

Iowa. No license was then required in Missouri to authorize a justice of the peace to solemnize matrimony. All that was required was for the justice to make a return to the county court of the fact. This was sometimes done, but often neglected. 'Bedell was a rough, *early settler*, and did a large business in the marrying line. Some went to him to save expense, others for the fun of it, and others again to escape from the parental wrath. Bedell was always on the look-out, and the moment that he saw a couple approaching on the other side of the river, he would man his boat and cross the river to meet them. On one occasion the river was full of floating ice, on the Missouri side, but the ice bore the matrimonially inclined couple from the Iowa side to the middle of the river. Bedell said that would do, and married them, standing on shore and they on the middle of the river on the ice, the squire loosing his fee, and the pair loosing the usual treat always provided by the squire. Bedell said that there was not much pay in the thing, but a great deal of fun.

---

### "HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION."

---

[By Amos Dean, LL. D, late professor in the Medical College and Law School of the University of Albany, and first chancellor of the University of Iowa. In seven volumes, octavo, \$21.00 a set, payable on delivery. Published and sold by Joel Munsell, Albany, N. Y.]

---

**T**HIS work is the result of thirty-five years of unremitting research and study. It is both an encyclopedia and philosophy of history, containing a greater amount and variety of matters interesting and important to be known than any other history of like size in the English language. It is a record of human progress, studied —

1st. In the evidence upon which its revelations rest, to-wit, the monuments of antiquity, the nations of the east, so little changed by the centuries, and the written records of the past.

2d. In certain great principles that lie at the foundation of all historical development and human progress, to-wit:

1. Industry; *e. g.*, inventions, pursuits, political economy, &c.; whatever relates to man's physical wants.

2. Religion; relating to the wants of the soul.

3. Government; the relation of man to man; law and order.

4. Society; *e. g.*, manners, customs, &c.; whatever relates to the social instinct and wants.

5. Philosophy; *e. g.*, thoughts, maxims, &c; whatever relates to the intellect.

6. Art; *e. g.*, architecture, sculpture, music, poetry, war, &c.; the ideal world.

Thus this work resembles other histories in the sources from which it is compiled, and in its narrations of the wars, revolutions, and prominent persons of all ages. It differs from them, because, while narrating these facts, it shows the influence they exerted in developing these elements which constitute civilization. It is a record of human progress, comprehensive in plan, concise in statement, and chaste in expression. In one sense it is an expensive work; but in the truest sense it is the cheapest history one can purchase, because it is a compendium of history.

Extracts from some of the notices of the press:—

From the *American Presbyterian Review*: "This elaborate and able work is laid out on a broad scale and plan. If not executed fully at all points, it is because no one man could perfect such a gigantic undertaking. The wonder is that in so busy a life the author accumulated such a large mass of materials, studied them so diligently and conscientiously, and wrote out fully the manuscript of seven large volumes, in a clear, instructive, and rapid outline, well digested and

arranged. We trust that the work may secure the attention and meet with the success which it so well deserves."

From the *National Quarterly Review*: "The style of Prof. Dean is always careful and lucid, and generally eloquent. He often rises to heights of true poetic beauty. His illustrations are striking and beautiful. What gives us especial confidence in Prof. Dean, is the evidence he exhibits of a firm religious faith. He keeps constantly in view the divine light of inspiration, and never allows a mania for speculation to lead him into by-paths of error. The work is a praiseworthy evidence and faithful account of the progress of civilization."

From the *New York Times*: "Prof. Dean's great work — his 'History of Civilization' — is a philosophic *resume* of all history. He gathers up and sets forth all the main facts and points of history, illustrated by the geographical features of countries, the acts of their governors, and the character of their internal and social life in industry, religious beliefs, political conditions, manners, and customs, and the finer arts of life. The frame-work is a very broad one, but the canvass is well filled by a large variety of delineations and colorings, both of the magnificent and minute, aided by the most recent discoveries and conclusions of traveled men, and the modern researches of studious critics and philosophers. Altogether, this philosophic history must be considered a noble addition to the sum of our native American literature."

From the *New York Evening Post*: "The new 'History of Civilization,' by the late Prof. Dean, takes a new path, almost wholly divergent from that of Buckle, Guizot, and Hegel. The author has speculated less upon the synthetic view, choosing rather the opposite extreme of giving to every style of growth and development a thorough analysis. The information embraced in many volumes is compressed into a brief space."

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 listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.