

# ANNALS OF IOWA.

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## EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

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### DEDICATION OF THE FLOYD MONUMENT.

This important historical event took place at Sioux City on the 30th day of May last. The weather was most propitious and the ceremonies were in every way successful. Sioux City has the high honor of having erected one of the most beautiful and appropriate historical monuments in the United States. This result was more largely due to the persistent and well-directed efforts of Mr. John H. Charles than to any other instrumentality. His dream for a quarter of a century has come to the fullest realization, for which he is receiving plaudits on every hand without stint—the crowning event of a useful and noble life of 76 years. True, he has constantly had the aid and hearty sympathy of men high in influence, but without his constant watchfulness and unremitting efforts the late brilliant success could not have been realized. Among his helpers should first be named Hon. George D. Perkins, editor of *The Sioux City Journal*, who, both in his influential paper and while in Congress, gave to Mr. Charles the heartiest support. Through his efforts Congress was induced to appropriate \$5,000 for this work. Hon. E. H. Hubbard, State Senator, secured a like appropriation by the Iowa legislature. Following these appropriations came liberal aid from Sioux City and Woodbury county, as well as from private individuals. Among the most active supporters of this work were Hon. Constant R. Marks and Judge George W. Wakefield. The lamented Dr. Elliott Coues, the profound and versatile scholar, who has been fitly characterized as “the historian of the Lewis and Clark Expedition,” rendered most efficient aid when the project first

began to assume tangible shape in 1895. Mitchell Vincent, Esq., the widely-known civil engineer of Onawa, has been from the first a most practical supporter of Mr. Charles. Then, the War Department placed the projection and construction of the work under the supervision of Capt. H. M. Chittenden, one of the ablest engineers of the U. S. army. And so, from its inception until it came to full fruition, the project has been well seconded and supported.

At the dedication of the monument on the 30th of May, Hon. John A. Kasson, the distinguished Iowa diplomat and statesman, made the principal address, which was fittingly characterized by Hon. George D. Perkins as "a distinct contribution to the history of the Louisiana territory and purchase." Rev. Dr. William Salter, of Burlington, made the invocation. It will be remembered that these eminent Iowans officiated in like manner at the laying of the corner-stone of the Iowa Historical Building, May 17, 1899.

"The monument," says Capt. Chittenden, "is a solid masonry obelisk, built in the most substantial manner, in careful conformity with the proportions of the ancient Egyptian models." The material is Kettle River (Minn.) sandstone. The shaft is a trifle over 100 feet above the base, which is 125 feet above low water mark in the Missouri river. There are two massive tablets of the finest bronze bearing appropriate historical inscriptions.

Our space will not admit of farther details at this time, but we hope to present in a future number, a full history of the monument, with Mr. Kasson's great address.

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#### THE OLD STATE BANK OF IOWA.

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The article, by Maj. Hoyt Sherman, which we publish in the present number of *THE ANNALS*, will not only interest the readers of to-day, but it presents in compact and clear form the salient points in the history of a most creditable institution. It possesses permanent historical value. We can-

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