slow but sure results of their trials and hardships. The honor of dedicating the spacious building in which the Festival was held, was conferred upon the Association, and the most magnificent entertainment was prepared by Dr. Burtis, the proprietor, that probably ever graced a table in the city of Davenport. The meeting was a happy one to all parties. The number present on the occasion, including invited guests, composed of the Press and Clergy, was not far from eight hundred. It was a gathering such as never had been seen before this side the Mississippi river. The Hon. John P. Cook delivered the Annual Address. A gold-headed cane, made from a native growth of hickory, was presented to the President by the Hon. John F. Dillon, as insignia of his office, with the name of the Society and its first President engraved upon it.

It was a noble sight to look upon, as the vast assembly were gathered in the spacious dining hall, where the greetings took place. None but those present can ever realize the scenes of that interview. There was no loud and boisterous mirth, but a still, subdued hum of voices that told the deep and silent thought. The aged Pioneer was there with his whitened locks and bowed head, and as the earnest gaze, the familiar nod, the grasping hand were passed from one to another, the silent tear would trickle down the furrowed cheek unforbidden. The weary soldiers met that night. It was a manliness to weep. The battles had been fought, the victory won, and as the Pioneer fathers and mothers met, after years of toil and separation, it was meet that their tears and sympathies should mingle at one common altar, as they recounted the trials and hardships through which they had passed,

and called to remembrance the name of some loved one who, in the "heat and burden of the day," had been laid away in earth's last resting place.

The rich repast was served, speeches were made, toasts drunk until a late hour, when the gathering broke up. Long will the first meeting of the Pioneer Settlers' Association be remembered. Friends met on this occasion that had not seen each other for twenty years. Many came from the adjoining counties and States, who had been absent for years, and could scarcely recognise the once little village of Davenport.

The second Festival was held in 1859, at the Burtis House, and the reunion was pleasant and agreeable, answering the most sanguine expectations of the Association. A. Le Claire was still the President. The Annual Address was delivered by W. Barrows. The attendance was not so large as the year previous, but was a most happy meeting for the Pioneers.

The year opened with the financial crisis close upon us. The East was but slowly recovering from a severe commercial panic, and looked upon the West with suspicion. Eastern capitalists had invested largely here, and some of them had purchased at unwarranted rates, during the inflated prices of real estate. Merchants and manufacturers, who had been doing business on borrowed capital at high rates of interest, found themselves suddenly bankrupt. The farming portions of the county were brought to a sudden stand, by the loss of their crops. Many of them had borrowed money to invest in lands, at ruinous rates of interest, and, not having any products from their land, much distress ensued among that class.

At the April county election, A. S. Kissell was elected County Superintendent of Schools. At the October election, Ira M. Gifford was elected Clerk of the District Court. Thirty-four hundred and fifteen votes were polled in the county. In December an election was held to vote for or against a loan and a tax to build the Cedar Valley Railroad, which was carried by a good majority, but an injunction was issued against issuing the bonds of the county. At the same election a loan and tax were voted for and carried, to build a Railroad from Davenport to Le Claire. Also, a tax of one mill on the dollar for making and repairing bridges.

The city election resulted in the choice of Hon. Ebenezer Cook for Mayor; John Bechtel, Marshal; Lorenzo Schricker, Treasurer,

and Hallet Kilbourn, Clerk. The Aldermen were J. M. Cannon, I. P. Coates, Theodore Guelich, Henry Rammings, Austin Corbin, James Mackintosh, Thomas H. Morley, John C. Washburn, Geo. E. Hubbell, James O'Brien, Robert Christies and I. H. Sears. This year was one of much financial distress. Money became very scarce, and the agricultural products failed.

For the census returns of the county for the year 1858, we clip the following from the Davenport Gazette of June 9, 1859, as furnished by Mr. Gifford, Clerk of the District Court.

CENSUS FOR SCOTT COUNTY.—We are indebted to Mr. Gifford for the census returns of this county for 1858, from which we learn that the total population was, males, 13,507; females, 12,344; total, 25,861. Number entitled to vote, 5,108; of militia, 5,501; of foreigners not naturalized, 1,751; between the ages of 5 and 21 years, 7,859. Whole number of dwelling houses, 4,998; against 1,386, as reported by the census of 1856. Number of acres of improved land, 124,499; against 74,226 of 1856, and increase of over 50,000. This leaves 48,171 acres in our county unimproved.

A new feature presented by this census report over that of 1856, is the number of acres, 46, devoted to Sorghum, and the quantity of molassess manufactured, 3,005 gallons. The present year will see a vast increase in this article. Another new production, introduced since the last census returns, is that of Hungarian grass. Last season, there were 461 acres sown in our county, producing 1,111 tons of hay. Last season there was 7,862 acres in meadow, against 3,628 in 1856, and 15,847 tons of hay produced against 8,514, and 904 bushels of grass seed against 372 in '56. Acres in orchard 970; fruit produced valued at \$9,122.

Numbers of acres of spring wheat 47,278, against 23,661 in '56; yet in the former year, owing to the failure of the crops, only 336,166 bushels were harvested, whereas, in 1856, the yield was 536,621 bushels, an average of nearly 23 bushels to the acre. This shows something of the productiveness of the soil of Scott county. Very little winter wheat was harvested in our county last year. Of oats there were 10,780 acres sown against 5,218 in '56, yet last year there were only 73,843 bushels produced, while the yield in '56 was 179,896 bushels, an average of almost 35 bushels to the acre. Of corn there were 23,068 acres planted, against 15,703 in '56, but owing to the same cause, the yield last year was only 664,243 bushels, against 780,787 in '56. Potatoes, 2,437 acres,

yield 101,417 bushels. In 1856 there were only 1,053 acres planted in potatoes, while the produce was 128,392 bushels, or an average of about 122 to the acre. Last year there were 5,568 hogs sold, valued at \$36,397, and 1,807 head of cattle, valued at \$45,367. 2,049 lbs. of wool were produced, 247,006 lbs. of butter and 14,072 lbs. of cheese made.

The census returns for 1858 show a rapid advance in Scott county, and an increase in all the mediums for augmenting her productions. Pleasant Valley township shows the heaviest farm productions of any in the county. Last season her farmers put 94 acres in onions, which, notwithstanding the failure of the crops, produced 13,814 bushels, an average of over 157 bushels to the acre, valued at \$6,987. Davenport, according to the census, shows a population of 15,190, with 2,888 voters, 3,048 dwelling houses.

The following is the population and the number of voters in each precinct of the county. Liberty, 540 citizens, 121 voters, Blue Grass, citizens 972, voters 185; Rockingham, citizens 358, voters 79; Le Claire, citizens 2,564, voters 565; Cleona, citizens, 204, voters 47; Buffalo, citizens 962, voters 172; Pleasant Valley, citizens 727, voters 164; Winfield, citizens 1,667, voters 272; Hickory Grove, citizens 909, voters 189; Princeton, citizens 1,319, voters 301; Allen's Grove, citizens 449, voters 105.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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.