

## NOTES AND COMMENT

William L. Alexander, who was Adjutant General of Iowa from 1878 to 1889, died at Pasadena, California, late in November, 1915.

W. G. McElrea, one of the few survivors of the Sultana disaster on the Mississippi River during the Civil War, died near Knoxville, Iowa, on November 25, 1915.

A log cabin has been erected near the entrance to Fejervary Park in Davenport, Iowa, as a memorial to the pioneers of Scott County and a reminder of pioneer days.

At the age of ninety-four years, William Graham, State Senator in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth General Assemblies of Iowa, died in Des Moines on November 24, 1915.

The seventeenth Iowa State Conference of Charities and Correction was held at Waterloo on November 21-23, 1915.

Lewis L. Taylor, who was a member of the State Senate of Iowa from the Thirtieth to the Thirty-fourth General Assemblies, died at his home in Centerville on December 27, 1915.

Mrs. Mary Boone Hosman, a daughter of Nathan Boone whose name frequently appears in the early history of Iowa, died recently in Missouri. She was the last grandchild of Daniel Boone.

Henry Harrison Rood, a member of the famous Crocker's Iowa Brigade, and secretary of the Board of Trustees of Cornell College at Mt. Vernon, Iowa, since 1868, died late in October, 1915.

A tablet in memory of Chief Black Hawk was unveiled in Crapo Park at Burlington, Iowa, on October 21, 1915.

Charles W. Miller, Representative from Bremer County in the General Assembly of Iowa, died at his home at Waverly on October 6, 1915. Mr. Miller was born in Buchanan County in 1861.



All of the State educational institutions in North Dakota are now governed by a single State Board of Educational Regents of five members, which was created by an act of the legislature in 1915.

The foundation for the Allison monument on the capitol grounds at Des Moines was completed on October 15, 1915, and a bronze box containing a number of books and papers relating to Senator Allison was placed in the pedestal. It is expected that the monument will be entirely finished by May, 1916.

Missouri is to have a new capitol building costing \$3,500,000. The corner-stone was laid on June 24, 1915. This will be the eleventh building used for capitol purposes in Missouri in the course of its history.

On December 19, 1915, at Marble Rock, Iowa, occurred the death of E. C. Spaulding, who was a member of the General Assembly from 1892 to 1896 and from 1902 to 1906, serving in each house during three legislative sessions.

Professor Claude H. Van Tyne of the University of Michigan has retired from the board of editors of *The Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, and has been chosen as a member of the editorial board of *The American Historical Review*.

On October 26, 1915, occurred the death of Charles Trumbull Granger, who was a Justice of the Supreme Court of Iowa from 1889 to 1900 and twice during that time was Chief Justice. Previously he had served as district judge in the Thirteenth Judicial District, his home being at Waukon. During the past ten years Judge Granger lived in California.

The Iowa Society of Social Science Teachers, which was organized for the purpose of promoting an interest in the study of economics, history, and government, held a meeting at Des Moines on November 4th and 5th, in connection with the sessions of the State Teachers' Association. Among those who appeared on the program were Louis B. Schmidt, Paul F. Peck, Miss Clara M. Daley, B. F. Asquith, C. H. Meyerholz, and Thomas Teakle, the retiring president.



The following officers were elected for the coming year: Louis B. Schmidt of Ames, president; Miss Ruth Fall of Cedar Falls, vice president; Miss Mary Kasson of Des Moines, secretary and treasurer; and Olynthus B. Clark of Drake University, chairman of the executive committee.

At least fifteen scientific and learned associations held their annual meetings at Washington, D. C., during the holidays. Of greatest prominence was the second Pan-American Scientific Congress, covering a much wider field than its name indicates, and the sessions of which extended from December 27 to January 8. A large number of delegates were in attendance from South and Central America, as well as from all parts of North America. The Nineteenth International Congress of the Americanists also attracted delegates from many countries. Among the other organizations meeting at the same time and place doubtless the American Historical Association was the most largely attended. The American Economic Association, the American Political Science Association, the American Sociological Society, and the associations devoted to anthropology, archaeology, and folk-lore also drew unusually large numbers of persons especially interested in these various fields.

#### THE ADMISSION OF GEORGE W. JONES TO THE BAR

Readers of the biography of Senator George Wallace Jones, which was published four years ago by The State Historical Society of Iowa, will be interested in the following additional information furnished by Hon. G. S. Robinson of Spirit Lake, former Justice of the Supreme Court of Iowa, in a letter to the Superintendent of the Society:

"I have just read with much interest Parish's *George Wallace Jones*. Although perhaps too late and not very important, I venture to call attention to a mooted question the answer to which is within my personal knowledge.

"On page 7 it is said that he 'seems never to have been admitted to the bar.' He was admitted to practice in the supreme court of this state during or about the year 1892 on motion. I do not know now what the preliminary proof of qualifications was but as he was



not examined as for original admission there must have been proof of a prior admission. The proof submitted and the date of his admission can be found among the supreme court records at Des Moines.

“It is the practice, when a person or class is presented for admission for the chief justice to administer the oath while he and the associate judges are sitting. The only exception to that practice which I ever knew occurred on the admission of Senator Jones. All the members of the court stood while the oath was administered.”

GRENVILLE M. DODGE

Grenville Mellen Dodge, one of Iowa's best known citizens, died at his home in Council Bluffs on January 3, 1916. As civil engineer, railroad-builder, soldier, and public-spirited citizen, for more than sixty years his life was closely identified with the development and prosperity of Iowa and the West.

Mr. Dodge was born at Danvers, Massachusetts, on April 12, 1831; and his early education was received at Dunham Academy, Norwich University, and Partridge's Military Academy. At the age of twenty he came west, remaining for a time in Illinois; and then in 1853 he made his first visit to Kaneshville (now Council Bluffs) and the Missouri River region, where he was to live for more than half a century. It was not long after this that he was chosen to lead the party of surveyors sent out to find the most feasible route for the proposed trans-continental railway. In this capacity he penetrated a region almost unknown, going as far as the Rocky Mountains and acquiring a valuable store of information concerning the country and the Indian tribes.

The outbreak of the Civil War interrupted this work, and Mr. Dodge immediately offered his services to Governor Kirkwood. Entering the war as a colonel he rose rapidly in rank, finally attaining the position of major-general in command of an entire army corps. He was one of the commanders most trusted by Grant and Sherman. At the close of the war he rendered effective service in Indian campaigns in the West.

Turning then from military life to the work which throughout his



career he always considered his greatest achievement, he once more took up his interrupted engineering operations. Now, however, he was in charge of the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad across the plains, succeeding another Iowa man, Mr. Peter A. Dey, in this capacity. Overcoming great obstacles the road was finally completed in May, 1869.

General Dodge also helped to build and to manage many other railroads west of the Mississippi River. From 1867 to 1869 he represented the Fifth Congressional District of Iowa in Congress. Honored and respected by the people of Council Bluffs and Iowa, his name was well known throughout the Nation, and his advice and counsel were often sought by the President of the United States and by those in authority in other lands.



## CONTRIBUTORS

RUTH AUGUSTA GALLAHER, Research Librarian in the Library of The State Historical Society of Iowa. Born in Illinois in 1882. Graduated from the State University of Iowa in 1908. History teacher in the Independence High School, 1908-1910. Principal of the High School at Shoshone, Idaho, 1910-1913. Assistant in the department of history of the State University of Iowa, 1913-1914.

JOHN ELY BRIGGS, Research Assistant in The State Historical Society of Iowa. (See THE IOWA JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND POLITICS for July, 1915, p. 471.)

JACOB VAN DER ZEE, Assistant Professor of Political Science in the State University of Iowa. (See THE IOWA JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND POLITICS for January, 1912, p. 142.)



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