

reminded that their father was a soldier!" The warrant was located in Crawford county, Iowa, and if the present owner of the land honored the great man's memory as the writer does, how highly he must prize the muniments of title to his farm!

A HISTORICAL PROCLAMATION.

BY GOV. JAMES A. MOUNT, OF INDIANA.

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF
THE STATE OF INDIANA.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

At a meeting of representative citizens of Indiana, held in the Governor's office on the 26th day of March, 1900, it was decided to call the attention and enlist the interest of the people of the State to the pressing need for the collection and preservation of early historic incidents connected therewith. This important work has already been too long delayed. Many of our pioneers who had witnessed events and were participants in scenes of thrilling moment have passed away with their valuable experiences unpreserved. It was the consensus of opinion and expression at the meeting aforesaid that it would be wise for the chief executive of the State to formally invite the co-operation of all citizens of Indiana in putting into effect the purposes herein outlined, the appropriateness of the occasion being emphasized by the fact that this is the centennial year of our territorial organization, and, therefore, an opportune time for the taking up of the long neglected work of systematically collecting historic data. It was further agreed that our national holiday could be observed in no more appropriate way than in reviving and gathering facts appertaining to the early growth of our State and its subsequent progress in splendid achievements.

Therefore, I, JAMES A. MOUNT, Governor of Indiana, in compliance with the foregoing expressed sense of said meeting, do hereby designate the

FOURTH DAY OF JULY, 1900,

to be devoted, so far as practicable, to the promotion of this work. It is recommended that the public addresses in the various counties of the State be given to the discussion of early incidents connected with each county; that these addresses be printed and finally aggregated and bound for preservation by the State. It is further recommended that meetings be called and that some competent person be designated to collect from the recol-

lections of old inhabitants and from such records as may be accessible, the most important events in the early history of such county. There are many local histories extant, from which much valuable information can be obtained. The lives of our pioneers which were marked by so many striking characteristics of heroic daring, of patient endeavor, of deprivation, of sacrifice, of danger, coupled with the burdens of increasing toil, must, to future generations, be a theme of manifold importance. The little log cabin in the wilderness, the log school-house and the log church formed the foundation of Indiana's greatness. Primitive agriculture, the crude implements, the old-time corn huskings, quiltings, wool pickings, etc., etc., are things of the past. The loom and the wheel, the home-made wares and fabrics are no more. Much regret exists that the crude implements of agriculture, the wheels and looms of the cabin homes have not been preserved. Greater regret will be felt if we fail to preserve the history of those times, which should include also all available records of courts, schools, printing presses, churches, roads, mills, mines, flat and steamboating, canals, the early railroads, the Indian tribes, their removal, the conflicts with Indians, early hunting and fishing, our great forests, saw mills—in short, everything connected with the pioneer associations of our great commonwealth.

We owe to future generations a comprehensive history of the heroic struggle and the conditions and environments which formed the foundation of our present greatness.

Cognizant of the fact that the public press molds sentiment and moves the people in public enterprise, I earnestly solicit the co-operation of the newspapers in the forwarding of this important work. The active aid of county commissioners and other local officials is invoked to the end that the purposes herein contemplated may be consummated.

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Indianapolis, this twenty-sixth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred, of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-fourth, and of the State the eighty-fourth.

By the Governor:

JAMES A. MOUNT.

UNION B. HUNT,

Secretary of State.

[INDIANA STATE SEAL]

HISTORY OF A CLAIM IN JONES COUNTY IN 1838.

Major John Russ, a native of Maine, about 55 years of age, came to Dubuque, in May, 1838, when a man named Smith, who had been one of a surveying party, told him of

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