

all the money he had won from them—fifteen hundred dollars—and then said, “I suppose that you would like to go to California.” “Yes,” they replied, “that is what we started for.” “Well,” said he, “the team might as well go with the money, take the team. Go on your way and behave yourselves.” What became of either party I never knew, the boys started on their long western journey, and that fall when I returned to Illinois Johnson came as far as St. Louis with me, and his last words were “Tommy, *never*, NEVER, NEVER touch a card,” but whether he quit I don’t know, probably not, for once a gambler always a gambler is the usual rule. The craving for excitement usually breaks the best resolutions of those who once get accustomed to games of chance.

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EARLY IOWA HISTORY.—The original Council Bluffs was on the west side of the Missouri river, and was so named by Lewis and Clark, because of the council with the Otoe and Missouri Indians they held there August 3, 1804. It was on the bluff where Fort Calhoun was afterwards built. It is in what is now Washington county, Nebraska. (See Iowa Historical Record, x, 74.) As to the “neutral ground”, it was a strip forty miles wide from the Mississippi to the Des Moines. By treaty of August 10, 1825, a dividing line between the Sioux and the Sacs and Foxes was created for the purpose of keeping those tribes from the wars with each other to which they had been addicted. They still quarrelled, however, and another treaty was made July 15, 1830, by which the Sioux ceded a strip of twenty miles north of said dividing line to the United States, and the Sacs and Foxes ceded a strip of twenty miles south of said line to the United States. This was “neutral ground”. After the Black Hawk war it was turned over to the Winnebagoes by treaty of September 15, 1832, in exchange for their lands east of the Mississippi, and occupied by them until 1845-6.

—*Dr. Wm. Salter in Des Moines Register, Feb. 23, 1902.*

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