

EDITORIAL NOTES.

— THE people of Des Moines are congratulating themselves on the recent establishment by the postal authorities of the free delivery of mail matter at the state capitol, but an old settler recalls the fact that it is only the revival there of an old custom, after all. More than twenty years ago, Hon. P. M. Casady was postmaster at Des Moines. At that time, half a dozen letters was the usual mail, which the postmaster carried in his hat, conveying, on the "free delivery system," the missives of affection or business to their proper owners as he could find them at their places of business—generally a dry goods box on the street, where a gigantic hypothetical transaction in corner lots was being transacted on the strength of the probable removal of the state capital there.

— THE *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* has just entered on its fifth volume. It is a quarterly, and one of the best magazines of its class in the country. It is published at 64 Madison avenue, New York city.

— THE New England Historic Genealogical Society has just held its annual meeting, and re-elected, as its president, Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, whose address contains a brief eulogistic reference to the dead philosopher, Agassiz.

— WE have received, in pamphlet form, the Report on Compulsory Education, by Dexter A. Hawkins, chairman of the Committee on Education of the New York City Council of Political Reform. The report closes with a recommendation to the legislature to enact a law authorizing school boards to compel the attendance at some school, public or private, of all children between the ages of eight and fifteen years, unless for good reason temporarily excused.

— SILAS FARMER & Co., 31 Monroe avenue, Detroit, Michigan, have just published a new map of Iowa, which bids fair to supersede all other maps of the state. It shows the base meridian correction, township and section lines of the United States survey, gives the names and marks the courses of all the lakes and streams, indicates the county seats, and furnishes the names and boundaries of every township, and the location of every village, town, and city, the routes of all completed railroads, and the name and location of every railroad station, and the distance between stations. It also contains much valuable statistical information.

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