

portant recorded evidence showing conclusively the complex character of the Ice age.

Of similar import was the somewhat later description of a great drift section several miles farther south on the Des Moines river. In a paper read before the Iowa Academy of Science in 1890, it was shown that there was still another thick member to be reckoned with below the loess. In later years the officers of the State Geological Survey have been inclined to regard it as representing the pre-Kansan Aftonian beds.

The Capitol Hill section is now one of the notable drift localities in America. During the past quarter of a century the place and vicinity have been visited by many of the most eminent scientists of the world.—C. K.

LETTERS CONCERNING GEN. J. G. LAUMAN.

The collections of the Historical Department of Iowa of war mementoes, writings and books, promise richest returns to descendants of the soldiers and to the students of their times. Much of the meaning of one life is gleaned from materials contemporary with that life, recently received from different sources.

Elsewhere is presented a list of the materials illustrative of the life and services as a soldier, of Brevet Major General Jacob G. Lauman. Almost simultaneously there arrived from Mrs. Ann Gowey, Pleasant Plain, Iowa, a fine collection of family letters, very rich in genealogical and Civil war materials. One of these, in cramped hand and heavy pencilled lines reads:

Benton Barax, Jan. the 2.

Dear Brother:

I sit down to write to you to let you know how we are getting along. . . . Colonel Lauman returned the other day. You better believe the boys gave three rousing cheers, after which the Colonel stepped forward and told them that they behaved themselves nobly at the battle of Belmont and he expected before long that they would have a chance to see what the balance of the regiment was made of. You see that he thinks a good deal of his men. He is lame and has to have help to get around.

THOMAS B. ATWOOD.

Admiration for the Civil war service of any man, implies an interest in the earlier and later phases of his life. Four years brilliantly spent implies other years of fruitfulness. It is interesting, then, to have received from a source remote from the repositories of information concerning General Lauman's military merit, a simple commercial statement as follows:

Burlington, November 1, 1852.

Mr. John Gowey

Bo't of J. G. Lauman & Bro.,

1 keg 8d nails	\$ 4.50
50 lb. 6d nails	
50 lb. 4d nails	
10 lb. 10d nails.....	
10 lb. 10d Brads—120 @ 4½.....	5.40
7 thumb latches @ 15.....	1.05
10 pr. hinges @ 10.....	1.00
1 gro. screws35
3 knob latches @ 35.....	1.05
2 boxes 8x10 glass @ 1.75.....	3.50
1 sack salt	2.25
1 lb. tobacco25
3 gals. S. H. molasses @ 50.....	1.50
	<hr/>
	\$20.85
1 hand saw	1.50
2 M S files @ 45.....	.90
5 yd. flannel @ 45.....	2.25
1 pr. boots	3.00
1 lb. tea88
1 hand saw file10
	<hr/>
	\$29.48
3 lb. saleratus25
	<hr/>
	\$29.73

Rec'd payment,

J. G. LAUMAN & BRO.

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