

NOTES AND COMMENT

The Annual Banquet of the Bar Association of Polk County, was held at Des Moines on Monday evening, February 17, 1908. Upon this occasion an address was delivered by James B. Weaver, Jr., upon *Professional Ideals*, which has since been published in an eight page pamphlet.

A new historical magazine has made its appearance in Mexico which is said to be the first journal exclusively devoted to history that has been published in that Republic. It is entitled *Revista Histórica Mexicana* and the first number was issued in October, 1907. The editor is Mr. C. D. Lopez.

A movement has been begun by the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints to raise funds for the erection of a suitable monument to Joseph and Hyrum Smith. At a meeting at Nauvoo, Illinois, of the committee in charge of the matter, on May 28, 1908, it was decided to proceed with the soliciting of further means with the idea of placing the monument at Nauvoo.

In the death of George Nelson Black, on April 22, 1908, the cause of Illinois and western history has suffered a great loss. Mr. Black was one of the founders of the Illinois State Historical Society, and has been one of its directors since the date of its organization. Since 1897 he has also been a member of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library. Both institutions owe much to his energy and interest in State history.

The first trial of the Primary Law in Iowa took place on June 2, 1908, when votes of all parties were cast to determine the nominations for United States Senator, Congressmen, State, county, and township officers. The Democratic party nominated Claude R. Porter for the United States Senatorship, and Fred White as their candidate for Governor. The Republican party placed in nomination for the United States Senate, William B. Allison, and for Governor, Beryl F. Carroll.

The prize of seventy-five dollars offered by the Iowa Society of Colonial Dames of America for the best essay upon some subject in Iowa History was awarded to Kenneth W. Colgrove of Cedar Falls, Iowa, who wrote on *The Delegates to Congress from the Territory of Iowa*. Mr. Colgrove is a student at The State University of Iowa.

Three oil portraits have been added to the collection of The State University of Iowa. These are likenesses of Josiah L. Pickard, President of the University from 1878 to 1887, and of Leonard F. Parker and Stephen N. Fellows, for many years Professors in the College of Liberal Arts in the same institution. The portraits were presented to the University at the annual commencement exercises on Wednesday, June 17, 1908.

The people of Kansas are manifesting much interest in the marking and preservation of historic sites and buildings. During the summer nearly a score of spots of historical interest in the city of Lawrence will be marked under the direction of the Kansas State University. The walls of the building on the Fort Riley military reserve in which the first legislature met July 2, 1855, have recently been restored and cemented. An effort is being made among the women of Kansas to raise funds for the purpose of purchasing Pawnee Rock, a famous landmark on the Santa Fe Trail.

A Convention to revise the Constitution of Michigan was called by vote of the people in April, 1906. The Convention met on October 22, 1907, and adjourned February 21, 1908, having prepared a Constitution which will be submitted to the voters of the State for ratification at the general election in November, 1908. The framework of the Constitution remains practically as before; but several important changes have been introduced, among which may be noted a more specific establishment of local self-government, and a provision for the initiation of legislation by the people of the State.

Those Societies or individuals who are interested in the transcription of French manuscripts and documents and in the conduct of

researches of a historical nature among the sources of France, will be glad to know of the establishment for this purpose under the direction of L. Jacob, 17 rue de Sévigné, Paris. It is organized by specially trained and expert scholars and is recommended by the Department of Historical Research of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, after careful inquiry, as an establishment which is thoroughly competent and trustworthy and one which American historical societies, departments, and scholars can use with confidence.

The old Burlington University building at Burlington, Iowa, is being torn down, thus removing one of the educational landmarks in Iowa. The corner stone of the building was laid on July 4, 1853, the speakers on the occasion being George J. Johnson, Augustus Caesar Dodge, G. S. Barton, and Charles Ben Darwin. The building was occupied until 1900 by the Baptist school, known in its early years as Burlington University and later as Burlington Institute. The school had a somewhat checkered career, at times being in a flourishing condition and at other times barely able to continue its existence. In 1901 it was decided to give up the attempt altogether and the building was sold to the American Baptist Association of New York. In late years the building has been the home of a manual training school.

During the months of August, September, and October, a series of notable celebrations will be held in seven Illinois cities in commemoration of the semi-centennial of the Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858. The general plan for these celebrations has been suggested by the Illinois State Historical Society which will cooperate with the local committees in each case. According to the plan suggested, the celebrations will be held as follows: Ottawa, Friday, August 21; Freeport, Thursday, August 27; Jonesboro, Tuesday, September 15; Charleston, Friday, September 18; Galesburg, Wednesday, October 7; Quincy, Tuesday, October 13; Alton, Thursday, October 15. The dates in each case are the anniversaries of the respective debates and it is hoped that the exercises shall be held as nearly as possible at the same hour and on the same spot as the original debate occurred.

STEPHEN N. FELLOWS

On Tuesday, June 2, 1908, Dr. Stephen N. Fellows passed away at his home in Iowa City. The greater portion of Dr. Fellows's life was spent in Iowa where he took an active and influential part in affairs. He was born in New Hampshire in 1831 and his childhood days were spent at Dixon, Illinois. He came to Iowa early in life, and in 1854 he was elected to a position in Cornell College, where he remained until 1860. After seven years in the ministry he became the head of the Normal Department of the State University, in which institution he remained for twenty years. Much of his life since 1887 has been devoted to the ministry in the Methodist Episcopal Church, which in Dr. Fellows's death has lost one of its grand old men. Throughout his career Dr. Fellows took an active interest in temperance reform and served several terms as president of the State Temperance Alliance and later of the Anti-Saloon League. Thus, as an educator, preacher, and moral reformer, Dr. Fellows spent his life in the service of his fellow citizens.

J. SCOTT RICHMAN

With the death of Judge J. Scott Richman at his home in Bloomington Township, Muscatine County, on May 17, 1908, the last member of the convention which framed the Constitution of 1846 has passed from our midst. Judge Richman was born in Somerset, Perry County, Ohio, on March 11, 1820, and was of Dutch and English descent. His early life was spent in Pennsylvania, but at the age of eighteen he came west, and for a short time studied law at Knoxville, Illinois. In 1839 he settled at Muscatine, Iowa, and in September of that year was admitted to the bar. He took an active part in the deliberations in the Constitutional Convention in 1846, and in the following year served as Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives. He was a member of the General Assembly during the special session in 1856, and in 1863 was elected Judge of the Seventh Judicial District, which position he held for nine years. Since 1872 Judge Richman has continued in the practice of law, being in partnership with his brother, Frank Richman, at the time of his death.

J. Scott Richman was not only a pioneer and the nestor of the Iowa bar, but he was one of the builders of the State. Nearly seventy years of his life were spent in active and useful work in the State which he helped to organize out of a frontier community. He was a man of strong qualities, a representative of that class of men who were the nerve and backbone of the Commonwealth of Iowa during the days of its infancy and youth.

CONTRIBUTORS

DAN ELBERT CLARK, Research Assistant in The State Historical Society of Iowa. (See THE IOWA JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND POLITICS for January, 1908, p. 159).

FRANK HARMON GARVER, Research Assistant in The State Historical Society of Iowa. Professor of History and Politics in Morningside College. Member of the American Historical Association. Member of the American Political Science Association. Member of the Sioux City Academy of Science and Letters. Born at Albion, Iowa, 1875. Graduated from Epworth Seminary, 1895. Graduated from Upper Iowa University, 1898. Professor of History and Economics in Morningside College, 1898-1901. Fellow in History at The State University of Iowa, 1901-1902. Received the degree of M. A. at The State University of Iowa, February, 1908. Author of *Reminiscences of John H. Charles*.

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

W. PENN CLARKE

WILLIAM G. HAMMOND

S. J. KIRKWOOD

ROBERT HUTCHINSON

GEORGE G. WRIGHT

F. H. LEE

M. J. MORSMAN

JOSIAH L. PICKARD

OFFICERS

BENJAMIN F. SHAMBAUGH.....SUPERINTENDENT

PETER A. DEY.....PRESIDENT

ISAAC A. LOOS.....VICE PRESIDENT

LOVELL SWISHER.....TREASURER

FRANK E. HORACK.....SECRETARY

BOARD OF CURATORS

Elected by the Society

Appointed by the Governor

M. W. DAVIS

A. E. SWISHER

HARVEY INGHAM

L. W. PARISH

PETER A. DEY

J. W. RICH

JOHN SANDHAM

J. J. McCONNELL

GEO. W. BALL

EUCLID SANDERS

IRVING B. RICHMAN

O. B. CLARK

ISAAC A. LOOS

LAENAS G. WELD

E. W. STANTON

CHARLES E. SHELTON

ARTHUR J. COX

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 \$3.00.

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 all Communications to

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IOWA CITY IOWA

