

HON. FRANK W. PALMER, EARLY IOWA JOURNALIST, U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 29, 1899.

DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of the invitation of the Executive Council of Iowa and yourself, to be present at the laying of the Corner-stone of the Historical Building, at Des Moines, on the 17th proximo.

I regret to say that official duties here will prevent my acceptance of this kind invitation, but I take pleasure in extending to you and the Executive Council, for whom you speak, my congratulations at the prospective commencement of the building which is to be the permanent home of the historical treasures of Iowa.

As this will be to yourself individually a partial realization of the ambition of a life-time, I am sure the citizens of Iowa will accord to you the right to a liberal share of credit for this educational enterprise, especially as the results of your labors will be their inheritance.

Yours truly,

MR. CHARLES ALDRICH,  
Des Moines, Iowa.

F. W. PALMER,

GEN. JOHN W. NOBLE, EX-SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

St. Louis, May 16th, 1899.

DEAR SIR: It is with great regret I find it impossible for me to attend the laying of the Corner-stone of the Historical Building tomorrow. It would have pleased me very much to have heard the eminent and eloquent men who are to participate with you all in the ceremonies of the occasion.

Iowa may well be proud of her past history and most hopeful of that she will yet make, and the records should be well preserved.

Most respectfully yours,

JOHN W. NOBLE.

HON. CHARLES ALDRICH,  
Des Moines, Iowa.

RT. REV. THOS. M. LENIHAN, R. C. BISHOP OF CHEYENNE.

Cheyenne, Wyo., May 11th, 1899.

MY DEAR FRIEND: I thank you very much for your thoughtful remembrance in extending me an invitation to be present at the laying of the Corner-stone of the Historical Building for Iowa, on May 17th, 1899.

I am sure the ceremonies and addresses will make the occasion most memorable.

I congratulate you on your wonderful success in making the Historical Department of Iowa grow to such proportions that it now demands a separate building of its own to meet its needs.

With best wishes,

† THOS. M. LENIHAN,

Bishop of Cheyenne.

HON. CHARLES ALDRICH,  
Des Moines, Iowa.

HON. J. B. KNOEFLER, EX-SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

LANSING, IOWA, May 13, 1899.

DEAR SIR: I hereby desire to acknowledge my thanks to you for the cordial invitation to be present at the laying of the Corner-stone of the new Historical Building, Wednesday, May 17, 1899.

I regret exceedingly that my duties forbid my attendance. I had the honor to be a member of the Board of Trustees at the time the Department was organized and helped elect you as its first curator, and the further honor of being chairman of the purchasing committee for the first two years of its existence. - This naturally deepened my interest in the Department, and I have since been surprised and proud to see its rapid growth and development. I congratulate you on the success that has attended your zeal and untiring perseverance; I congratulate the trustees on their choice of curator; I congratulate the commonwealth of Iowa on the possession of a Historical Department that will soon rank with that of any of her sister states.

Cordially yours,

HON. CHARLES ALDRICH,  
Des Moines, Iowa.

J. B. KNOEFLER.

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