

NOTES AND COMMENT

A portrait of former Judge W. H. Tedford was recently presented to the District Court of Wayne County and will hang in the court room where he presided for so many years. Judge Tedford died in 1917.

The early history of Ames was the topic at a meeting of the Daughters of the American Revolution on February 22, 1921.

The buildings and grounds of old Fort Atkinson in northern Iowa will be preserved in a State park if the arrangements now in progress are carried out. Fort Atkinson was established in 1840.

The *Des Moines Capital* is making a search for the most famous tree in Iowa in order that its record may be preserved in the hall of fame — for trees — established by the American Forestry Association.

A portrait of Mrs. Cyrus C. Carpenter, the wife of the late Governor Carpenter, has been presented to the State Historical Department at Des Moines and will be hung in the Historical Building beside that of the Governor.

A meeting of the pioneers of Lyon County, to be held at Rock Rapids in June, has been suggested by George Moonlux in a letter to a local paper, with the idea of organizing a Lyon County pioneers association.

An historical pageant of Henry County will be one of the features of the county fair at Mount Pleasant on August 17, 1921.

The twenty-second annual conference of the Daughters of the American Revolution was held at Grinnell March 23 and 24, 1921. Plans were made to mark the camping place of Lewis and Clark at Blue Lake near Onawa, Iowa.

Charles R. Hall, a painter of Council Bluffs, is planning a painting of Council Bluffs as Lincoln saw it in 1859.

The Yale University Press has discontinued the publication of *Writings on American History* and this bibliography will hereafter be printed in the annual reports of the American Historical Association as it was in 1909, 1910, and 1911.

The eighteenth biennial session of the Iowa Pioneer Lawmakers' Association was held at Des Moines on March 16, 1921. Among those present was J. H. Peters, the only surviving member of the constitutional convention of 1857. Former Governor Warren Garst was chosen chairman for the next two years, Major Fleming was reappointed secretary, and Ruth Dennis was continued as honorary assistant secretary. All persons who were members of the legislature prior to 1911 are eligible to membership in this association.

An additional appropriation of \$15,000 was voted by the Thirty-ninth General Assembly for the completion of the war roster which was authorized by the preceding legislature. The Governor and the Adjutant General are the members of the commission and the work is in charge of the Adjutant General.

A pageant representing the history of Boone County will be given in June if the present plans mature. The undertaking is financed by the American Legion Post and the Thurston Management, Incorporated, of Minneapolis will have charge.

The Department of Historical Research in the Carnegie Institution of Washington is collecting the material for an edition, in several volumes, of the correspondence of Andrew Jackson, to be edited by Professor John Spencer Bassett of Smith College, who has written a biography of Andrew Jackson. All persons who possess letters of General Jackson or important letters to him, or who know where there are collections of his correspondence or even single letters, are requested to communicate with Dr. J. F. Jameson, the Director of the Department of Historical Research at 1140 Woodward Building, Washington, D. C.

Three laws concerning State and local historical activities were enacted by the recent session of the Indiana legislature. One pro-

vides that county commissioners in each county where there is an historical society may appropriate a maximum of \$1500 a year for the payment of a curator and other expenses incurred for the purpose of collecting and preserving historical materials. A second act authorizes county commissioners to appropriate the sum of \$1000 for the printing of county war histories. Each public library and each American Legion post in the county is to receive a copy free, all other copies are to be sold at cost. It is expected that every county in Indiana will publish a county war history. A third act authorizes the State Historical Commission to present one copy of the State Gold Star Volume to the family or next of kin of each of the 3,353 soldiers and 15 nurses, whose records appear in this memorial volume.

MRS. ABBIE GARDNER SHARP

No other incident in Iowa history possesses the tragic interest of the Spirit Lake Massacre in March, 1857, and the story of the woman who for many years survived the experiences of those days of massacre and servitude is unique in the annals of the State. Abbie Gardner was born in the State of New York in 1843 and came to Iowa in 1856 with her parents who were among the earliest settlers on the shores of Lake Okoboji. At the time of the massacre Abbie was one of the four women who were taken prisoner by the Indians after being compelled to witness the murder and mutilation of their relatives and friends. The experiences of the captives during the days of captivity have been told by Mrs. Sharp in her *History of the Spirit Lake Massacre and Captivity of Miss Abbie Gardner*. Two of the captives were later murdered by the Indians but one of the older women and the fourteen year old girl were finally purchased by friendly Indians and turned over to their friends. Soon after her release Abbie Gardner married Casville Sharp. In 1891, she returned to the region of the lakes and purchased the lot on which stood the cabin in which her family had been massacred and from which she had been dragged as a captive. Here she made her home until her death which occurred January 21, 1921.

CONTRIBUTORS

MARCUS LEE HANSEN, Research Associate in The State Historical Society of Iowa. Born at Neenah, Wisconsin, December 8, 1892. Received the degree of B. A. from the State University of Iowa, 1916, and the degree of M. A. from the same institution in 1917. Author of *Old Fort Snelling, Welfare Campaigns in Iowa*, and several magazine articles.

LOUIS BERNARD SCHMIDT, Professor of History in the Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts. (See THE IOWA JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND POLITICS for October, 1912, p. 593.)

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