

1941	H. S. VanAlstine.....	Pocahontas.....	37th
1943	Ray P. Scott.....	Marshall.....	38th
1947	Israel A. Smith.....	Decatur.....	34th

One of the first secretaries of the association was former Curator Charles Aldrich, who with Assistant Curator B. F. Gue, were prominent in its organization. Others serving as secretary were C. F. Wilson, B. F. Gue, Dan A. Poorman, Isaac Brandt, William H. Fleming, David C. Mott and Ora Williams.

During the years since the beginning succeeding governors of Iowa have addressed the association meetings and others eminent in public life of the state and nation have been heard in proceedings, the programs being replete with graphic recitals of early Iowa events and valuable historic data, reviews of legislative events, official traditions and important suggestions of needed enactments at current sessions of the general assemblies visited. Few organizations have maintained so virile an existence or worthwhile observance of duties imposed.

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### OBSTRUCTIONS AT THE DELTA

A report from the U. S. engineering department, states that the number of snags taken out of the mouths of this (the Mississippi) river during the year 1837, amounted to about 1,894. The engineer deems the expense of closing all the mouths but one, or making a ship canal, too expensive. Every snag pulled up by the steamer employed costs now \$13.00 the price advancing as the snags diminish. The peculiar obstructions could be avoided, if the caving banks were cleared of all timber, of which there have been felled this year 18,141 trees. The wash of the serpentine current causes the caving of the banks.

—*New Yorker*, April 21, 1838.

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