

Report of the Iowa Commission to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, St. Louis, 1904. Compiled and edited by the Secretary, Freeman R. Conaway. The Register and Leader Company, Des Moines, 1905.

In this handsome volume of 418 pages, Mr. Conaway presents a very full and comprehensive report of the part taken by Iowa in the great Exposition at St. Louis. While his work has been largely that of a compiler of reports by others, he has collected a great variety of material which will be of the highest service in the writing of Iowa history. The volume is copiously illustrated with portraits and views of edifices and scenery. It possesses permanent value as an Iowa work of reference, and Mr. Conaway deserves the thanks of our people for the admirable manner in which he has discharged his difficult work.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AN OMISSION CORRECTED.

WEBSTER CITY, IOWA, Sept. 14, 1905.

EDITOR OF THE ANNALS: I have read with much interest the valuable contribution of Col. Charles A. Clark in THE ANNALS OF IOWA for July, 1905, entitled "Congressional Medals of Honor and Iowa Soldiers."

In giving the list of Iowa soldiers, and those who have long been citizens of this State but who served in military organizations from other states, to whom these medals have been issued, through mistake, one name has been omitted.

In justice to the gallant soldier whose name does not appear I hand you the following copy of letter, and extract from another, which, at my request, Mr. Kephart has placed in my hands:

THE MILITARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 6, 1905. }

MR. JAMES KEPHART, Webster City, Iowa.

Sir: I am directed by the Acting Secretary of War to inform you that, in accordance with the act of Congress approved April 23, 1904, a Medal of Honor of new design has this day been issued to you to replace the medal awarded you April 25, 1899, under the act of Congress approved March 3, 1863.

E. R. HILLIS,
Military Secretary.

The following is an extract from the letter of the Adjutant General to Mr. Kephart advising him of the award of the medal which was replaced by the one referred to in the foregoing letter:

The Secretary of War has awarded to you a Medal of Honor for most distinguished bravery in action, at Vicksburg, Miss., May 19, 1863. At the assault on the Confederate works Mr. Kephart, then a private of Company C, 1st Battalion, 13th U. S. Infantry, voluntarily and at the risk of his life, when the battalion was about to retreat, returned, and under a severe fire from the enemy, aided and assisted to the rear an officer who had been severely wounded and left on the field, thereby saving him from capture.

Mr. Kephart informs me that the officer rescued was Lieut. Joseph L. Horr who commanded one of the companies in the assault. Mr. Kephart

was on duty as one of the headquarters guards with Gen. Sherman on many of his campaigns, and was one of the honorary pall bearers at the General's funeral. Mr. Kephart has been a highly esteemed citizen of Webster City for many years, is a past commander of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic, and is now a member of the local Board of Education. As soldier and citizen his record is a most honorable one.

Yours very truly,

G. W. CHOSLEY.

AN EXPLANATION.

EDITOR OF THE ANNALS: The last number of THE ANNALS OF IOWA contains a communication criticising the descriptive and historical sketch of Boone county contained in the Iowa State Atlas, published last year.

The sketches of the various counties, prepared for the State Atlas, were mostly compiled from old county histories published twenty to forty years ago, and from their early date supposed to be accurate. Before publication these compilations were submitted to parties residing within the counties for review, criticism and correction. In many cases they were sent to the county superintendent as one being most likely to take an interest in the matter; in some cases to the county auditor, and in others to some private citizen.

In regard to Boone county, the editor's record shows that the sketch of that county was compiled from one written over thirty years ago, and was reviewed by a resident of Boone county and returned with his approval.

Very respectfully,

THE IOWA PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Davenport, Iowa, Nov. 12, 1905.

VALUABLE BOUND VOLUMES OF EARLY NEWSPAPERS.

James G. Edwards was a foremost newspaper editor, first in the State of Illinois at Jacksonville, and afterwards in the Territory and State of Iowa at Fort Madison and Burlington. Four bound volumes of the newspapers he edited have been presented by Mrs. Louisa Prince Love, of Camden, N. J., to the public library of Burlington. They are invaluable to historical students of the period of twenty-one years which they cover. Mrs. Love is a niece of Mr. Edwards' wife, and was brought up in his family, as was her sister, Ellen, who was married to Major General John M. Corse (ANNALS, ii, 2). Mr. James Love died last year. He was an honored and beloved citizen of Burlington, a bookseller, a warm personal friend of Henry George, author of "Progress and Poverty."

The volumes of newspapers are:

1. *The Western Observer*, Jacksonville, Ill., No. 3 to No. 49, from May 3, 1830, to May 14, 1831.
2. *The Fort Madison Patriot*, No. 1 to No. 13, from March 24, 1838, to July 25, 1838.
The Burlington Patriot, Specimen number, Dec. 13, 1838.
The Iowa Patriot, Burlington, No. 1 to No. 13, from June 6 to August 29, 1839.
The Hawk-Eye and Iowa Patriot, from Sept 5, 1839, to May 27, 1841.
3. *The Burlington Hawk-Eye*, from May 29, 1845, to Feb. 8, 1848.
4. *The Burlington Hawk-Eye*, from March 22, 1849, to June 26, 1851. w. s.

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.