

NOTES AND COMMENT

The old settlers' picnic of Hancock County was held at Maben's grove, near Forest City, on June 29, 1921. The chief address was delivered by Glenn C. Haynes, the State Auditor.

A pageant depicting the history of Storm Lake was presented at a point near that place on May 25, 1921. Grace Russell planned the episodes.

A National Park Conference was held at Des Moines on January 10-12, 1921. Representatives from many States were present.

The annual meeting of the Iowa Conservation Association was held at Ames, January 7 and 8, 1921, President H. S. Conard presiding.

Ralph E. Twitchell has been appointed a special attorney of the Bureau of Mines of the Department of the Interior. In connection with this work he will write a history of the Puebla Indians and a treatise on Indian land titles in New Mexico.

Publius V. Lawson, vice president of the Wisconsin Archeological Society, died at Menasha, Wisconsin, on December 1, 1920. He was born at Corning, New York, on November 1, 1853, and came to Wisconsin in 1855. Mr. Lawson was the author of a number of papers and monographs on archeology, particularly in Wisconsin.

Survivors of the battles of Shiloh and Appomattox Court House held a meeting at Washington in commemoration of these events on April 7, 1921. Short talks were given by Elliott Grayson, representing the American Legion; Mrs. Sadie Hollinger, of the Women's Relief Corps and the Woman's Auxiliary of the American Legion; S. K. Coats, of the Grand Army of the Republic; and Smith Brookhart, for the Spanish-American War veterans.

A meeting was held at Calmar in April, 1921, for the purpose of organizing an association to preserve and improve the "Old Mili-

tary Trail" which ran from Fort Crawford, at Prairie du Chien, to Fort Atkinson. The "Old Military Trail Association" was the name chosen for the organization and the following officers were selected: Geo. A. Beeber of Fort Atkinson, president; T. H. Goheen of Calmar, vice president; T. F. Schmitz of Ossian, secretary; and Eugene Malloy of Castalia, treasurer. The site of old Fort Atkinson is one of the chief points of historical interest along the trail.

MRS. JANE KIRKWOOD

Jane Clark, who as Mrs. Samuel J. Kirkwood was known and loved in Iowa for more than sixty years, was born in Richland County, Ohio, on September 1, 1821. After teaching school for a short time she became the wife of one of the young lawyers at Mansfield, on December 27, 1843. In 1855, Mr. and Mrs. Kirkwood came to Iowa, where Mr. Kirkwood became a miller and farmer at Coralville near Iowa City. When the will of the people of Iowa called Mr. Kirkwood from his business to the chief place of responsibility in the State during the Civil War, Mrs. Kirkwood accepted the responsibilities placed upon her and extended her sympathy and care from her family to the soldiers and their families.

Later when Governor Kirkwood became Senator and then Secretary of the Interior, Mrs. Kirkwood devoted herself to making a home at Washington just as she had at Mansfield and Iowa City. Indeed one of Mrs. Kirkwood's most attractive characteristics was this devotion to her home. Without children of her own she gave largely of affection and care to the young people of her family and the community.

Her interests, however, extended far beyond the immediate circle of her home, and she watched with keen interest the progress of national affairs. It is indicative of the length of her life and of the brief history of Iowa as a Commonwealth, that the five wars which have directly concerned Iowa as a settled community occurred during the span of her life. As a young girl of eleven she must have listened to stories of the Black Hawk War which opened Iowa to white settlers; as the wife of the Governor of the State, she was in close contact with the Civil War; and she was still knitting for

the soldiers of the World War. Between these came the Mexican War and the Spanish-American War.

Although Mrs. Kirkwood had no ambition for public life except for her husband, she was an early believer in equal suffrage and in November, 1920, she went to the polls to cast her first vote.

Her many friends hoped that she might at least round out the century but she died on April 28, 1921, at Iowa City where she had lived quietly since the death of Mr. Kirkwood on September 1, 1894.

CONTRIBUTORS

CLARENCE RAY AURNER (see *THE IOWA JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND POLITICS* for April, 1919, p. 296).

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.)

JOHN ELY BRIGGS, Assistant Professor of Political Science in the State University of Iowa. Author of *William Peters Hepburn*. (See also *THE IOWA JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND POLITICS* for July, 1915, p. 471.)

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