

POWESHIEK.

An Iowa (Fox) Indian Chief from whom one of our counties was named.

ANNALS OF IOWA.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

THE INDIAN CHIEF POWESHIEK.

McKenney and Hall, in their "Indian Tribes of North America," present a portrait of this "celebrated brave of the Musquakie or Fox nation," from which our engraving was made, but their biographical memoranda is very brief. They say that he was a "daring warrior, and held a respectable standing in council, as a man of prudence and capacity," but add that "nothing very striking in his history has reached us." These authors spell the name "Powasheek," explaining that it signifies "To wash the water off."

The late Judge A. R. Fulton, however, in his "Red Men of Iowa," writes more at length of this noted Indian, whose name was given to one of our richest inland counties, quoting freely from the late Col. S. C. Trowbridge of Iowa City, "who knew him personally." He spells his name "Poweshiek," stating that it signifies "The Roused Bear." Judge Fulton devotes three pages to such biographical details as were familiar to Col. Trowbridge, which are undoubtedly correct. From 1843 to 1845 Poweshiek made his home in the vicinity of the present city of Des Moines. He removed south with his people in the latter year, stopping awhile in Missouri, but later settled in Kansas. The date of his death is unknown.

TWO HISTORIC PORTRAITS.

Since issuing the last Annals the Historical Department has received oil portraits of James Harlan, the illustrious Senator, and Francis Springer, the distinguished jurist who 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 listsery without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.