

## HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

The *Annual Report of the Connecticut Historical Society* appeared in May, 1907, as a forty-four page pamphlet.

A biographical article on *Benjamin D. Hicks*, by Frederick C. Hicks, opens the July number of the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*.

The *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* for July consists almost entirely of continuations of the various series of documents relating to Virginia history.

Besides continuations, the leading contribution to *The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine* for July is the *Correspondence Between Edmund Brailsford and his Father*.

In the *American Monthly Magazine* for June we note the *Proceedings of the Sixteenth Continental Congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution*, which convened at Washington, D. C., April 15, 1907.

The leading contribution to the June, 1907, issue of the *Records of the Past* is part two of the *Pre-Indian Inhabitants of North America*. This number also contains a brief review of the *Work of the Ohio Archaeological Society*.

The *German American Annals* for May and June contains an extended biographical article on *Francis Daniel Pastorius, The Founder of Germantown*, by Marion D. Learned, and *Some Unpublished Longfellow Letters*.

The *Essex Institute Historical Collections* for July contains as the opening number an article on *Literary Salem*, by Rev. John W. Buckham. Otherwise the number consists of published collections of original historical material and genealogies.



The *Proceedings of the Worcester Society of Antiquity* for the year 1905 includes two papers, one being *Interesting Data Relating to the Estates Bordering on Lincoln Square* (Worcester), by Henry M. Wheeler, and the other, *Converse Family Settlements in America*, by John J. Putnam.

The *Medford Historical Register* for July, 1907, contains, besides the continuations of *A Medford Tax Payer*, *Lemuel Cox*, *The Bridge Builder and Inventor*, and *Extracts from Selectmen's Records*, obituaries of a number of Medford citizens and a list of *Papers and Addresses* read before the Medford Historical Society in 1906 and 1907.

The following articles appear in the April number of the *Missouri Historical Review*: *Historic Landmarks of Jefferson County No. 2*, by J. L. Thomas; *Missouri History as Illustrated by George C. Bingham*, by May Simonds; *The Pike County Circuit Court*, by T. J. C. Flagg; and *Documents Illustrating the Troubles on the Border, 1858*, by Jonas Viles.

The opening number of the *Records of the American Catholic Historical Society* for March is the *Address Delivered at the Annual Meeting of the Society, December 18, 1906*, by the President, Mr. William V. McGrath, Jr. Among other articles this issue contains a collection of letters taken from the Archives of the Archbishopric of Quebec, and the conclusion of the collection of letters under the title *Cheverus in France*.

The *Maryland Historical Magazine* for March contains: *Correspondence of Governor Eden*, being a collection of letters written in 1775 to and from Robert Eden, the last of the proprietary governors of Maryland; *Introduction of the Black Bass into the Ohio and the Potomac*, by Philip T. Tyson; *Transported Convict Laborers in Maryland During the Colonial Period*, by Basil Sollers; an historical exposition of *The Stained Glass Windows in the State House at Annapolis*, by Clayton C. Hall; and a genealogy of the *Blakistone Family*, by Christopher Johnston.



The Chicago Historical Society has published a *Biographical Sketch of Hon. Joseph Duncan, Fifth Governor of Illinois*, by E. W. Blatchford. This address was given before the Society on the occasion of the presentation to the Society of a portrait of Governor Duncan, the gift of his grandchildren, Hon. William Clement Putnam and Miss Elizabeth Duncan Putnam, of Davenport, Iowa. Governor Duncan was inaugurated on December 3, 1834, and served four years in the executive chair.

Aside from continuations, the leading articles in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* for July, 1907, are: *John Redington of Topsfield, Mass., and Some of his Descendants*, by J. Granville Leach; *Marriages Solemnized by the Rev. Jeremiah Barnard, Amherst, N. H., 1780-1829*, by F. L. Gay; *The Family of Henry Curtis of Sudbury, Mass.*, by H. E. Woods; and *Edward and John Collins and their Descendants*, by Bernard C. Steiner.

The *Publications of the Southern History Association* for May contains two interesting collections of letters: *The Correspondence of Thomas Reade Rootes Cobb, 1860-1862*, and *Francis Marion's Correspondence with General Nathaniel Greene*. Thomas Cobb was a delegate to the convention at which Georgia passed the ordinance of secession. He was prominent in the organization of the Confederacy and a gallant soldier in the War of the Rebellion, during which he was killed. The correspondence of Francis Marion was taken from manuscript copies found in the collection of Greene papers in the Library of Congress, and consists mostly of letters from Greene to Marion.

*The Western Indians in the Revolution*, by Wallace Notestein is the opening article in the July number of the *Ohio Archaeological and Historical Quarterly*. Mr. Notestein's paper was awarded the annual prize offered to Ohioans by the Ohio Sons of the Revolution for an historical essay, February, 1905. Other articles in this issue are *The Rescue Case of 1857*, by Benjamin F. Prince; *The First Steamboat on the Ohio*, by Nelson W. Evans; *Building a Commercial*



*System*, by Frank P. Goodwin; *Ann Sargent Bailey*, by Mrs. James R. Hopley; and *Tours into Kentucky and the Northwest Territory*, by Rev. James Smith. The last named article consists of three journals kept by Rev. Smith in the last part of the eighteenth century and edited with an introductory sketch by Josiah Morrow.

George F. Whitworth opens the July number of *The Washington Historical Quarterly* with a *Retrospect of Half a Century*, concerning itself largely with the progress of invention in transportation facilities and the consequent development of the Pacific Slope in the last fifty years. The remaining articles are: *Daniel Webster, Lord Ashburton, and Old Oregon*, by C. T. Johnson, who contends that Webster was innocent of any intention of bartering the part of the Oregon country north of the Columbia River for fishing rights on the northern Atlantic Coast in 1842-43; *Jesse Applegate: Pioneer, Statesman and Philosopher*, by Joseph Schafer; *William Clark: Soldier, Explorer, Statesman*, by Reuben Gold Thwaites; and *The Indian Council at Walla Walla*, by T. C. Elliot. In the Document Department are reproduced a number of old letters from Hudson Bay Company officials and employees from 1829-1840.

Charles Gross opens *The American Historical Review* for July with an article on *Mortmain in Medieval Boroughs*, containing interesting information concerning the attitude of the burgesses in the Middle Ages toward the acquisition of land by religious bodies. The other articles of the number are: *Nicholas Fuller: A Forgotten Exponent of English Liberty*, by Roland G. Usher; *The Rise of Manufactures in the Miami Country*, by Frank P. Goodwin; *Chief Justice Marshall and Virginia 1813-1821*, by William E. Dodd; and *President Jackson and the Texas Revolution*, by Eugene C. Barker. The last named article is a defense of Jackson. It takes up (1) the efforts of President Jackson to purchase Texas, (2) his connection with the alleged plot of Sam Houston to revolutionize the country, and (3) the charges against the government of breach of neutrality during the Texas revolution. This issue of the *Review*



also contains the first part of the hitherto unpublished manuscript, entitled *Directorium ad Faciendum Passagium Transmarinum*, edited in its untranslated form by C. Raymond Beazley.

The main contribution to the *Annals of Iowa* for July is the first installment of *Iowa and the First Nomination of Abraham Lincoln*, by F. I. Herriott. The composition of the Convention at Chicago and the forces that controlled the balloting are treated in a rather psychological manner and indicate an exhaustive study of the political desires and predilections of the delegates and "outside volunteer attendance." Mr. Herriott also gives considerable attention to the refutation of the charge that "some delegates from Iowa were on the trading tack." The remaining articles of the issue are: *David Rorer*, by Edward H. Stiles; *How the Des Moines Valley Railroad Came to Des Moines*, by Tacitus Hussey; *Dr. Henry Hawkins Barker—A Pioneer Physician*, by J. F. Kennedy; and the address given by Governor A. B. Cummins at Andersonville in November, 1906, in accepting for the State of Iowa the monument erected in commemoration of soldiers who died at that prison.

#### LINN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Among the most satisfying items of Iowana published during the current year is the *Proceedings of the Historical Society of Linn County, Iowa, Vol. II, 1905-1907*. It is satisfying both as a publication and as an indication of what it is possible for county and local historical societies to accomplish. It is a volume of about two hundred and seventy-five pages neatly bound in paper covers with a steel engraving as a frontispiece and other less pretentious cuts.

The greater portion of the *Proceedings* is devoted to the Semi-Centennial of the city of Cedar Rapids which was celebrated in June, 1906, with the hearty coöperation of the Historical Society. Accounts of this celebration, including the addresses given upon the various occasions, are printed in full.

The volume also contains the Constitution and By-laws of the Society, reports of officers and various other data concerning the present



organization, and a group of biographies of deceased members. The *Proceedings* close with an account of the presentation to the Society of a portrait of the late Father T. F. Gunn, by the Catholic Local Abstinence Societies of Cedar Rapids.

## MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On September 9, 1907, occurred the regular meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society. A paper was read by General Lucius F. Hubbard on Minnesota in the campaign of Vicksburg. The paper as well as an account of the meeting is printed in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for September 19, 1907. Two memorial sketches were read and two gifts were presented to the Society, the one being a portrait of Colonel and Mrs. Pfaender and the other the first work of the St. Paul Catholic Historical Society—"Acta et Dicta."

The *Fourteenth Biennial Report of the Minnesota Historical Society* has just been issued. Besides the report of the Secretary and Librarian, the volume contains a catalogue of portraits, other pictures, framed documents, etc., displayed in the rooms of the Society. The catalogue comprises five hundred ninety items and is accompanied by a convenient alphabetical index.

The report shows considerable progress in the last two years since the Society has been housed in the New State Capitol. The library is in a flourishing condition, and unique plans for publication have been made and put into operation by the Secretary and his literary assistant. Under the efficient management of Mr. Warren Upham, the Secretary and Librarian, the Minnesota Historical Society has taken a prominent place among the Historical Societies of the Middle West.

## WEBSTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The annual meeting of the Webster County Historical Society occurred at Fort Dodge on July 10. Reports were read by Mrs. J. P. Dolliver, President of the Society, Mrs. C. B. Hepler, Secretary and Treasurer, and H. M. Pratt Curator. These reports show great progress. The Society during the past year took charge of and suc-



cessfully managed the Pioneer's Day during Chautauqua Week and sent a representative to the Conference of Historical Societies held at Iowa City in March under the auspices of The State Historical Society of Iowa during the celebration of the anniversary of the Constitution of 1857. The Society has secured permanent quarters in the public library, has current files of a number of magazines and has received valuable donations of an historic nature.

Something is also being done in the way of historical writing. In June an article on the Mayors of Fort Dodge, prepared by the Curator, Mr. H. M. Pratt, appeared in the *Fort Dodge Chronicle*. The *Fort Dodge Messenger* for July 16, 1907, contains an article by the same author on *The Court Houses of Webster County, Iowa*. This is a very graphic and interesting account not only of the various court houses but also of the organization of the county and the fight over the county seat which ended in the removal of the court house, building, records, and all, by means of oxen from Homer to Fort Dodge. Since this nocturnal expedition of the citizens of Fort Dodge, the seat of justice has remained in that city. The present court house of the county was dedicated in 1902.

Ten new members were enrolled at the annual meeting of the Society and the following officers elected for the ensuing year: President, C. V. Findlay; Vice President, D. M. Crosby; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. C. B. Hepler; Curator, H. M. Pratt; Board of Directors, O. M. Oleson, Mrs. John F. Duncombe, C. V. Findlay, Mrs. C. B. Hepler, and H. M. Pratt. The spirit and work of the Webster County Historical Society and of its Curator are greatly to be commended, and it is hoped that their plans for a larger membership and still greater activity may be realized.

#### THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

Miss Hazel M. Hayward has been employed as assistant in the library.

Mr. Carl F. Kuehnle, of Denison, Iowa, has been elected to life membership in the Society.



*A Collection of Meskwaki Manuscripts*, prepared by Cha Kä Ta Ko Si, Secretary of the Meskwaki tribe resident in Tama County, Iowa, has been issued by the Society in a pamphlet of forty-three pages.

At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents of the State University of Iowa the Society was given possession of considerable additional space in the Hall of Liberal Arts. This will relieve temporarily the congested condition of the library.

Since July the following have been elected to membership in the Society: Prof. Frederick E. Bolton, Iowa City, Iowa; Miss Eliza Johnson, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. Lewis Miles, Corydon, Iowa; Miss Sarah Hrbek, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Miss Clara Daley, Iowa City, Iowa; and Mr. Louis Pelzer, Atlantic, Iowa.

The Research Assistants for the current year have begun their work. Some of the subjects assigned for investigation are: "The History of Liquor Legislation in Iowa"; "The History of Labor Legislation in Iowa"; "The Establishment and Organization of Counties in Iowa"; "The Early History of the Democratic Party in Iowa.