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## PUBLIC ARCHIVES DIVISION

## By C. C. STILES Superintendent of Public Archives

In the present article is set out the classification as to the office of Adjutant General. This department dates from January 4, 1839, the date that the law was passed. The office is appointive, the appointment being made by the governor.

The material in this department is of great historical value from the fact that a great mass of this material consists of documents and records relating to the Civil and Spanish-American wars. It is also rich in historical matter pertaining to the early history of the State Militia and afterward the National Guard, the troubles with the Indians, Northern and Southern Border brigades, riots, disloyal sentiment during the Civil War period, etc., etc.

Until it was removed to the Public Archives Division from an old building in East Des Moines, which was used as a temporary arsenal, a large amount of material relating to the Civil War was not available for use by historians or the general public.

This department was very difficult of classification owing to the fact that a great many of the records and documents relating to the Civil War were retained in the department, and from the further fact that the blank forms used by the federal and state governments would vary in form and change so often that it made it difficult to follow them, the use of different forms for the same purpose and the use of combination forms which would include the same data that had been used in the single forms.

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-From The Iowa Citizen, Des Moines, February 4, 1858. (In the newspaper collection of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.)

## POST OFFICE

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