

COL. THOMAS COX—HARVEY REID.

Our leading article presents an interesting sketch of the life and public services of Col. Thomas Cox, who was a conspicuous personage in the political affairs of Iowa Territory. It is from the ready pen of Mr. Harvey Reid, of Maquoketa, who is demonstrating that he possesses rare capacity as an original investigator of historical subjects. When he undertook to learn something concerning Col. Cox, the sources of information were practically hidden from view. His subject had resided in Illinois when it was a territory, and had migrated to Iowa early enough to be elected to a seat in its first territorial house of representatives. He had served with credit in several military organizations and had borne an honorable and most efficient part in ridding Jackson county of a banditti which threatened the property and lives of its citizens who were peacefully inclined. In this last affair he showed his admirable qualities as a soldier, for it was necessary to organize the equivalent of a military command to capture and punish the banditti. The "war" in Jackson county was one of the most interesting and thrilling episodes in our early history. It will now be understood by those who read this sketch of Col. Cox. Mr. Reid admirably presents these facts which have caused him a world of trouble to unearth, showing that Col. Cox was a hero in both his public and private life, and a leading and useful pioneer whose memory should be gratefully cherished in Iowa. He has also succeeded in acquiring much other historical information, from hitherto hidden sources, which will be given to the public hereafter.

NEW PORTRAITS.

There have recently been placed in the Art Gallery of the Historical Department oil portraits of three representative pioneer journalists of this State—Hon. John D. Hunter, Hon. W. W. Junkin and Hon. Matt Parrott. Mr. Hunter

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