

EDITORIAL NOTES.

"*The Mississippi River—its History and Relation, State and National.*"—The Hon. John F. Dillon, of the Supreme Court, recently delivered a lecture at Des Moines, of which the above is the title, which is spoken of in high terms by the Register. Judge Dillon has spent all of his mature years west of the river, which is the theme of his meditation, and being a ripe scholar, we feel that he deserves the tribute awarded him by the Register.

Inasmuch as the Historial Society is to hold an adjourned meeting during *commencement week* of the University, we suggest that the Curators could not do a more acceptable thing than to invite the Judge to repeat it on that occasion.

"*Hawkeye State*"—in the Explanatory and Pronouncing Vocabulary, appended to Webster's Dictionary, new illustrated edition, page 1556, is thus explained:

"The State of Iowa; said to be so named after an Indian Chief, who was once a terror to *voyageurs* to its borders."

The famous Black Hawk is the chief referred to by Mr. Wheeler, (the compiler of the Vocabulary,) and his residence before and at the breaking out of the Black Hawk War of 1832, was on Rock River, above the town of Rock Island, Illinois, and we never heard before that he was a terror to the voyagers, much less *voyageurs* to its borders after that date. After his defeat and capture at Bad Axe, Wisconsin, and his release by the President (Jackson), he took up his residence in the Des Moines Valley, where he died in 1837.

The cognomen Hawkeye originated thus:

One evening in the winter of 1838, several gentlemen assembled in the room of Gov. Lucas, at the Burlington House, in Burlington, were discussing the name of "Badger," as applied to the Territory of Wisconsin, from which Iowa had been but recently separated, when the question was sprung what name should the Iowans take.

We recollect that in that company were Gov. Lucas, Sec.

Conway, Gen. Van Antwerp, (the Receiver of Public Moneys,) Jesse Williams, (subsequently Secretary of the Territory,) Hon. Joseph Williams, J. G. Edwards, editor of the Burlington Patriot, and afterwards familiarly known as "Old Hawke," and the editor of the Annals, (then private Secretary to the Governor.)

Some one, we do not remember whom, proposed, (after various names had been mentioned,) that of *Hawkeye*, when all at once agreed, and Edwards soon after changed the name of his paper to that of *Hawkeye* and Burlington Patriot.

"*Iowa*"—in the "Etymological Vocabulary of Modern Geographical Names," page 1630, is said to be derived from "the French form of an Indian word, signifying the "drowsy" or "sleepy ones;" a Sioux name of the Pahoja or "Gray Snow" tribe."

We fear Mr. Wheeler must have been in a drowsy or sleepy mood when he conceived the foregoing idea.

On page 268, of the Annals, we published an article on "The Name 'Iowa,'" by W. H. Hildreth, Esq., of Davenport, who defines the Omaha, (not Sioux,) word Py-ho-ja, corrupted into Py-ho-ia, I-o-wa, to mean "Gray Snow," the name they applied to the Iowa tribe of Indians, &c., &c. Mr. LeClaire gave it another interpretation, which may be found in the article aforesaid.

"*Recollections of Iowa Twenty Years Ago.*"—The editor, by special request, read on Friday evening last, his Lecture with the above title, (written, and delivered in various places some seven years since,) before the Association, for the benefit of the City Schools, to aid in the purchase of apparatus, &c.

The Town Clock.—We gladly chronicle as a matter of history—marking the progress of time—that our enterprising neighbors of DuBuque have set an example that our citizens should emulate and go and do likewise.

The Times of the 3d inst., by the bye, one of the most read-

able of Iowa Journals, contains a full history of this era in the chronicles of Iowa, from which we learn that our friend, Dr. Asa Horr, successfully engineered the thing to a success.

With the clock, they wisely purchased a good Transit, by the aid of which they will be able to make it keep accurate time. The whole cost was about \$3000.00.

Success to the DuBuquers, and may they have a good time of it.

Henry R. Schoolcrof, L. L. D.—The author of the great work "Archives of Aboriginal Knowledge," and the discoverer of the source of the Mississippi River, died in Washington after a long and lingering illness, on the 12th of December last, aged 71 years.

We had hoped (but thus far in vain) to find access to a suitable biographical sketch of the man, who has done more than all others to make us acquainted with the race who once occupied our now fertile fields and populous cities.

Confederate Literature—We clip the following from a "Catalogue of a choice collection of Rare, Curious, and Valuable Books," now on sale by Geo. P. Philes & Co., No. 64 Nassau St, N. Y., and publish it as a matter of history—inasmuch, however, as we have seen some two or three notices of new books by the Rebels.

2408, JAMISON (D. F., of South Carolina.) The Life and Times of Bertrand du Guesclin: a History of the Fourteenth Century. 2 vols. 8vo, cloth, port. London and Charleston, 1864—\$9.00.

"These two handsomely-printed volumes are entered according to the act of Congress of the Confederate States of America, and will doubtlessly become a curiosity, as containing the entire body of literature contributed to the world by the Confederate States during their existence. The manuscript ran the blockade from Charleston to Liverpool, and was printed with a portion of the proceeds gained by such ventures. The work itself is a careful study, and the French Government has had it translated for publication at the *Imprimerie Impériale*."

We clip the following from the DuBuque Times, of December 20, 1864.

We regret having overlooked the previous notice.

Another Old Church.—Our notice of the close of the Cen-enary Church yesterday, prompted a friend to tell us of an interesting reminiscence concerning the laying of the corner stone of the old stone [now Christian] Church, on Locust street, in 1836. The Church supporting a population of Du-buque, then a village of three years old, was small but it was thought best to have some ceremony over such an important event.

Two drums and a fife, the latter played by Chas. Hong, with five or six followers, formed a procession one hot fore-noon and marched through the main street, "down town," to drum up spectators and be ready to hear and see what was going on. A large crowd assembled.

Dr. Mason had been notified an hour before that he was expected to make a speech on the occasion. He appeared to make his excuse, but the audience clamored for a speech, and it is said by old settlers that he declined a good and appropriate address. Benj. Rupert was the Chaplain of the day. The hardy miners, even those who never went to church, were glad to see the Baptists successful in building a house of worship.

Those who knew the invariable politeness of Dr. Mason will appreciate an incident that occurred in his address. He came to a point which he wished to illustrate by a stanza of poetry had repeated the first two lines but could not recall the third, and stood midway in a poetic flight in a suspense and amidst a silence that was very embarrassing to all parties. A lady discovered the need of aid, and in a loud voice prompted him with the third line. As she uttered, the Doctor smiled and bowed, and felt that he could then proceed. But first he bowed again, waved his hand, and said, "I thank you Madam." The use of the stanza and of the address had none the less interest on account of the amusing interruption.

Another interesting thing as to the old churches is the fact that the first 4th of July oration in Iowa was delivered by W. W. Corriel, in 1836, within the walls of the first, unfinished, St. Raphaels Cathedral.

"*History of the First Regiment of Iowa Volunteers*—by Henry O'Conner," a pamphlet of 24 pages published at the Faust Office, Muscatine. This is a valuable monograph of

Iowa's brave sons, and we avail ourselves of it to correct an error in Harper's Pictorial of the Great Rebellion.

"*Recollections of the 3d Iowa*" Volunteer Infantry, by Lt. S. D. Thompson, published by Applegate & Co., of Cincinnati. Not having been favored with a copy, we cannot judge of its merits.

Iowa Colonels—Is the title of a Book advertised by the Keokuk papers as on sale in that city. We have never seen the work and do not recollect the author's name. Will he please advise us should he or his friends chance to see this notice.

"*History of Iowa Troops.*"—We have understood that our friend "Linkensale" has in preparation a History of the (noble) part Iowa has borne in this War. We feel sure it will be a good thing.

Correction—History, Davis Co.—On page 352, under the title "First Marriage," where it reads Rev. F. R. S. Boyd, the first person authorized to solemnize marriages, &c., it should read Byrd. The Rev. Byrd is at the date of this entry, residing at Monticello, Jones county, Iowa, and we hope that in these "latter days," he has many marriages to solemnize. Will he not give us some anecdotes of those early times.—Ed.

Correction of History.—In Harpers' Pictorial History of the "Great Rebellion," No. 6, page 140, in the description of the battle of "Wilson's Creek," the author says: "Lyon's now ordered a bayonet charge, and himself took the lead of an Iowa Regiment, which had lost its Colonel. He fell dead, pierced in that shower of lead; but the Regiments stood firm and unwavering until the enemy, again baffled, withdrew."

Maj. O'Conner, in his excellent history of the First Regiment of Iowa, the one referred to by Harper's historian, says on page 13: "The First Iowa Regiment was under command

of Lt. Col. Wm. H. Merritt, who was as cool as a philosopher in the thickest of the battle. Col. J. F. Bates went out with the Regiment a few miles, but was so entirely prostrated by sickness, that he found himself obliged to heed the order of his physician, and return to Springfield, greatly to his own mortification and the regret of his friends.

The State University—Opened, the second term of the year, on the 5th inst., with a large number of students in attendance.

January Number.—Owing to the change of publishers made by the Curators at the Eleventh hour, we are late in getting out this number. We trust that subsequent numbers will appear "on time."

Laws of Iowa 1838-64.—A full set of the Laws of Iowa, (including the Code of 1851,) has been left at the Society's rooms for sale or exchange for other books. Very desirable for a public Library or an Attorney of large practice. Apply to the

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

Iowa City, January, 1865.

Wanted—House Journal, Territory of Iowa, 1838; Council Journal, ditto, 1839 and 1840; also, Journal Constitutional Convention, 1846. Any old settler having either of these will confer a favor by sending them to the

EDITOR OF THE ANNALS.

Wanted—The APRIL No. 1864. Any one willing to spare this number, will confer a favor by sending the same to the

EDITOR.

Iowa City, January, 1865.

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