

states. The Vermont report, however, is a very heavy quarto, and it would take probably three such volumes to contain the Iowa rosters. The New York report was published in handsome octavos, which we should judge to be the best form. Almost daily the Historical Department is called upon to furnish information concerning soldiers of the revolutionary war, and the war of 1812. We are also occasionally asked for lists of the soldiers who went to Mexico, which up to this time we have not been able to furnish. All the accessible information touching the Iowa soldiers and regiments should be collected as rapidly as possible, carefully edited and brought out in handsome durable volumes. There is no work which would be more satisfactory to the people, or more pleasing to the coming generations. It would take some years to do all this work, and but moderate appropriations would be required. So far as we have been able to obtain the views of soldiers of the civil war the expressions have been unanimous in favor of this enterprise. The State can well afford to publish these records; it cannot afford to ignore them.

IOWA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETIES.

Doubtless the first to take form—the pioneer—in this State was that which was organized at Chariton, Lucas county, through the efforts of Col. Warren S. Dungan. It dates from June 10, 1901. It received notice in *THE ANNALS*, Vol. V, pp. 230-1, and an article which Col. Dungan wrote concerning it may be found in *The Bulletin* of the Iowa Library Commission, Vol. 2, No. 1, and in *THE ANNALS*, Vol. VI, pp. 55-58.

In Winterset, Madison county, a Society was organized March 15, 1904, of which Mr. H. A. Mueller is the leading spirit. He was chosen its first President. This society has lately promulgated its first constitution and by-laws, though

some of its members had been at work many months. It has already accomplished excellent results.

A Society was organized at Lamoni, Decatur co., Sept. 14, 1901, largely through the efforts of Fred M. Smith, editor of *The Saints' Herald*. A constitution and by-laws were adopted and the organization has since been doing some highly creditable work. A historical library of about 200 volumes has been secured, and efforts are in progress to collect biographical sketches of the pioneer settlers, with their recollections of early Iowa days. That region is rich in valuable materials to reward an energetic and enthusiastic collector like Fred M. Smith.

The Linn county Society has met with a great degree of success. Its latest published announcement shows a membership of 125, including leading men and women of that section of the State. In Messrs. Albert N. Harbert and Lew W. Anderson, the Society has two of the foremost historical collectors in the State. Both have been remarkably successful. Mr. Luther A. Brewer, another leading member, is one of the finest, up-to-date book printers west of the Mississippi river and a successful collector of fine books. The collections of these gentlemen and of the society are growing rapidly, and their publications will be cordially welcomed.

Mr. J. W. Ellis, of Maquoketa, Jackson county, has for several years been doing efficient work in local historical collecting, and we believe that a county organization has been effected.

Boone county has made a good start in this species of patriotic work, though no organization has yet been effected. Local historical collecting is in progress as a department of the Ericson Public Library, under the supervision of John M. Brainard, an ex-journalist of Boone. He has already performed much labor in collecting newspapers, books and pamphlets, manuscripts, original biographical data, engraved portraits and photographs of early settlers, specimens illustrative of the natural history of that section of the State, etc.,

etc. Quite recently the city council have authorized a local taxidermist to collect and mount the birds of Boone county for the Library. This work which is most commendable has just been commenced. Boone county abounds in prehistoric stone implements, and these are being gathered in. Everything indicates that Mr. Brainard will in a few years not only collect the local history and biography of that county, but also build up an interesting local museum.

DENMARK ACADEMY.

Our leading article presents a history of the quiet and secluded little village of Denmark, Lee county, Iowa, and of the celebrated institution of learning which has flourished there with undiminished success since 1845. This history is a pleasant and instructive one to read, for it depicts the wisdom which underlaid this most commendable enterprise at the start and portrays the tenacity with which its pious founders and supporters have pursued their labors for sixty years. Few schools of this grade have made so proud a record, whether we look to the distinguished names which appear in its list of graduates, the high grade of its scholarship, the patriotism which inspired its young men to enlist in the Union armies in the civil war, or the liberality of those who gave their time and money to its development and support.

This article was prepared by Mrs. H. B. Quinton, who has resided in Denmark for many years, at the request of the Alumni Society of the Academy. She wished it also to be understood that she has drawn for her facts quite freely upon the late Rev. Dr. George F. Magoun's "Asa Turner and his Times"—a book well known to the Congregationalists of Iowa—and sundry manuscripts furnished her by Prof. H. K. Edson of Grinnell.

Prof. Frank Leverett, who was born in that town in

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