

life and government. *Per contra*, national forces and conditions, and interstate relations and interests, international relations and foreign policies, react forcefully upon local life and condition its development. We can not understand one without a knowledge of the other. Neither state nor nation can act free from a consideration of the interests and welfare of the other. Which is the more important—one or the other of the halves of a pair of scissors?

In saying this we perhaps do Professor Johnson an injustice. With the most of what we have just said he doubtless would agree. In the paper referred to he was making a direct appeal to our educators, students and citizens to take an active interest in local institutions, to undertake investigations and studies of local history here in Iowa. To arouse such interest he had first to overcome our traditional indifference to things near at hand because of the nearly universal assumption that local life is unutterably dull and prosaic. To disturb this persistent prejudice he points out the vital connection of local history with the currents of national life, and seeks through the common interest in national affairs to create an intelligent interest in our communal life here at home; and to secure sympathetic interest he lays the emphasis chiefly on the national phase of the subject.

F. I. H.

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#### INFORMATION WANTED.

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A contributor to THE ANNALS desires to obtain the nativity, occupations, ages, and legislative experience of Iowa pioneer law makers. In 1854 the legislature published a "census" or "register" of the members giving such data, but no other such lists seem to have been included in the legislative documents prior to 1860. We have the list for 1838-39. Any reader of THE ANNALS knowing of such lists, or any publication affording such information, will confer a favor by communicating with the Editor.

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