

count among his personal friends such names as those of Gov. Kirkwood, Gen. G. M. Dodge, Judges George G. Wright and Caleb Baldwin, and other leading men of that day. When he left the old farm in Cattaraugus county, N. Y., where he was reared, he started to learn the trade of a printer. He was a clean, well-behaved country lad, his heart overflowing with kindness and good humor, bright and jovial, seldom or never at variance with his juvenile associates in the little old-fashioned country printing office. His raiment, however, was after a style which the effusive reporter of these days would describe as "'way back." The shirt, for instance, was made of home-grown wool, by no means remarkable for fineness, colored "madder red," with a wide turn-down collar. But in those days "we boys" were glad to get those stout woolen shirts, spun and woven by our good mothers, even when we went to the county seat to learn to be printers. He wrought at his trade for several years, becoming widely known as a rapid pressman. He could print "a token"—240 sheets—on a hand press, in much less time than any other man in Cattaraugus, Chautauqua or Erie counties, N. Y., or in Erie county, Pa. One traveling in that region may even now hear aged printers speak of "Joe Shepard," the fast hand-pressman of fifty years ago. He "still lives" thereabouts in the legends of the craft. But he gave up printing for a humble place in the employment of the U. S. Express Co. From this starting point, through industry, undivided attention to business, and fidelity to the interests of his employers, he rose steadily step by step until he became the assistant general manager of the company's western department.

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#### "RED DOG" MONEY—ANOTHER WORD.

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The two following paragraphs were accidentally omitted from our comment on Maj. Sherman's article on the State Bank of Iowa, which appeared in the last number of THE ANNALS. We print them here because they contain certain

interesting facts bearing upon the condition of Iowa money matters prior to 1858.

Some instances of the common experiences of men at that day will plainly indicate the character of the famous "red-dog" currency. Mr. Robert McNulty, an old soldier of the Fourth Iowa Infantry, relates that he once started from Des Moines, as one of four drivers of ox teams, bound for Burlington or Keokuk for merchandise for Mr. William Moore—better known about the "Raccoon Forks," where he still abides, as "Billy Moore." There were four wagons in the expedition, each drawn by three or four yokes of oxen. The party in charge, when about fourteen miles from the capital, learned that the "red-dog" money which he was taking with him to pay traveling expenses was worthless out of sight of home. The farmers would not take it in exchange for corn for the oxen. A halt was therefore called and he returned to Des Moines, where Mr. Moore furnished him with different, if not better, money. This delay caused the "expedition" to lose two days.

Maj. Sherman also states that when he went east in those days, he was compelled to carry three kinds of currency. That which was good to the Mississippi was worthless from that point east. Another lot would pay expenses from the river to the states of Ohio and Pennsylvania. From there on to New York City eastern currency alone could be used.

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### COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETIES.

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In THE ANNALS for July (p. 154-5) we gave a summary of the effort in Washington, Pa., to found a county historical society, heartily commending the movement. Since the appearance of that article commencements have been made in at least two Iowa counties. The pioneer in this movement is the county of Lucas, where the effort had the hearty sympathy of that good man and eminently useful citizen, Col. Warren S. Dungan, so well known as state senator and lieu-

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