

NOTES AND COMMENT

At Panora the Iowa Equal Suffrage Association held its Thirty-fourth Annual Meeting, November 9-11, 1905.

A comprehensive index of the first ten volumes of the *American Historical Review* is being prepared and will be put on sale about the first of January, 1906.

The *Iowa State Teachers' Association* held its annual session at Des Moines, December 26-29, 1905.

On October 26, 1905, the Iowa Octogenarian Association held a banquet at Des Moines in commemoration of the fifty-ninth anniversary of the first State election.

Mr. Geo. W. Gearhart has been appointed Scholar in Economics at The State University of Iowa. Mr. Gearhart is a graduate of Parsons College, Iowa.

On June 14-15, 1905, Medford, Massachusetts, celebrated the Two Hundred and Seventy-fifth Anniversary of its founding with civic, literary, and religious ceremonies.

At Des Moines on December 11 and 12, 1905, the Iowa Park and Forestry Association held its Fifth Annual Meeting in the Horticultural Rooms of the State House.

The Bureau of Historical Research established in connection with the Carnegie Institution of Washington has recently changed its name from "Bureau of Historical Research" to "Department of Historical Research."

Mr. Don S. Rathbun, late Fellow in Economics at The State University of Iowa, has accepted a position under the Surgeon General of the War Department at Washington, D. C. Mr. Rathbun is a graduate of Cornell College, Iowa.

The Washington Post Co. (Washington, D. C.) has announced a two volume supplement to the *Messages and Papers of the Presidents* which will contain the official messages and popular speeches of President Roosevelt.

Mr. E. C. Nelson, who has recently been appointed Fellow in History at The State University of Iowa, served for a time as Principal of Luther College, Racine, Wisconsin. He is a graduate of both the Iowa State Normal School and The State University of Iowa.

The Burrows Brothers Company (Cleveland, Ohio) have opened a subscription for *The Heckewelder Narrative* — an account of the Mission of the United Brethren (Moravians) among the Delaware and Mohegan Indians from 1740 to 1808.

In September, 1905, Mr. Clarence W. Wassam was appointed Instructor in Economics and Sociology at The State University of Iowa. Mr. Wassam has been active in the Iowa State Conference of Charities and Correction, of which he is at present the Secretary.

The eighth annual convention of the League of Iowa Municipalities was held at Burlington, September 13-14, 1905. The officers elected for the ensuing year are: President, Mayor J. S. Caster, of Burlington; Vice-President, Mayor R. S. McNutt, of Muscatine; and Secretary-Treasurer, F. G. Pierce, of Marshalltown. The next annual meeting will be held at Des Moines. The proceedings are published in the *Midland Municipalities* for September, 1905.

In a little pamphlet of 48 pages, entitled *The Case for an United States Historical Commission*, Mr. Lothrop Withington gives an account of his efforts to secure the establishment by Congress of a Commission which "shall collect from public archives and private manuscript collections abroad and in the United States abstracts or copies of important documents illustrating American history and the early history of the United States." A bill to establish such a United States Historical Commission was introduced during the 2d session of the Fifty-eighth Congress by Senator Lodge.

In October, 1905, Mr. Arthur C. McLane was appointed Scholar in Anthropology at The State University of Iowa. During the academic year 1904-05 Mr. McLane studied anthropology at Harvard University. He graduated from The State University of Iowa in 1904.

Mr. John C. Parish has been appointed Scholar in Political Science at The State University of Iowa. In 1905 Mr. Parish won the prize offered by the Iowa Society of the Colonial Dames of America for the best essay on some subject in Iowa history. Mr. Parish is a graduate of both the Iowa State Normal School and The State University of Iowa.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE IOWA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Iowa Library Association held its 16th annual meeting at Fort Dodge, Iowa, October 25-27, 1905, occupying the rooms of the Free Public Library for its meetings. The attendance was large, numbering fully one hundred persons, of whom about twenty-five were library trustees—the greatest number of trustees ever present at an annual gathering of the Association. The State Library Commission was represented in the person of its President, Johnson Brigham, State Librarian; Dr. George E. MacLean, President of the State University and ex-officio a member of the Commission; John F. Riggs, State Superintendent of Public Instruction and ex-officio a member of the Commission; and by the Secretary of the Commission, Miss Alice S. Tyler, who made a full report of the work of the Commission during the past year. There was also present the President of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, Mrs. J. J. Seerley, of Burlington, Iowa, bearing the greetings of the Federation, since the two organizations are in close harmony for the promotion of library work along the best lines.

The following are some of the subjects discussed: "How shall the library income be divided—administration vs. books"; "Book problems from the trustee's standpoint"; "The public library and allied agencies"; "Why the school needs the library"; "Local

historical societies"; and "Art galleries and museums." In addition to these set themes and others, there was much discussion upon library administration, including the selection of books.

The sixteenth annual session is regarded as one of the most successful and profitable ever held. J. W. R.

THE MESSRS. WILLIAM HENRY STARR

In the footnote to page 393 of *THE IOWA JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND POLITICS* for July, 1905, an error occurs in regard to the identity of two Burlington attorneys. Dr. William Salter's letter on page 640 of the October, 1905, number of *THE JOURNAL*, throws light on the matter; and a few additional details may serve to further distinguish the two men.

There were in Burlington at this time two attorneys, both named William Henry Starr. To avoid confusion one called himself William H. Starr, and the other, W. Henry Starr; and under these names their law notices appear during 1839 and 1840 in the *Hawk-Eye and Iowa Patriot*.

William H. Starr a graduate of Yale College in 1834, had black hair and black eyes and was sometimes called the New "York Starr."¹

The one appearing as W. Henry Starr was a native of Middlebury, Vermont, and so was called the "Vermont Starr." Nature also assisted in the distinction by giving him light hair and blue eyes. He was a law partner of D. Rorer in 1839, and with him acted as counsel for Ralph in the famous case of *Ralph vs. Montgomery*.²

He was associated with James W. Grimes in the McGregor Bribery Case,³ and in January, 1841, formed a partnership with that gentleman which lasted many years.

The first announcement of this partnership occurs in the *Hawk-Eye and Iowa Patriot* for February 4, 1841, with the following appended notice:—

¹ *The Iowa Patriot*, August 1, 1839.

² 1 Morris 1.

³ *The Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for July, 1905, p. 393.

“Mr. Starr hereby notifies the public that he has heretofore been known as W. Henry Starr, and to avoid further confusion with the prosecuting attorney of the first judicial district, whose name is the same with himself he will, in future, be known as Henry W. Starr.”

J. C. P.

ORIGIN OF THE COGNOMEN “HAWKEYE”¹

Among the many bits of valuable historical information imbedded in the file of the *Burlington Hawk-Eye* which has recently been deposited in the Public Library at Burlington, Iowa, are the facts relative to the origin of the cognomen “Hawkeye” as applied to Iowans.

In looking through this valuable collection of newspapers one notes that the early precursors of the present *Burlington Hawk-Eye* appear under the names successively of *The Fort Madison Patriot*, *The Burlington Patriot*, *The Iowa Patriot*, and *Hawk-Eye and Iowa Patriot*. It is further observed that the editor, publisher, and proprietor of these pioneer predecessors of the *Burlington Hawk-Eye* was Mr. James G. Edwards.

In the first number of the *Fort Madison Patriot* there appear these significant lines from the pen of Mr. Edwards:—

“If a division of the Territory is effected, we propose that the Iowans take the cognomen of Hawk-eyes. Our etymology can then be more definitely traced than can that of the Wolverines, Suckers, Gophers, etc., and we shall rescue from oblivion a memento, at least, of the name of the old chief. Who seconds the motion?”—*The Fort Madison Patriot*, Vol. I, No. 1, March 24, 1838.

The “old chief” referred to was, of course, Black Hawk. But how did it happen that the name of Black Hawk was uppermost in Mr. Edwards’ mind at that particular time? The explanation is found in the following item which appears in another column of the same number of *The Fort Madison Patriot*:—

¹ This sketch first appeared in the *Mail and Times* of Nov. 18, 1905.

“We were honored by a visit from Black Hawk and his two sons, Nashe-as-kuk and Wah-sam-a-sau, a few days since. The two former had seen printing offices during their late tour through the Atlantic cities; but the latter, who is the younger of the two, expressed considerable surprise throughout our pantomimic explanations of the art, trade, or mystery of printing. Black Hawk’s winter quarters are about five miles from this place. Each family lives in what is called a Wy-ke-op. All who have visited the old chief this season unite in praising his hospitality.”

Thus it is clear that to Mr. James G. Edwards, father and founder of the *Burlington Hawk-Eye* belongs the credit of having first suggested and applied the cognomen “Hawkeye” to Iowans. When the name had come to be generally accepted by the people of the then Territory of Iowa, Mr. Edwards changed the title of his newspaper from *The Iowa Patriot* to *Hawk-Eye and Iowa Patriot*; and he defended this appropriation of the cognomen to his own advantage in these words:—

“The present number of our paper comes out under an additional and we hope an acceptable name. The responsibility of its christening rests solely upon ourself. We have but ‘followed in the footsteps of our illustrious predecessor,’ and are certain that the responsibility we have thus assumed will not be attended with any worse consequences than followed the removal of the deposits. We like the head, and think, as ‘Brother Jonathan’ says of his enormous sheet, it is a ‘decided hit.’ Every state and territory has its peculiar cognomen. Universal consent has confirmed the one by which Iowa is distinguished. It may not be generally known by what means this name was given her. To enlighten all who are ignorant on this subject, and to show that we have an undoubted right to make use of it to our own advantage, we copy the following editorial paragraph from the *Fort Madison Patriot* of March 24, 1838, a paper conducted by our humble self. Speaking of the then contemplated division of the Territory of Wisconsin, it says:—

“‘If a division of the Territory is effected, we propose that the

Iowans take the cognomen of Hawk-eyes. Our etymology can then be more definitely traced than can that of the Wolverines, Suckers, Gophers, etc., and we shall rescue from oblivion a memento, at least, of the name of the old chief."—*Hawk-Eye and Iowa Patriot*, Vol. I, No. 14, Sept. 5, 1839.

B. F. S.

SECRETARY CLARKE'S LETTER RELATIVE TO THE DEFICIENCY IN THE EXPENSES OF THE TERRITORY OF IOWA¹

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

BURLINGTON, March 24, 1840.

HON. I. W. JONES,

Chairman of Committee on Ways & Means:

Sir: A resolution was adopted by the Legislative Assembly of Iowa Territory, at its last session, requesting the Delegate of the Territory to apply to the Congress of the United States for an appropriation of fourteen thousand dollars to meet the deficiency in the expenses of said Territory. As I am the disbursing agent of the general government in the Territory, I deem it proper to lay before the committee of which you are chairman such information as will enlighten you on the subject, and as will, I hope, at once demonstrate the absolute necessity of the appropriation asked for, and the injustice which would be done by withholding it.

I enclose you a copy of the appropriation bill as passed by the Legislature, by which it will be seen that the expenses of the last Legislative Assembly amounted to about \$34,000, while the amount appropriated by Congress at its last session, was only \$20,750. This amount has been drawn from the Treasury by me, and paid out; but there is still a balance of fourteen thousand dollars due to different individuals by the Territory, which she is at present unable to pay, and for which purpose an appropriation by Congress is now asked. The money is due to mechanics, merchants, printers, &c, some of whom have actually expended large sums of money for the use of the Territory, while others have given it their time and labor. It is no

¹ Found in box "A-200" in the Office of the Secretary of State, Des Moines.

exaggeration to say, that a failure on the part of the government to make provision for the payment of these demands would seriously embarrass many of our citizens, and in some instances would be attended with absolute ruin. The printers, for instance, whose claims amount to some thousands of dollars, and who have actually expended thousands for the Territory, are yet unpaid. They rely, however, as heretofore, on the justice of Congress; and I sincerely hope, when your committee learns the necessity of the case, that you will not allow their hopes to be disappointed.

The Secretary of the Treasury calls upon the Governors of the Territories for estimates for the expenses for the succeeding year, and an estimate is submitted, usually in round numbers. But it is as impossible to calculate the expenses of government in this Territory, for a particular year, as it is to calculate to the precise dollar the expenses of Congress; and there would be quite as much justice in withholding pay from the creditors of the general government, when the expenses exceed the estimates, as to do so to citizens of Iowa, merely because the Territory has exceeded the appropriation. The appropriations of Congress, for several years past, show that it has never been expected of the Territories that they would confine their expenditures within the limits of the appropriation; for, as is asked for in the present case, additional sums have been appropriated at almost every session within the last ten years to defray expenses incurred by *previous* legislatures. It has been so in regard to Wisconsin every year since her organization, and it was also so in the case of Iowa last year. Why a similar course should not be pursued the present year, I am at a loss to conceive. The expenses of the Territory have been about the same as usual, and will not much, if any, exceed those of Wisconsin and Florida.

The citizens of Iowa, during the last year, have paid into the national Treasury about a million of dollars for public lands; and an equally large amount will no doubt be contributed by them during the present year. Is it too much, then, for the Territory to ask of Congress, her guardian, an appropriation of money sufficient to dis-

charge honest, just and necessary claims against her, held by numerous and needy individuals?

Very respectfully,

JAMES CLARKE

Secy of Territory

CONTRIBUTORS

EDMUND CHRISTIAN NELSON, Fellow in History at The State University of Iowa. Born in Haugesund, Norway. Graduated from the Iowa State Normal School in 1897. Received from The State University of Iowa the degree of Ph.B. in 1904 and the degree of M. A. in 1905. At one time Principal of Luther College, Racine, Wisconsin. For three years Principal of Scandinavia Academy, Scandinavia, Wisconsin.

CHARLES ALDRICH, Curator of the Historical Department of Iowa, and Editor of the *Annals of Iowa*. Member of the State Historical Society of Iowa. Born at Ellington, New York, October 2, 1828. Founded *The Hamilton Freeman* (Webster City, Iowa) in 1857. Served in the Civil War as Adjutant of the Thirty-second Iowa Infantry. At one time Chief Clerk of the Iowa House of Representatives. Member of the Nineteenth General Assembly of Iowa (1882). Founded the Historical Department of Iowa in 1892.

CLARENCE WYCLIFFE WASSAM, Instructor in Economics and Sociology at The State University of Iowa. Secretary of the Iowa State Conference of Charities and Correction. Member of The State Historical Society of Iowa. Born in Black Hawk County, Iowa, in 1877. Graduated from the Iowa State Normal School in 1900 with the degree of M. Di. Received from The State University of Iowa the degree of Ph. B. in 1903 and the degree of M. A. in 1904. At one time Fellow in Economics and Sociology at The State University of Iowa.

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

ESTABLISHED BY LAW IN THE YEAR 1857
INCORPORATED: 1867 AND 1892
LOCATED AT IOWA CITY IOWA

FORMER PRESIDENTS

JAMES W. GRIMES *First President*

RALPH P. LOWE
S. J. KIRKWOOD
F. H. LEE

W. PENN CLARKE
ROBERT HUTCHINSON
M. J. MORSMAN

WILLIAM G. HAMMOND
GEORGE G. WRIGHT
JOSIAH L. PICKARD

OFFICERS

PETER A. DEY PRESIDENT
ISAAC A. LOOS VICE PRESIDENT
LOVELL SWISHER TREASURER
FRANK E. HORACK SECRETARY

T. J. FITZPATRICK COLLECTOR

BOARD OF CURATORS

Elected by the Society

M. W. DAVIS B. F. SHAMBAUGH
PETER A. DEY ISAAC A. LOOS
SAMUEL CALVIN A. E. SWISHER
GEO. W. BALL J. W. RICH
EUCLID SANDERS

Appointed by the Governor

HARVEY INGHAM L. W. PARISH
H. W. BYERS J. J. McCONNELL
IRVING B. RICHMAN J. F. MITCHELL
E. W. STANTON CHARLES E. SHELTON
WILLIAM MILCHRIST

MEMBERSHIP

Any person may become a member of THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA upon election by the Board of Curators and the payment of an entrance fee of \$5.00.

Membership in this Society may be retained after the first year upon the payment of \$3.00 annually.

Members of the Society shall be entitled to receive the quarterly and all other publications of the Society during the continuance of their membership.

Any public, school, or college library in the State of Iowa may be enrolled as a library member upon application and the payment of a fee of \$1.00. Such library membership may be retained after the first year upon the payment of \$1.00 annually. Libraries enrolled as library members of THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA shall be entitled to receive the quarterly and all other publications of the Society issued during the period of their membership.

Address Communications to THE SECRETARY
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IOWA CITY IOWA