

EDITORIAL NOTES.

— HON. WILLIAM G. HAMMOND, President of the State Historical Society, not long ago deposited in its cabinet a copy of the *Washington* (D. C.) *Intelligencer* bearing date July 28, 1821, from which we copy the following correspondence from Detroit, dated July 6, of the same year, showing that Detroit and Washington, for purposes of communication, were then three weeks apart, and demonstrating the changes which have occurred in the condition of our country, and especially of the northwest, in half a century :—

“Our enterprising and ever-useful fellow-citizen, Gov. Cass, left this place on Tuesday for Chicago, to which place he will proceed by ascending the Miami and St. Mary’s rivers. From the head-waters of the latter river his canoe will be carried to the head-waters of the Wabash, which he will descend to the Ohio, thence to the Mississippi, which he will ascend to the mouth of the Illinois, the ascent of which will conduct him to within a short distance of Chicago, where it is expected a treaty will be made in August next with the Indians for the cession of a considerable tract of land lying within the peninsula of this territory.

“Gov. Cass is accompanied by the intelligent traveler and mineralogist, Mr. Schoolcraft, and this circuitous route to Chicago is taken, it would seem, for the double purpose of developing the mineralogy of an extensive tract of country, not hitherto sufficiently explored, and of ascertaining the state of the Indians on the rivers Wabash and Illinois.”

— A LADY correspondent wishes to know the origin of the names of the counties of Bremer, Grundy, Ida, Carroll, Tama, Cedar, Johnson, Shelby, Adair, Louisa, Keokuk, Wapello, and Lucas. Correspondence on the subject is invited.

— AN historical sketch of Lyon county has recently been published in a little pamphlet of forty pages, accompanied by a map of the county described. S. C. Hyde is the author. Besides a history of its early settlement, the work contains information with regard to the natural resources of the county valuable to those seeking homes in the new settlements of the northwest.

— THE Wisconsin Historical Society has recently published, in two large and nicely-bound volumes, a catalogue of the contents of its library, which must be a great convenience to all who have to do with that large and valuable collection. The contributions from our Historical Society have due prominence in the catalogue. The expense of the compilation and printing of this catalogue is greater than the entire annual income of the Historical Society of Iowa! What an “odious comparison!” and what a stinging commentary on the niggardly parsimony of previous legislatures of Iowa toward *their* Historical Society! Our hope is in the statesmanship of the fifteenth general assembly.

— WE have received from the Virginia Historical Society a pamphlet copy of the proceedings of the Southern Historical Convention,

held at Montgomery, White Sulphur Springs, Va., Aug 14, 1873. They embrace the eloquent address of the orator of the day, Gen. Jubal A. Early, but the remarks of Hon. Jefferson Davis, delivered on the same occasion, which have called forth such general criticism from the political press, north and south, are suppressed.

— THE library of the Historical Society has been supplied by the compiler, Hon. Theodore S. Parvin, with a catalogue of the library of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Iowa, dated June 1, 1873. Prof. Parvin, it need scarcely be mentioned, is the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, a position he has held for nearly thirty years, and the pamphlet in question is prepared, as he does everything, with order, precision, and clearness.

— THE Pioneer Association of Van Buren county had a re-union at Keosauqua on the 28th of August, 1872, on which occasion Senator Geo. G. Wright delivered an address, which of course abounds with recollections of the early days. The above fact was mentioned in the ANNALS soon after its occurrence, but we refer to it now because the address has been recently published in a neat pamphlet, a copy of which has been deposited in the Historical Library.

— THE *American Annals of the Deaf and Dumb*, edited by Edward A. Fay, and published quarterly at Washington City, is a periodical of sixty-eight pages, and though, as its title indicates, devoted chiefly to matters pertaining to those who converse only in the sign-language or their instructors, yet for the entertaining perusal of much that appears in its pages it is not essential one should be deaf and dumb. A copy is regularly deposited in the Historical Library through the favor of Rev. Benjamin Talbot, Superintendent of the Iowa Institution for the Deaf and Dumb.

— REV. WILLIAM FITHIAN, of Mt. Vernon, Iowa, has published in a small pamphlet a detailed historical sketch of the path of the great tornado of Sunday, June 3, 1860, which, starting from the northern part of Nebraska, crossed the state of Iowa (destroying the town of Camanche, on the Mississippi river), and stayed not its flight of fury till it reached the waters of Lake Erie.

— THE editor of the *Standard*, published at Waukon, Allamakee county, has an older newspaper than the copy of the *Sciota Gazette*, referred to in a previous number of the ANNALS, as in possession of the editor of the *Birmingham Enterprise*. It is "*The Times or National Courier*," dated "Salem (New York), July 24, 1794."

— COPIES of the ANNALS OF IOWA are wanted as follows: All the numbers for 1864 (except October); January, 1866; January, 1869; January, 1870; April, 1871; and all the numbers of 1872, except July. Almost any price will be paid for the wanting numbers of 1864, and fifty cents in cash or a year's subscription for each of the other scarce numbers.

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