

NOTES AND COMMENT

The seventeenth annual meeting of the Iowa Library Association was held at Cedar Rapids, October 20-22.

Dr. Karl F. Geiser, formerly of the Iowa State Normal School, is now Professor of Political Science in Oberlin College.

The American Historical Association, the American Political Science Association and the Bibliographical Society of America all held their annual meetings at Washington, D. C., and Richmond, Virginia, December 28-31. On December 30, the Mississippi Valley Historical Association held its semi-annual meeting at Richmond.

An international congress of administrative sciences will be held at Brussels, Belgium, in 1910 during the International Exhibition in that city. The purpose of this congress is to bring together from all over the world those interested in both the theory and practice of the administration of government in all its branches. It is expected that the proceedings will be published in a series of volumes.

On November 5 and 6 there was held at Iowa City a joint meeting of the Iowa Society of the Archaeological Institute of America, the Iowa Anthropological Society, and the Iowa Branch of the American Folk-Lore Society. The principal addresses were by Professor Oscar Montelius, the Curator of the Royal Museum of Antiquities in Stockholm, Sweden, and Professor Frank B. Tarbell, of the University of Chicago.

A thorough investigation of the management of farms in Iowa is soon to be begun by Professor M. E. McCulloch, formerly of the State Agricultural College, under the direction of the United States Department of Agriculture. Before taking up a more intensive study, Mr. McCulloch will gather information concerning the agricultural history of the State, its climatic and physical features, the acreage and yields of the various crops, facilities for marketing and prices received. After this preliminary general work is accom-

plished, he will take up a careful study of the types of farming that prevail in the various sections of the State with reference to the adaptability to local conditions, their effect on the fertility of the soil and on the standard of living of the farmer. Detailed investigations will be made of the management of farms which seem especially successful, and the results will be published. The work will be one of great magnitude and will doubtless do much to promote intelligent and scientific farming in this State.

GEORGE C. DUFFIELD

On September 4, 1908, George C. Duffield, a prominent Iowa pioneer, passed away at his home near Keosauqua, Iowa. Mr. Duffield was born in Ohio in 1824, and came to Iowa with his parents in 1837 and located in Van Buren County. He served with the Third Iowa Cavalry during the early part of the War for the Union. He attended the first Republican convention held in Van Buren County, and was a delegate to the first Republican State Convention at Iowa City in 1856. He was a worthy type of the men who built and developed Iowa.

JOHN W. JAYNE

John W. Jayne, one of the oldest residents of Johnson County and a member of The State Historical Society of Iowa, passed away at his home in Lone Tree on July 26, 1908. Mr. Jayne was born in Pennsylvania on January 28, 1820, and came to Iowa during the fifties, first settling in Muscatine County. When the war broke out he enlisted in Company B of the 8th Iowa Infantry and served during the early years of the war. Most of his life since that time was spent on his farm or in business at Lone Tree. He was a member of the first Republican State Convention held in Iowa, and although he never held any important office, he always took an active interest in politics. He collected a large private library and was a man who read widely. Mr. Jayne retained his physical and mental vigor to a remarkable extent even to the date of his death.

WILLIAM BOYD ALLISON

William Boyd Allison, Iowa's veteran and beloved Senator, passed away at his home in Dubuque on Tuesday, August 4, 1908. The end came quite suddenly and without warning except to those nearest to the Senator in the last few months when his health failed rapidly.

Senator Allison was born in Wayne County, Ohio, on March 2, 1829. He was educated at Wooster Academy in Pennsylvania and at Western Reserve College in Ohio. For some time after completing his college work he practiced law in Ohio, and in 1854 he married Miss Anna Carter who died in 1860. In 1857 he removed to Dubuque, Iowa, where he immediately began to take a prominent part in affairs. He was a member of the Republican State Convention in 1859, and in 1860 was a delegate to the National Republican Convention which nominated Lincoln. Governor Kirkwood chose him as a member of his staff in 1861 to aid in raising regiments during the early years of the War for the Union. In 1862 he was elected to Congress from Iowa and until 1871 on various committees and on the floor of the House he helped to tide the Nation over the perils of war and reconstruction. In 1872 he was elected to succeed James Harlan in the United States Senate, in which body he served the people of Iowa continuously until the date of his death. He married Miss Mary Neally in 1873, but in 1883 he suffered his second great bereavement.

In the House of Representatives William Boyd Allison's career began on the same day as that of James Garfield and James G. Blaine, and he was one of the last survivors of that group of statesmen who were the trusted counsellors of Presidents during the War and the troublesome years that followed. His experience in the House of Representatives gave him a preparation and a standing which enabled him to assume a leading position in the Senate almost from the beginning. For thirty years he was a member of the Senate Committee on Finance, and for twenty-five years he served as chairman of the Committee on Appropriations. His leadership was especially pronounced in all problems of finance, revenue, or the tariff. Senator Allison possessed the friendship and

confidence of every Republican chief executive from Lincoln to Roosevelt, and was several times offered desirable positions in the Cabinet, but he preferred his post of power and influence in the Senate. He had ardent friends and admirers among the leaders of both parties, and had but few enemies.

In private life as well as in his public career Senator Allison was rigidly honest and upright. His home life and his devotion to his invalid wife are described as beautiful by those who enjoyed the close personal friendship of the Senator. Both as a private citizen and as a public servant William Boyd Allison's influence will long be felt among the people of the State and Nation which he served so well for so many years of his life.

CONTRIBUTORS

FRANK HARMON GARVER, Professor of History and Politics in Morningside College. (See THE IOWA JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND POLITICS for July, 1908, p. 500.)

JOHN E. BRINDLEY, Research Assistant in The State Historical Society of Iowa and Legislative Reference Assistant to the Curator of the Historical Department of Iowa. Assistant Professor of Political Economy in the State Agricultural College at Ames, 1907-1908. Born at Boscobel, Wisconsin, 1878. Graduated from the State University of Wisconsin, 1902. Instructor in Political Economy in the University of Oregon, 1907.

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