

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE WESTWARD MOVEMENT, BY JUSTIN WINSOR. HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN & Co., 595 pp., 1897.

This massive volume covers thirty-five years of formative American history from the Treaty of Paris, 1763, that transferred "the West" (lying east of the Mississippi river) from France to England, down to Jay's Treaty, 1796, under which in the course of the two following years England and Spain gave up the posts which to that time they had held in United States territory.

Mr. Winsor was a critical student of the sources of American history. His work is enriched with much rare information, not always, however, thoroughly digested and concatenated; for he had not the art of welding materials into composite form and arrangement, or the vigor and flow of style, that give lucidity and charm to the pages of Parkman, John Fiske, and Theodore Roosevelt.

What is now Iowa was then part of Spanish Louisiana. Upon two maps that are reproduced in this volume the name "Iowa" appears:

Joseph Scott's *Gazetteer*, Philadelphia, 1795, has "Upper Iowa" on the east side of the Mississippi at "Stony R." and "L. Iowa" farther down, and "Lead Mine" on the west side opposite "Ouisconsin R." p. 495.

A map of the Northwestern Territory in Jedediah Morse's *Universal Geography*, Boston, 1796, has "Iowas" at the mouth of "Rockey R." on the east side of the Mississippi, and farther down on the west side "Moin-gona R." p. 492.

Another map from Morse's *Geography*, 1789, and 1793, shows on the west side of the Mississippi, "Turky R., Gr. Macokette, R. du Moins."

The only reference to this region is as to the strife between English and Spanish traders for its furs, as follows:

"The most favorable conditions of the fur trade were west of the Mississippi in Spanish territory. The English house of Tode & Co. bought the right of this trade from the New Orleans government for £20,000. They fortified stations along the St. Peter and Des Moines rivers, almost completely driving out the Spanish traders, though the transportation of furs to N. Orleans by the Mississippi was much easier than to take them to Montreal. . . . Of the £19,000 in duties which were paid on American furs in London, a large part came from Spanish Louisiana, nearly all from west and north of the Lakes. This was partly occasioned by the fact that the Spanish traders, so far as they rivaled the English, were obliged to draw their supplies from Montreal, which they paid for in peltries. The English were particularly active on the St. Peter and Des Moines, where they came in contact with the Sioux. They took the Green Bay and Wisconsin river route to reach the 'Moins' river, which was of less importance in this trade than the St. Peter." pp. 467-8. w. s.

To me, since I began to grow old, has been coming on more and more of regret that so little of the doings of our forefathers was recorded upon the written page, and that so much that was worthy of perpetuation perished with the doers.

Time indeed—

. . . "has a wallet on his back
Wherein he puts alms for oblivion."

Tradition has handed down many a name that was associated with heroic actions. . . . But it is mournful that during all that period of activities and achievements, there were so few to note them down, during the sequences of their occurrence, and for transmission to posterity.—*Richard Malcolm Johnston, in Publications of The Southern History Association.*

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.