

interesting observations on the soil and general appearance of the wide Iowa prairies, saying among other things that "deer and elk range here in good numbers." He seemed to have an intuitive knowledge of the natural history of every region through which he traveled. The information contained in these large volumes has been most conscientiously edited and errors in former publications carefully corrected. To the student of Indian history and life they would seem to be indispensable. They should have a place in every public library. In addition to the map above mentioned the work contains several portraits of Father De Smet from about his 25th year until he was "aged and gray." A large bronze statue was set up at his birth-place, Termonde, Belgium, of which there is a fine illustration.

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*Proceedings of the Academy of Science and Letters, of Sioux City, Iowa, for 1903-4. Volume I. Published by the Academy. Perkins Brothers Co., Printers, Sioux City, Iowa, 1904.*

A Scientific Association existed for many years in Sioux City, but in 1903 it was determined to enlarge its scope and publish a volume of proceedings and original papers. The results of this action appear in a reorganization under the name of "The Academy of Science and Letters of Sioux City, Iowa," and the handsome volume which recently came from the Perkins' Press. This is an octavo of 191 pages which is clearly and beautifully printed, with many appropriate illustrations. Among the latter are excellent portraits of John H. Charles and Judge George W. Wakefield, both of whom recently passed away deeply lamented. No two other men had done more for the cause of science and letters in that portion of the State. The volume contains the constitution and by-laws of the Academy, lists of officers from the beginning of this work, details of the organization, biographical sketches of deceased members, with many scientific and historical papers. Among the papers, that of Hon. C. R. Marks, on the "Monona County, Iowa, Mormons," is especially interesting and valuable. The book is one which will often be referred to in the libraries fortunate enough to possess a copy.

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*Cleiocrinus, by Frank Springer, No. 2, Vol. XXV. Memoirs of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, January, 1905, pp. 91-114, with one plate.*

A history and description of the peculiar structure and stratigraphic position of certain unique fossils that have been found in the earliest beds of crinoids. The genus was established by a Canadian scientist in 1856, but has been a puzzle to crinologists. Mr. Springer has taken up the problem with his wonderful acumen and with his habits of close and thorough research, and elucidated the relation of this genus to the other forms of the same life that sported in the long ages of the palaeozoic world. This monograph shows the fine patience of his genius, and his

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