

NOTES AND COMMENT

The Thirty-sixth General Assembly of Iowa made provision for the marking of the site of the old State Fair Grounds at Fairfield.

The annual meeting of the Old Settlers' Association of Bremer County was held on June 16, 1915, at Denver, Iowa.

An effort is being made to revive interest in the Lyon County Pioneers Association organized about ten years ago, but which has not held meetings for several years.

Washington Galland, a veteran of the Mexican and Civil Wars and a son of Isaac Galland, one of the earliest settlers of Lee County, died on April 22, 1915. He was eighty-seven years old at the time of his death.

A newspaper item states that a biography of Chief Keokuk, in story form suitable for children's reading, is being written by Everett T. Tomlinson.

The twenty-first annual meeting of the Iowa State Bar Association was held at Fort Dodge on June 24 and 25, 1915.

The fifth annual conference of the Society of American Indians will be held at Lawrence, Kansas, from September 28th to October 3rd.

Under an act of the General Assembly of Indiana two commissioners have been appointed to ascertain and mark the route followed across the State by the Lincoln family on their way from Kentucky to Springfield, Illinois.

The Missouri Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution is making plans for the marking of the El Camino Real — the road connecting the principal settlements in Missouri during the period of the Spanish régime.

Lorenzo Frank Andrews, a pioneer newspaper man of Des Moines, passed away at his home in that city on July 8th. During his later years Mr. Andrews spent much time in historical writing, and from his pen came a large number of articles concerning the early history of Des Moines and the lives of the pioneers of the capital city. He was born in Massachusetts in 1828, and came to Des Moines on December 31, 1863.

On March 20, 1915, at Washington, D. C., occurred the death of Charles Francis Adams, whose historical writings are widely known. He was born in 1835, served with distinction during the Civil War, was interested in railway administration and regulation, and during the last twenty-five years devoted himself largely to research and writing in American history. In 1901 he was president of the American Historical Association, and from 1895 to the time of his death he was president of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

A bronze statue of James Shields, mounted on a granite base, has been erected in the court house yard at Carrollton, Missouri, in accordance with an act of the legislature appropriating \$10,000 for that purpose. General Shields, who died at Ottumwa, Iowa, in 1879, had a distinguished career. Besides his military services as Brigadier General during the Mexican and Civil Wars, he was Commissioner of the United States Land Office, Justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois, and United States Senator at different times from Illinois, Minnesota, and Missouri.

An automobile accident which occurred on March 30th resulted in the death of four pioneers of western Washington, all of whom have been greatly interested in the preservation of the history of that region, namely: Mr. Thomas W. Prosch, one of the pioneer journalists on Puget Sound and a man whose historical writings are numerous; Mrs. Prosch, whose father was Morton M. McCarver, one of the founders of Burlington, Iowa, and of Tacoma, Washington; Miss Margaret Lenora Denny, whose father was a leader in the colony which founded Seattle; and Mrs. Harriet Foster Beecher, who lived for many years at Port Townsend and who was the painter of many portraits of early settlers.

PORTRAIT OF THEODORE SANXAY

An excellent oil portrait of Theodore Sanxay, one of the pioneers of Iowa City, has recently been placed in the rooms of The State Historical Society of Iowa by his son, T. F. Sanxay of New York City. The portrait is the work of George H. Yewell, who has long been known in this State because of his numerous portraits of Iowa men.

Theodore Sanxay was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, on March 12, 1819, and he died at Iowa City on December 15, 1892. After receiving an education in the schools of Cincinnati he spent some time in New York City studying the art of engraving. About 1841, however, he came to Iowa City with a little colony of people from Cincinnati, including Dr. Henry Murray and his brother, Malcolm. With the latter Mr. Sanxay embarked in the general merchandise business on Iowa Avenue, in a building believed to have been the first brick store building in Iowa City. Later he engaged alone in the hardware and iron business which he conducted at the northeast corner of Clinton and Washington Streets in buildings erected by him for that purpose. These buildings are still standing — one facing on Clinton and the other on Washington Street. The latter occupies, in part, the site of a large, frame building erected for the use of the Territorial legislature and officers when Iowa City became the capital of the Territory. This old building, known as Butler's Capitol, was purchased by Mr. Sanxay, and for a time was used by him until it was removed to another site when the erection of the new building above mentioned was begun.

Mr. Sanxay continued in the hardware and iron business until about 1870, when he retired from mercantile and practically all active business.

During the period of his business activity the bank which is now known as the Johnson County Savings Bank was organized; and for many years Mr. Sanxay was connected with this bank, either as director, vice president, or acting president. He never accepted the presidency of the bank, however, although he was repeatedly solicited to do so. He was the local authority on the genuineness of bank notes or bills in those days when such issues by banks in various States constituted the currency of the country, even in

sections remote from the place of issue, and the "Bank Note Reporter" was everywhere a necessity until the establishment of a national currency. At the outbreak of the Civil War, at the request of the business community, Mr. Sanxay gave his notes, issued on pasteboard, in denominations representing fractional parts of a dollar, in order to supply the need for small change occasioned by the withdrawal of the silver coin from circulation.

Mr. Sanxay was married at Iowa City in 1842 to Hetty A. Perry, a native of Delaware. To them were born three sons, one of whom is still living. About 1876 he went to Brooklyn, New York, where he lived until 1880. Returning at that time to Iowa City he passed the remainder of his days in the old family home at the corner of Clinton and Market Streets. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church of Iowa City almost from the time of its organization. In politics he was first a Whig and later a Republican, but he was never a candidate for political office.

JUDGE EMLIN MC CLAIN

Emlin McClain was born at Salem, Ohio, on November 26, 1851; and died suddenly at his home in Iowa City on the morning of May 25, 1915. His father, William McClain, was a teacher of wide reputation who established and conducted secondary schools, first in Ohio and later in Iowa.

Judge McClain entered the State University in 1866, graduating in 1871 with the degree of B. Ph. In 1872 he received the degree of B. A., and one year later he graduated from the law department with the degree of LL. B. Thereafter, for about eight years he practiced law in Des Moines where he met and married (in 1879) Ellen Griffiths, daughter of Capt. H. H. Griffiths of that city. In 1881 he returned to his alma mater and began his long career as a teacher of law — a work in which he found his greatest pleasure and for which doubtless he will longest be remembered. In 1887 he became Vice Chancellor and three years later Chancellor of the College of Law, a position which he held for ten years, until he entered upon his twelve-year period as Justice of the Supreme Court of Iowa. Retiring from the bench in January, 1913, he taught for one year at Leland Stanford University, and then re-

turned to the work nearest his heart — becoming once more Dean of the College of Law of the State University of Iowa. He had nearly completed a year in this position at the time of his death.

Judge McClain was widely known as a code-maker and as a compiler and writer of volumes and articles on legal topics. Especially was he an authority on constitutional law. His name will go down in history among those of Iowa's greatest jurists. As a man he was kindly, broad in his sympathies, democratic, and tolerant.

CONTRIBUTORS

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.)

JOHN ELY BRIGGS, Research Assistant in The State Historical Society of Iowa. Born near Washburn, Iowa, on July 30, 1890. Graduated from the Eagle Grove High School in 1909; received the degree of A. B. from Morningside College in 1913; and the degree of M. A. from the State University of Iowa in 1914. Author of the *History of Social Legislation in 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

ROBERT HUTCHINSON

GEORGE G. WRIGHT

S. J. KIRKWOOD

M. J. MORSMAN

JOSIAH L. PICKARD

F. H. LEE

WILLIAM G. HAMMOND

PETER A. DEY

W. PENN CLARKE

OFFICERS

BENJAMIN F. SHAMBAUGH.....SUPERINTENDENT

EUCLID SANDERSPRESIDENT

PAUL A. KORAB.....TREASURER

FRANK E. HORACK.....SECRETARY

BOARD OF CURATORS

Elected by the Society

GEO. W. BALL

MARVIN H. DEY

J. W. RICH

HENRY G. WALKER

EUCLID SANDERS

HENRY ALBERT

ARTHUR J. COX

S. A. SWISHER

CHARLES M. DUTCHER

Appointed by the Governor

MARSH W. BAILEY

BYRON W. NEWBERRY

M. F. EDWARDS

A. C. SAVAGE

J. J. MCCONNELL

E. W. STANTON

JOHN T. MOFFIT

W. H. TEDFORD

J. B. WEAVER

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