

these towns had only an existence on the map, for we have no recollection of ever hearing of them. There was another town that had an existence, although of a later date, which we should not forget. This town, Winoga, was laid out by Hon. J. Scott Richman on Muscatine Island, some six miles west of Muscatine, along the Southwestern Railroad. The Judge staked out the town when the railroad was first built, and in order to give it a start, built two dwelling-houses about 1859 or 1860. The residents of the Island got a levee law passed by the legislature allowing a tax of twenty cents an acre and fifty cents a town lot to be levied for the building of a levee. The Judge had a large number of town lots laid out, and not having succeeded in selling any, vacated his town and paid his tax by the acre. He sold his buildings and concluded that town making did not always pay.

---

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

---

### COLLEGES IN IOWA.

IOWA COLLEGE is situated at Grinnell, Poweshiek county. It is the outgrowth of Congregationalism and Presbyterianism in Iowa. The first effort for a college in the Territory was begun at Denmark, Iowa, at the home of Rev. Asa Turner, formerly the acting Presbyterian pastor at Quincy, Illinois. but, in 1844, the new apostle of Congregationalism settled in Iowa, surrounded with the Andover band. It was on the plan of Dr. Stiles F. Ely, of Philadelphia, to enter land and build a town and College upon it. Rev. Asa Turner, Jr., was appointed agent, went to Boston, and was there dissuaded from this attempt by the prospect of help from "The College Aid Society," just then organized.

In June, 1846, it was decided, conditionally, to locate the College at Davenport, if the people there would raise \$1,500 and furnish ground for a site. David W. Kilbourne, of Keokuk (then at Montrose), an agent of Indian Reservation lands, purchased by Marsh, Lee & Delevan, visited Davenport and persuaded Mr. Antoine Le Claire, the old Indian interpreter of the United States government, to donate from his township a site, which subsequently became valuable, and constituted more than half the property of the Institution in its early origin. It was sold and a new site obtained, which, also, with a new college edifice of considerable excellence, was sold out to the Episcopal Bishop, Lee.

In the original charter, under the laws of the Territory, June 4, 1847, there were three Presbyterian and nine Congregational trustees. The professors, subsequent to its organization, were all Congregationalists; and when the Presbytery of Des Moines offered to endow a Presbyterian professorship and nominate one of their number as incumbent, the proposition was declined by the Congregational majority of the board.

In 1858 the College was united with the projected University started at Grinnell, a town founded in 1854, on the open prairie, and since then the progress of Iowa College has been gradually improving, till now it is a decided success, superior to any Institution of learning in Iowa, except the State University at Iowa City or the Agricultural College at Ames.

The Methodists, divided in their efforts, have five or six Colleges, the Baptists have three or four, and the Presbyterians two Colleges proper, Parsons College at Fairfield, growing out of the Parsons' land bequest, and the Coe College at Cedar Rapids, both considerable Institutions, with buildings, presidents, professors, and apparatus for higher instruction, which, with the Lenox Collegiate Institute (a very indefinite name or designation), constitute the provisional schools of learning of the United Presbyterian denomination, now composing the State Synod of Iowa.

A METHODIST UNIVERSITY MOVEMENT.—A meeting was held in Des Moines a few days ago, at the residence of Bishop Hurst, of delegates from the four Methodist Colleges in Iowa to devise plans for the increase of their educational facilities and usefulness, or, rather, for a University organization. A plan was adopted which will be submitted to the several boards of trustees of the Colleges at their June commencements. It is distinctly understood that no consolidation of Colleges is contemplated, nor the establishment of a new central College, but the establishment of such professional and technological schools as may be needed to advance the scope of education.—*Iowa City Republican*.

#### ANNUAL COMMENCEMENTS OF IOWA COLLEGES FOR 1882—

The annual commencement at Iowa College, Grinnell, will take place June 28.

At the State University, Iowa City, on June 21st.

At Cornell College, Mount Vernon, on June 25th, with a quarter-centennial celebration.

At Coe College, at Cedar Rapids, on the 22d of June.

Parsons' College on the 21st of June.

---

THE Episcopal Diocesan Convention of Iowa assembles at Council Bluffs May 30 and 31 and June 1. The representation is a rector and three laymen for each parish. Bishop Perry will preside.

## NOTICE OF BOOKS AND EXCHANGES.

SPECIAL thanks are due to Mrs. S. B. Maxwell for a copy of her Report as State Librarian.

The Library now contains over 20,000 volumes. Among other additions are "Audibon's Birds of America," life-size illustrations. It contains a plea for a new library room, fire-proof and roomy.

Also thanks are due Mrs. Maxwell for a copy of a "resolution of thanks" to Capt. B. S. Roberts, on his return from the Mexican war, for his bravery, and the voting by the State legislature of a sword to him. This last resolution is mislaid.

Also thanks are tendered to the *Gazette* of Davenport, the *Republican* and *Press* of Iowa City, the *Register* and *Leader* of Des Moines, with the *Lyons Mirror* and other newspapers whose friendly notices of the ANNALS have been received with gratitude. It is a great undertaking to start a New Series of ANNALS, and one needs all the aid and encouragement that may be proffered by the press of the State.

"*The Star of the East*," by Rev. M. D. Kalopothakes, of Athens, Greece, has come to hand through Prof. Brewer of Iowa College. It is a newspaper published in Modern Greek, and will constitute an interesting paper, taken so that THE ANNALS OF IOWA may go to Greece. A specimen copy of THE ANNALS, also, is sent to India.

"*Civil Government in Iowa*," by Principal Macy of Grinnell, is a minute outline of all the offices and officers of townships, cities, counties, and the State, with a description of the duties of each. It is a manual well worthy of study by all common-school teachers and scholars in Iowa.

---

MR. WEBSTER'S CONFESSION OF FAITH.—"Lord, I believe; help thou my unbelief!"

Philosophical argument, especially that drawn from the vastness of the Universe, in comparison with the apparent insignificance of the globe, has sometimes shaken my reason for the faith that is in me, but my heart has always assured and re-assured me, that the Gospel of Christ must be a divine reality. The sermon on the Mount cannot be a merely human production. This belief enters into the very depth of my conscience. The whole history of man proves it.—*Daniel Webster.*

## RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO CAPTAIN ROBERTS.

*Laws of Iowa, 1848, p. 190. Joint Resolution No. 28. Captain Benjamin S. Roberts.*

WHEREAS, Capt. Benjamin S. Roberts, of the United States Army, has presented to the State of Iowa a suit of armour taken as a prize of war; and a sword captured from General Torrejon, in the late war with Mexico, designed to commemorate the part borne in the late struggle by the officers of this State; therefore,

*Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa,* That Capt. Benj. S. Roberts, of the United States Rifles, for his gallantry and heroism during the late war with Mexico, has won for himself a brilliant distinction, which reflects a lustre upon the character of the American soldier, and an honor upon this State. And for this evidence of his patriotism and attachment to his adopted State, he deserves and is hereby tendered the cordial thanks of the representatives of the people.

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of State be requested to forward a copy of this resolution to Captain B. S. Roberts of the U. S. Rifles.

Approved Jan. 15, 1848.

IOWA STATE LIBRARY, }  
DES MOINES, March 27, 1882. }

I hereby certify that I have examined the above Joint Resolution of Thanks to Captain B. S. Roberts, compared it with the original as published in the Laws of Iowa, 1848, page 190, and find the same to be a true and correct copy.

MRS. S. B. MAXWELL,  
*State Librarian.*

## THE LAST PUBLIC LETTER OF THE LATE JUDGE MASON.

BURLINGTON, January 12, 1882.

MY DEAR SIR:—Your kind letter inviting me, on behalf of your committee, to be present at a public reception to be given to the surviving delegates of the Constitutional Convention, has been duly received, and it would give me very great pleasure to avail myself of this invitation, but the severe and long continued heat of the Summer, acting upon my previously debilitated condition, has so affected my health, that I feel it would be imprudent to venture on such an undertaking, at the present season of the year, and I am constrained, though reluctantly, to decline your proffered civility.

Although not having been a member of that convention, I have been connected with many of its members in such life-long associations, and have witnessed the same events of our early history, that I should feel myself much at home in mingling with you all, on that occasion. I have therefore hesitated before yielding to the necessity which seemed to forbid the gratification of my strong inclination in this respect.

Please to communicate to your committee the obligations they have conferred upon me by my being remembered by them in this connection, and receive for yourself individually the assurances of my highest respect and esteem.

Yours truly,

HON. P. M. CASADY.

CHARLES MASON.

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.