

NOTES AND COMMENT

John Nollen, one of the pioneer Hollanders of Pella, Iowa, and a man who has exerted a strong influence in the community, died on May 31, 1914.

Jedediah Lake of Independence, a member of the Ninth General Assembly of Iowa, and Lieutenant Colonel and later Colonel of the Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry during the Civil War, died on June 7, 1914.

Histories of the following Iowa counties are reported as in process of preparation: Audubon, Buchanan, Des Moines, Harrison, and Shelby.

Sitting-Bull-Custer, an out-door Indian drama, written by Aaron McGaffey Beede, was presented on June 1st, on the campus of the North Dakota Agricultural College at Fargo.

The War Eagle Memorial Association of Sioux City has located the site of the grave of the chieftain, War Eagle, and a tablet will be erected to mark the spot until sufficient funds can be secured for the erection of a monument.

The seniors of the East Des Moines High School on May 15th presented a pageant depicting the coming of the white man to Iowa and the building of Fort Des Moines.

The magnificent private library of Clarence M. Burton of Detroit which has been used by many historians, has been donated to the Library Commission of that city.

Professor Frederic Austin Ogg has been appointed to an associate professorship in political science at the University of Wisconsin.

Dr. E. Dana Durand is in charge of the work of the Minnesota Efficiency and Economy Commission, which is preparing a plan for the reorganization of the State government.

A spot on the capitol grounds at Des Moines has been chosen by the Allison Monument Commission for the erection of the Allison memorial. It is expected that work on the memorial will proceed as rapidly as possible.

Mr. E. W. Tallmon and W. W. Gardiner of Davenport both have in their possession large collections of pictures of Mississippi and Ohio River steamboats, past and present. These collections will be of much value to anyone interested in the history of river transportation.

Among the cities of some size which have recently adopted the commission plan of government are San Antonio, Texas, and Saginaw and Marquette, Michigan. The plan has also virtually been accepted in Seattle, Washington. The city-manager plan is meeting with favor in various parts of the country, especially in the smaller places.

On May 2, 1914, occurred the death of Professor N. H. Winchell, whose work in the geology and early history of the Upper Mississippi Valley is well known. During the twenty-eight years from 1872 to 1900 he conducted the Minnesota Geological Survey. He founded the *American Geologist*, and was its principal editor from 1888 to 1905. From 1906 to the time of his death he had charge of the Department of Archaeology of the Minnesota Historical Society.

The forty-third annual reunion of the Old Settlers' Association of Cedar County was held at Tipton on June 10, 1914, this being the seventy-fourth anniversary of the first settlement of the county. Twenty-two persons who came to Cedar County before the close of the year 1850 were in attendance at the reunion.

The historic home of Josiah B. Grinnell at Grinnell, Iowa, has been purchased and torn down to give place to a more modern residence. The house was built during the fifties and had an interesting history. Many notable persons, including John Brown and Henry Ward Beecher, were visitors at the Grinnell home, which was one of the centers of anti-slavery sentiment in Iowa. Numerous fugitive slaves were hidden away in the house from

time to time while on their trip to Canada over the Underground Railway.

The Nineteenth International Congress of Americanists will be held in Washington, D. C., October 5-10, 1915. President Wilson will be the official patron; while Hon. John W. Foster is the president of the organization. An excursion in connection with the meeting will include a visit to the Davenport Academy of Sciences at Davenport, Iowa.

The death of W. S. Wilkinson, who came to Madison County, Iowa, in 1848, occurred on June 4, 1914. Mr. Wilkinson has been a frequent contributor to the knowledge of the history of that county, both through his own writings and through information willingly given to others.

This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the Territory of Montana and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the admission of the State into the Union. A number of celebrations are being planned at various points; while an unusually large amount of material in the way of reminiscences is appearing in the newspapers of the State.

An effort is being made in Marshall County to form an association composed of natives of the county who are over fifty years of age. About one hundred invitations to persons having these qualifications were issued for a picnic which was held on June 25th.

On June 16th occurred the death of John Harlan, an early settler of Van Buren County, Iowa. He was born in Indiana in 1821 of Quaker ancestry, and came to Iowa in 1875. He was the grandfather of Edgar R. Harlan, Curator of the Historical Department of Iowa, and a distant relative of James Harlan, former United States Senator from Iowa.

On May 12 and 13, 1914, there was held in New York City a National Conference on Universities and Public Service, the call for which was issued by Mayor John Purroy Mitchell. The conference was held under the auspices of the committee on practical training for public service of the American Political Science Association,

composed of the following members: Charles McCarthy, Albert Bushnell Hart, Benj. F. Shambaugh, William F. Willoughby, and Raymond G. Gettell, with Edward A. Fitzpatrick as executive secretary. The main topics of discussion were: the upbuilding of governmental administration, the greatest need of American democracy; public service as a career; the municipal university; public service activities of universities — a record is what is being done; the national university; and the question, should universities give credit for work in governmental bureaus and other agencies as outlined by the committee on practical training for public service.

The Harris Political Science Prizes, established by Mr. N. W. Harris of Chicago, were awarded to the following persons for the year 1913-1914: the first prize of \$250 to Willits Pollock of the University of Wisconsin for an essay on "Municipal Home Rule and the Wisconsin Commissions"; the second prize of \$150 to Ivan O. Hansen of the University of Minnesota for an essay on the "Relation of the State to the Municipality with Special Reference to Minnesota"; and the third prize of \$100 to Clark P. Currier of Beloit College for an essay on "Judicial Review of Administrative Decisions". The prizes are offered again for the year 1914-1915 and the contest is open to undergraduates of all the colleges and universities in Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa. The subjects for essays for the coming year are the reorganization of State government, the city manager plan of municipal government, the Monroe Doctrine, and the public regulation of wages. Dr. Benj. F. Shambaugh of Iowa City is the Iowa member of the committee on the Harris prizes and further information may be secured from him.

JOHN FORREST DILLON

In the death of Judge John F. Dillon in New York City on May 5, 1914, the State of Iowa lost one of its most famous sons. Although Judge Dillon was born in New York in 1831 he came to Davenport, Iowa, in 1838, the year in which the Territory of Iowa was estab-

lished; and thereafter he lived in Iowa continuously for more than forty years.

Judge Dillon was during his youth attracted to a career in the practice of medicine. With this end in view he entered the Davenport Medical College, from which institution he graduated in 1850; after which he practiced for a few months and was one of the founders of the Iowa State Medical Society. But soon he began the study of law and was admitted to the bar in 1852, soon afterward entering into partnership with John P. Cook of Davenport. As prosecuting attorney of Scott County from 1852 to 1858 he displayed such ability that in the latter year he was elected Judge of the Seventh Judicial District, a position which he held until 1863, when he was chosen as a justice of the Iowa Supreme Court. After one term of six years in this capacity he was appointed by President Grant as Judge of the United States Circuit Court for the Eighth District. Ten years he remained in this federal position and then resigned to accept a position in the law college of Columbia University.

Since 1882 Judge Dillon was engaged in legal practice in New York City, being counsel at various times for some of the largest corporations in the country and gaining an enviable reputation. Moreover, he is widely known for his many books and other writings on legal topics. Without doubt Judge Dillon's name will always be found among those of the greatest lawyers which the State of Iowa has produced.

GEORGE DOUGLAS PERKINS

George D. Perkins, the veteran editor of the *Sioux City Journal*, died on February 3, 1914. He was born at Holly, New York, on February 29, 1840, and during his boyhood his parents came west, finally locating at Baraboo, Wisconsin, where Mr. Perkins learned the printer's trade. In 1860, in partnership with his brother Henry, he established the *Cedar Falls Gazette*. He enlisted in 1863 in Company B., Thirty-first Iowa Infantry, but after a brief service in the field he was taken seriously ill and did not recover for many months. After acting as agent for the Northwestern

Press Association at Chicago for three years, in 1869 he established the *Sioux City Journal*, of which newspaper he remained the editor down to the time of his death.

Mr. Perkins took a prominent part in Iowa politics. He was a member of the State Senate in the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth General Assemblies. From 1882 to 1885 he was United States Marshal for the Northern District of Iowa. Then in 1891 he was elected as Congressman from the Eleventh Congressional District of Iowa, an office to which he was twice reëlected. In 1906 he was an unsuccessful candidate for the nomination for Governor; and many times he was a delegate from Iowa to the national conventions of the Republican party.

As an editor, as a public servant, and as a private citizen, Mr. Perkins always held the confidence and respect of the people of Iowa, and his name deserves a high place in the list of Iowa's greatest citizens.

JOSIAH L. PICKARD

Dr. Josiah L. Pickard, who was known and loved by many Iowa people, died at his home in Cupertino, California, on March 27, 1914, having just passed his ninetieth birthday. He was born on March 17, 1824, at Rowley, Massachusetts. In 1844 he was graduated from Bowdoin College, and two years later he removed first to Elizabeth, Illinois, and later in the same year to the Territory of Wisconsin, where he became the Principal of Platteville Academy. After remaining in that position for nearly fourteen years, he was State Superintendent of Public Instruction in Wisconsin from 1860 to 1864. In the latter year he accepted the position of Superintendent of Schools of the city of Chicago, where he remained until 1877.

It was in 1878 that Dr. Pickard began his long period of service to the people of Iowa as President of the State University. The nine years during which he held this position witnessed a steady growth in the size, strength, and prestige of the University. He resigned as President in 1887 but remained at the University for two years as a lecturer. For nineteen years, from 1881-1900, he

was President of The State Historical Society of Iowa. His declining years have been spent in California.

Dr. Pickard ranked high among the pioneer leaders in the movement for higher education in the West, and he was the writer of numerous valuable articles on educational topics. He also took a keen interest in local history, as is indicated by his long official connection with The State Historical Society. He made many contributions to the literature of Iowa history, including the best historical sketch of the State University of Iowa that has thus far been written, and some very interesting reminiscences entitled *A Retrospect of Sixty Years*. He was a man who will long be cherished in the memories of those who knew him.

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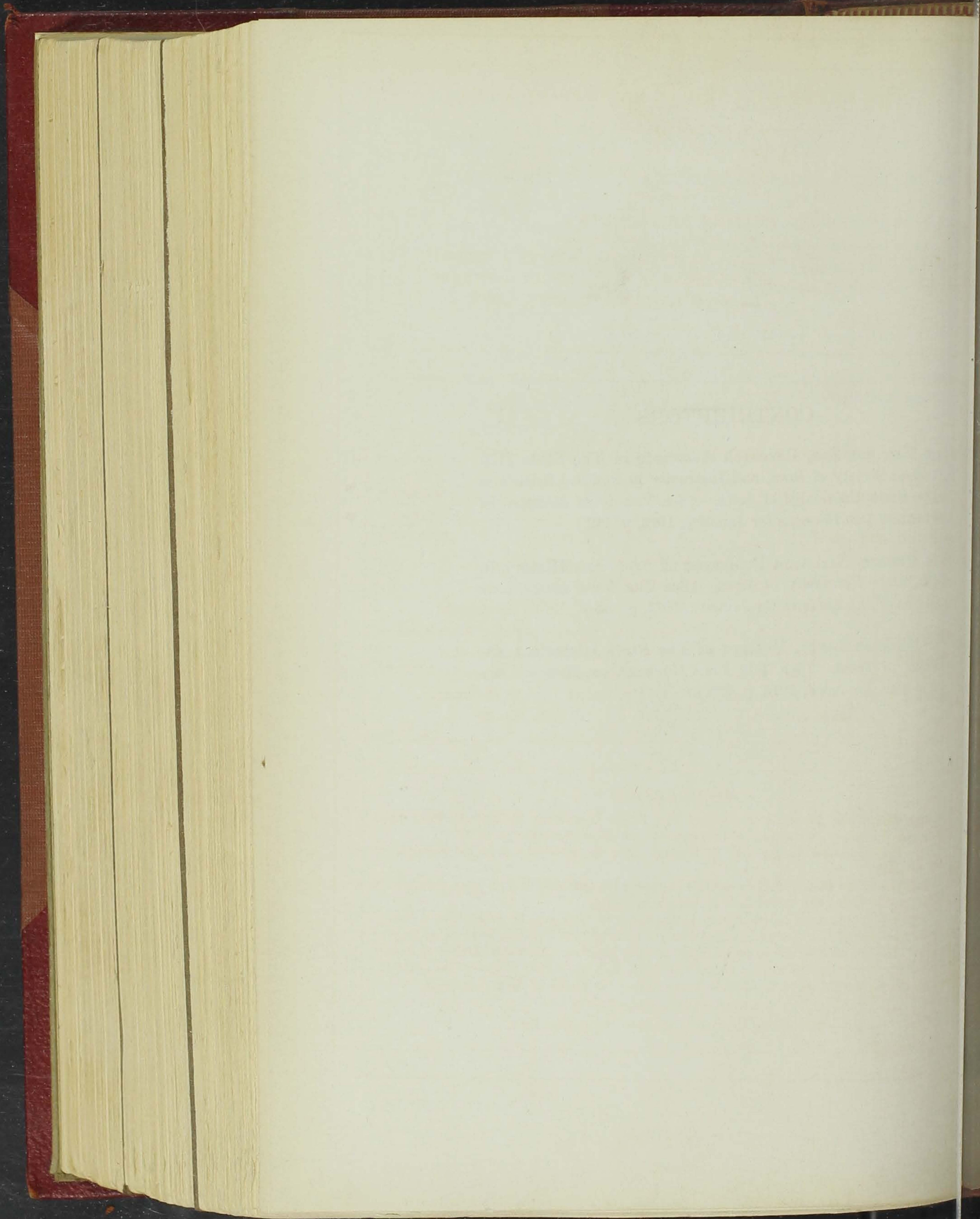
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JACOB VAN DER ZEE, Research Associate in The State Historical Society of Iowa, and Instructor in Political Science in the State University of Iowa. (See THE IOWA JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND POLITICS for January, 1913, p. 142.)

LOUIS PELZER, Assistant Professor of American History in the State University of Iowa. (See THE IOWA JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND POLITICS for January, 1913, p. 142.)

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