

History of Johnson County, Iowa (pt. 3)

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ISSN 0003-4827

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Recommended Citation

The Annals of Iowa, 6(3) (Jul. 1868): 191-215

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paratively high state of cultivation, dotted over with large fields and cottages, churches and school-houses; with here and there a village, and some few *cities*, each enjoying "a local habitation and a name," commercial advantages, and a prosperous trade. We have seen year after year our county increase in population and wealth, and those shining substantial virtues that dictate respect for law and order and good government. Connected with all of the foregoing subjects that we have hastily passed over, there are many incidents that have fallen under our observation that may engage some of our leisure hours in the future. If so, the public shall have the benefit of them.

For the present, "we rest."

HISTORY OF JOHNSON COUNTY, IOWA.

BY CAPT. F. M. IRISH, IOWA CITY.

(Continued.)

To the Editor of The Annals:

DEAR SIR: Mr. Walker will hand you my article for the July number. I fear it will not be found as interesting to the readers of THE ANNALS as I could have wished; so much of it being taken up with dates and facts connected with dry history. I indulge a hope that the next number, being the last, will possess more interest.

Respectfully yours,

F. M. IRISH.

ROSE HILL, June 23d, 1868.

July 4th, 1841, was celebrated by the citizens of this county by the following appropriate proceedings. The Mechanics' Association formed in procession, carrying their banner of "Mutual Aid," each member wearing the appropriate badge of the association. The procession presented a splendid appearance. Next came a large company of ladies dressed in white. These were followed by a large number of citizens.

This procession marched through the principle streets to Capitol Square. John Hawkins, Esq., presided over the meeting, Charles S. Foster read the Declaration of Independence, and Horace Smith, Esq., delivered the oration of the day, which was listened to with deep and marked interest. At 3 o'clock, the audience numbering about three hundred sat down to a sumptuous dinner prepared by Jonathan Lawrence,

Esq., the tables being arranged under the broad spreading oaks adjoining the Square.

After the removal of the cloth the usual number of toasts were given, and received in the true spirit of freemen.

During the last session of our Territorial Legislature, that body by joint resolution, agreed, on their adjournment, to hold their next session at Iowa City, provided that the citizens of Johnson county would provide a building suitable for the accommodation of the Legislature, said building to be prepared free of any expense to the Territory.

It was thought by many that our citizens would be unable to erect a suitable building, but these doubts were removed by a proposition from Walter Butler, Esq., who agreed to erect the building if a certain number of citizens would obligate themselves to pay him the difference between the cost of the building and the price it would command when no longer required for the use of the Legislature.

This was done, and the building erected, but from some cause the pledges were never fulfilled, and Mr. Butler sustained a most ruinous loss by the operation.

There was no man to whom our citizens were so much indebted for energy and public spirit at this particular time as Mr. Butler, and it is to be regretted that his labors in this direction met with such reward.

MILLS AND MACHINERY.

Near the close of the year 1841, David and Joshua Switzer erected a grist mill on Clear Creek, upon the site now occupied by the Woolen Factory of Mr. Stickler. In this mill was ground the first flour and meal ever manufactured in Johnson county, and the people for a great distance around realized the benefit of it. But this mill was not able long to supply the demands of the rapidly increasing population, and steps were taken to improve and make use of the water power of the Iowa River. Walter Terrill commenced and completed the erection of his mill-dam in the autumn of 1843. This dam is situated one-half mile above the city. Mr. Terrill completed the erection of his mill in 1844, and put two run

of stone in operation. In 1845 he attached to the mill a carding machine, which was a great convenience to the community. This mill-site, with a five foot dam, affords power sufficient to drive ten run of stone and have a surplus for other machinery. The present proprietor, Mr. Samm, is now preparing to use and improve the whole of this power.

On the 19th of May, 1843, the Iowa City Manufacturing Company was organized, by electing Chauncey Swan president, Silas Foster secretary, and Augustus E. McArthur treasurer. A. J. Willis, Ferdinand Harbestroh and Thomas Snyder were chosen a board of directors, with a capital stock subscribed of \$5,000, in shares of \$25 each. This company commenced the erection of a dam upon one of the best mill-sites upon the Iowa River, two miles and a half above the city, upon the property owned by Walter Butler. The bed of the river at this point is of solid rock, with a handsome fall below. In the month of June, 1843, A. B. Newcomb, as superintendent of the work, commenced getting out timber for the dam, and notwithstanding the many obstacles and unforeseen difficulties which had to be encountered, this great and important work was so far completed by January, 1844, as to enable the company to put a small grist-mill into operation. A sore misfortune lay in store for these enterprising citizens, for in the spring of 1844 a rapid rise of the river brought down large fields of heavy ice, and the dam being in an unfinished state, a considerable portion of it was carried away. This disaster was felt most severely by the company, their funds being exhausted, and the financial condition of the country, at this time, being such as to render it very difficult for them to replenish their treasury. All these difficulties were at length overcome, the breach repaired, and a substantial dam, ten feet in height, was completed. This was the finest structure of the kind west of the Mississippi, and affords one of the finest water powers in the State, the hydraulic force in an ordinary stage of water, with the ten foot dam, being equal to a seven hundred and eighty horse power. This property, after passing from the hands of the Iowa City

Manufacturing Co. into the hands of different persons not having the means to suitably improve it, was purchased by Ezekiel Clarke in 1848, and a large flouring-mill erected and put into active operation in 1850. This mill was driven day and night, and furnished the greater portion of the flour for the inhabitants of the northwestern part of our State. It was no unusual sight to see fifty and sixty wagons ranged at this mill at one time, some of them from as far north-west as Woodbury county, from all the intermediate settlements, and from southern Minnesota. This fine water power is now owned by M. T. Close and Bro., who have erected a paper-mill and furnished the power for driving the machinery for a large woolen factory.

The mills now in operation in this vicinity for the manufacture of breadstuffs are as follows: Mill of M. T. Close, four run of stone; mill of Mr. Samm, three run of stone. The above comprise all those driven by water power.

In Iowa City there are four steam flouring mills in active operation, viz: The "Brick Mill," McConnell & Rogers, proprietors; four run of stone, four foot burrs. Amount of wheat ground in 1867, 33,343 bush.; Rye, 2,000 bush.; Corn, 6,000 bush.; Corn shelled and shipped, 1,357 bush.; Wheat shipped, 1,100 bush.; bbls. Flour shipped, 2,252. Steam engine 60 horse power. From the above statement an estimate can be made of the amount of breadstuffs annually manufactured by the remaining five mills. The "Stone Mill," Hursh & Brisson, proprietors, three run of stone; mill owned by Gilbert and Clark, three run of stone; and the one under the proprietorship of Mr. Cup, two run of stone.

Much other machinery in Iowa City and vicinity is put into operation by steam power. Most prominent among the manufacturing interests is the oil factory of M. T. Close, used for the manufacture of linseed and lard oils. This establishment commenced operations in 1861. Below we give a statement of the amount of flax-seed worked during the several years since that time: Seed worked in 1861, 5,700 bush.; in 1862, 12,500 bush.; in 1863, 21,200 bush.; in 1864, 35,500

bush.; in 1865, 37,750 bush.; in 1866, 40,260 bush.; in 1867, 61,000 bush. Lard oil manufactured from 1861 to 1867, 1,525 bbls. Building on Gilbert Street. Dimensions, 76x90 feet, two stories and basement. Driven by engine of 30 horse power. Capacity of mill, 550 gallons of linseed and 250 gallons of lard oil per day.

“Home Manufacturing Company” at Coralville. Capital, \$60,000. Mill erected in 1866-7. Dimensions, 52x143 feet. Intended for three sets of machinery, and having two in active operation, with a capacity of 10,000 yards of cloth per month. Manufacture cassimeres, flannels, jeans, blankets, yarns, &c. Now under the direction of Humphrey Taylor, superintendent; T. Sanxay, president; D. F. Wells, vice president; L. B. Patterson, treasurer; L. Robinson, secretary.

“Stickler’s Woolen Mill,” on Clear Creek. This mill is adapted expressly for custom work, manufacturing the farmer’s wool into substantial fabrics suited to the requirements of the community.

To get back to the “early days.” The autumn of 1841 found the new capitol progressing slowly, the acting commissioner still persisting in working the stone quarries within the city limits. These were of a very inferior quality, as may be seen by an examination of the first story of the University building. The tide of immigration now set very strongly into Johnson County, as will be seen from the returns of an election held August 13th of this year. The candidates for delegate to Congress were A. C. Dodge, Democrat, and Alfred Rich, Whig. In the three voting precincts of this county the canvas showed the following result:

	RICH.	DODGE.
Iowa City.....	143	167
Solon.....	36	37
Clear Creek.....	19	21
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	198	225
		<hr/>
		198
		<hr/>
Total number of votes		423
Dodge’s majority		27

Thus it will be seen that there were nearly as many voters in 1841 as there were inhabitants in 1839.

The building for the use of the Legislature being completed by Mr. Butler according to agreement, on the 1st of November Gov. Chambers ordered the furniture used by the Legislature in Burlington to be removed to Iowa City. This was done, wagons being used for the transportation of the effects, under the supervision of Mr. Secretary Stull; and the house being thus fitted up, the Territorial Legislature convened here on the 6th day of December, 1841. The Council was composed of the following named gentlemen: From the counties of Dubuque and Jackson, M. Bainbridge and J. S. Kirkpatrick; from Scott and Clinton, J. W. Parker; from Cedar and Linn, George Greene; from Muscatine and Johnson, S. C. Hastings; from Louisa and Washington, Francis Springer; from Lee, J. B. Browne and Ed. Johnston; from Henry, W. W. Wallace; from Jefferson, W. G. Coop; from Van Buren, G. S. Bailey; from Des Moines, Shepard Leffler.

The House of Representatives was composed of the following members: From Lee county, William Patterson, E. S. McCulloch, H. J. Campbell; from Van Buren, Jno. M. Whitaker, Uriah Biggs, Oliver Weld; from Des Moines, Alfred Hebard, Isaac Leffler, David E. Blair, George Hepner, James M. Morgan; from Henry, Asbury B. Porter, Paton Wilson, Simeon Smead; from Jefferson, Richard Quinton; from Louisa, William L. Toole; from Washington, Thomas Baker; from Johnson, Henry Felkner; from Cedar, Jones and Linn, Samuel P. Higginson, Thos. Denson; from Scott and Clinton, J. M. Robertson and James Grant; from Jackson, James K. Morse; from Dubuque, Delaware and Clayton, Warner Lewis, C. H. Booth.

The Council was organized by electing J. W. Parker, President; J. W. Wood, Secretary; E. J. Darker, Assistant Secretary; Geo. S. Hampton, Transcribing Clerk; G. W. Harris, Assistant; Samuel Parker, Sergeant-at-Arms; Orrin Dodd, Door-Keeper; Miles Driscoll, Messenger; Daniel Chase, Fireman.

The House of Representatives was organized by electing Warner Lewis, of Dubuque, Speaker; Joseph F. Fales, Chief

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Clerk; Lemuel Parkhurst, Assistant; S. B. Gardener, Recording Clerk; W. A. Thurston, Engrossing Clerk; Benjamin Tucker, Enrolling Clerk; Amos C. Price, Sergeant-at-Arms; John B. Williams, Door-Keeper; H. L. Jeannin, Assistant Door-Keeper; T. B. Brown, Messenger; B. W. Gellock, Assistant Messenger; William Abbey, Fireman.

Thus was constituted and organized the first Territorial Legislature that met in Iowa City, Johnson county. A body of men that for general business qualifications and legislative ability, will not suffer by comparison with any similar body that has since met in the Territory or State.

Among other acts passed by this Legislature, in which Johnson County was interested, was one abolishing the office of Acting Commissioner, and appointing the Hon. John M. Coleman, Superintendent of Public Buildings and the Territorial property in Iowa City. This proved to be a most judicious change; for Judge Coleman determined, if possible, to find a better material for the construction of the Capitol buildings, and in this he was successful beyond his most sanguine hopes. He found a quarry of most excellent rock about twelve miles north of the city, and immediately bordering upon the river. In this quarry men were immediately set to work, getting out the rock. Boats were built for the transportation of the stone thus obtained. These were manned, and with setting poles pushed up the river to the quarry, there loaded, and brought to the city; and thus was furnished the splendid granite of which the upper story of the Capitol building was built; and this excellent material was furnished on the ground at one-half the cost of the inferior stone of which the lower part of the building is constructed.

Judge Coleman proceeded to sell all the lots in the city that were in demand, and to collect the debts due the Territory on lots previously sold. Thus he was enabled to complete the walls and enclose the building at a much earlier period than was anticipated.

Judge Coleman, though advanced in years, possessed energy and business qualifications rarely to be met with in

men even in the prime of life. He has gone to his final rest leaving behind him a name and reputation of which his descendants may feel a just pride.

We find in the Iowa City *Standard* of January 15, 1842, the following editorial:

"In to-day's paper will be found the proceedings of the 'Mechanics' Mutual Aid Association,' occurring on the 6th instant, that being their anniversary, and which were unavoidably crowded out of our last.

"One year ago from that date was made the first step towards forming a society of this kind, when but seven mechanics were present. Now the members belonging to this society number sixty. This is certainly a rapid increase considering the age of Iowa City, when thirty months since or thereabouts the first mechanic made his appearance, whose object was to build a city where was then a wilderness, but now a place of luxury and elegance. Such is the march of improvement in Iowa City."

The first anniversary dinner of the Mechanics' Mutual Aid Association of Iowa City took place Jan 5th, 1842. The Association formed in procession at the door of their hall at one o'clock P. M., and, after marching through the principle streets of the city, preceded by a band of music, retired to the National Hotel, where they were gratified by listening to a very pertinent address from the President, Mr. James A. Ball. At half past one o'clock they sat down to a dinner prepared in the usual good style of "mine host" of the National, during which the company were enlivened by several patriotic and national airs from the band. After the removal of the cloth, the "Star Spangled Banner" was sung by the Society in a style that would have done honor to Henry Russell. The Society was then addressed by several of the members in a manner at once peculiarly appropriate and happy. The following toasts were then drank amid the hilarity that should ever characterize such occasions:

TOASTS.

By C. C. Sangster—The Mechanic Art—perpetuator of civilization and of the monumental greatness of departed nations.

By A. G. Adams.—The M. M. A. A.—May it be composed of such members that in the hour of adversity they may ever keep in mind the object for which it was formed, and always remember the motto “United we stand; divided we fall.”

By L. S. Swafford—The M. M. A. A.—as an incorporated body, may it ere long be known as one of the most flourishing literary institutions of Iowa.

By A. Rowan—The bachelors of this Association—may the friends they trust prove honest, and the girls they love prove true.

By C. C. Sangster—The mechanic arts and education—inseparable in their tendencies and alike beneficial to mankind.

By E. Laming—The M. M. A. A.—may it continue to rise till it becomes one of the brightest stars of Iowa.

By L. S. Swafford—May our Society rise and grow with this young, beautiful and thriving Territory.

By G. S. Robbins—The mechanics’ daughters of Iowa—may they have good husbands and happy firesides.

By S. Baker—The M. M. A. A.—Success to her efforts; freedom and science to her sons.

By C. C. Sangster.—The M. M. A. A. of Iowa City—may its advancement be as glorious as its object is beneficial.

By W. T. Doty.—The bachelors of the Association—may God forgive them for their sin of omission.

By F. Kimball.—Our Society—may it improve in kindness and science as fast as it increases in numbers.

By G. C. Robbins.—Our Society—may it be the grand lever of moral and virtuous society in Iowa.

By A. H. Haskell.—May our members in the Legislature live in the hearts of their constituents as with this Association.

By L. S. Swafford.—This day being the first anniversary of this Society, and having gone through many trials during the past year, may it from this time henceforth move on smoothly and without confusion or hard feelings among its members.

By A. H. Haskell.—To the M. M. A. A. of Iowa City—may the sons of her members never be under the necessity of asking their friends to sign a note for them.

By John L. Spencer—The Ladies—mechanics of the highest order. The minds of immortal beings are the materials on which they exercise their skill—may they always feel the responsibility of their situations.

By Wm. Crum.—May the Society keep in mind Benjamin Franklin, the American philosopher, who was raised from a poor printer's boy to the highest pinnacle of fame; and Roger Sherman, who "never said a foolish thing," and who was taken from the shoe-maker's bench into his country's service, beloved and admired by all, with a host of other self-taught men, and the makers of their own fortunes."

As this Association was the first to establish an institution for the education of youth in this county, we shall have occasion to speak of it again.

About this time there appeared in the *Cincinnati Gazette* the following rather flattering notice :

✓ "IOWA CITY.—Three years ago, on the section of land embracing this city, there stood but a solitary unfinished log-cabin. Now there is a State House nearly two-thirds completed at an expense of \$50,000, a number of fine brick edifices, a great many houses and stores of every description, and nearly one thousand inhabitants. This is cited as the most rapid increase ever known in this country."

As to the "stores of every description," there may be a little exaggeration. The other portions of the article were literally true. As to the unfinished log-cabin, we have a distinct recollection of putting a roof thereon, and by certain additions and extensions converting it into the celebrated mansion known in those days as "Lean-Back Hall," where many a weary traveler, upon prairie feathers, found sweet repose. Those were the happy days when we wore buckskin breeches, and drove our carriage and four—yoke of oxen. When Col. S. C. Trowbridge was "High Sheriff of Johnson County," and when but few of us poor fellows could boast of having "lots of cash."

Returning to the thread of our narrative, we quote from the *Iowa Standard* of June 18, 1842 :

“LAYING OF THE CORNER-STONE.—In accordance with previous notice, on Tuesday last was performed the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of the Academy building now being erected by the M. M. A. A. This ceremony was witnessed by a large number of our citizens. The performance was commenced by music from the choir, followed by a prayer from the Rev. Mr. Hummer. The Secretary then read the charter of the Association, and other documents to be deposited in the stone. This being done, the ceremony of laying the stone was gone through with, when an appropriate address was delivered by Mr. Libby. The services of the occasion were then closed by music and a benediction. Altogether the affair went off delightfully. The day was beautiful, and nothing occurred to mar the harmony of the arrangements.”

This Association received a charter from the Territorial Legislature, January 4, 1841, and a donation of the west half of block 60, on which they were to erect a building; said building to be devoted exclusively to the purposes of education.

At the general election held in August, 1842, the question of calling a Convention to frame a State Constitution was submitted to a vote of the people, and was by them rejected by a majority of 2,696.

NEWSPAPERS OF THE COUNTY.

The Iowa *Standard*, William Crum, Esq., editor and proprietor. The first number was published at Iowa City, Thursday, June 10, 1841. This paper was the organ of the Whig party, whose principles it ably defended. It subsequently passed into the hands of Dr. S. M. Ballard, who changed its name to that of the Iowa City *Republican*. This paper, after passing through the hands of different proprietors, is at this time owned and published by N. H. Brainerd, Esq.

The Iowa *Argus*. The publication of this paper was commenced in 1841, by Dr. Jackson, then late of Northern Indiana. The Doctor's political ideas were of that peculiar character not calculated to render his paper a favorite of either party, which caused it to have but a brief existence. Shortly after its death the Doctor returned to Indiana, deeply regretted but by very few of his acquaintances.

The *Iowa Capitol Reporter*. The first number of this paper was published in this city, December 4, 1841, Van Antwerp and Hughes editors and proprietors; its politics Democratic, and under the control of different proprietors it for many years sustained the principles of the Democratic party. At length it fell into the hands of those whose politics bore a different complexion. This change brought on a hasty dissolution, and the old *Reporter* passed away unwept and unsung.

The *Iowa State Press*. The first number of this paper was issued August 15, 1860. It took the place of the *Reporter*, and under the control of different publishers it has advocated the principles of the Democratic party in an able and efficient manner. John P. Irish is now its editor and proprietor.

EDUCATION.

In 1840 Jesse Berry erected a small frame building in Iowa City, on College street, between Clinton and Capitol streets. This building is still standing on the property of Mrs. Berry. Here Mr. Berry opened a school, the first one kept in this county, of which we have any record. Some time after this, Mr. Choate opened a school in a building belonging to Joseph Coe, Esq., north of Capitol Square. On the 4th of June, 1842, the Mechanics' Academy was opened for the reception of students, by William and Hugh Hamilton, two young gentlemen, graduates of Gambier College, possessing great ability as teachers, and having thorough classical educations. This rendered the institution very popular, and soon filled the different apartments with students. The institution flourished for two years, under the management of these gentlemen, when an unforeseen event brought disaster and ruin upon the enterprise.

The Methodist Episcopal Church thought it advisable to found a College in this city, to be under the control of that denomination. They accordingly organized and opened a school in the basement of their church. They petitioned the Legislature for, and obtained, the donation of an entire block of ground upon which to erect their College. This donation

was made on condition that the Society should erect a building upon the same, the building to be of a specified value, and to be completed within a limited time.

About the same period, the Protestant Methodist Church, not wishing to be outdone in the great work of education, organized an institution under the name of the Sneething Seminary. They also petitioned the Legislature, and obtained a grant of an entire block of ground upon the same conditions attaching to the grant to the M. E. Church. A Professor from the East was employed, and the Sneething Seminary went into operation in the basement of the Protestant Methodist Church.

The results of the movement above described were exactly what might have been foreseen. Sufficient patronage could not be found in the community to sustain the three institutions. The two last named struggled along for a time, with a limited patronage, and being unable to erect their buildings, the land reverted back to the Territory; and after maintaining a sickly existence for a time, both institutions expired, after having nearly broken up the Mechanics' Academy by drawing from it a portion of its patronage, thereby placing it under embarrassments from which it never fully recovered. This result was much regretted by the citizens generally, and many attributed it to a misdirected spirit of rivalry. At all events, it gave the system of education so early and prosperously inaugurated here, a shock from which it did not recover for the next six or seven years. In the mean time private schools were opened, one in the Academy by Dr. William Reynolds, who was the first Superintendent of Public Instruction elected in the Territory; and one in the basement of the Protestant Methodist Church, by Mr. Lathrop. These, with a few other small private schools, were in session only a portion of the year; the smaller scholars generally forgetting during the long vacation all they had learned in the short term. This state of things continued up to the time of the organization of the City Schools. What a contrast between the condition of educational matters now, and then! Now, we have four commodious buildings, one in each of the four

wards of the city, used for school purposes during nine months of each year, and when properly seated will accommodate nine hundred pupils. The number of those enrolled in 1865, was 621; in 1866, 651; in 1867, 672. The City Schools are at present under the direction of Mr. J. M. Williams, Principal of the High School. Johnson County has nineteen townships, and the following is a list of the schools in each, together with the number of pupils in attendance for the year 1867:

TOWNSHIPS.	NUMBER OF DISTRICTS.	NO. PUPILS IN ATTENDANCE.	TOWNSHIPS.	NUMBER OF DISTRICTS.	NO. PUPILS IN ATTENDANCE.
Big Grove	8	371	Newport	3	157
Cedar	9	388	Oxford	9	225
Clear Creek	5	227	Penn	4	209
Fremont	6	176	Pleasant Valley	7	251
Graham	9	280	Scott	5	165
Hardin	6	185	Sharon	5	222
Iowa City	12	282	Solon (indep't)	1	61
Jefferson	4	130	Union	4	149
Liberty	6	260	Washington	9	288
Madison	5	250			
Monroe	5	385	Total	121	5,374

The average cost of tuition per pupil is 20 cents per week. Amount paid teachers for the year 1867, \$21,892.25.

The State University was established at Iowa City by act of February 25, 1847, granting therefor the use of the Capitol buildings and grounds, and also donating for its support the two townships of land granted to the State by the General Government for University purposes by act of Congress, July 20, 1840. Under the Constitution of 1857, the University was permanently established at Iowa City. Practical steps for putting the Institution in operation were taken in 1854. Mr. Amos Dean, of Albany, N. Y., was elected President, July 16, and the University opened its first session in September, 1855. The Normal Department was in successful operation under the direction of D. Franklin Wells, Principal; Miss Lavina Davis, Assistant; Mrs. M. A. McGonegal, Preceptress in the Model School; P. J. Whipple, Instructor in Music; T. S. Parvin, Curator and Librarian. In 1857, the University Fund was estimated at \$172,276, derived from the

sale of University lands and the appraised value of lands unsold. From 1858 to 1860, the Institution remained in a state of inaction through lack of funds. Re-opening on the 13th of September of the latter year, with seven pupils, it has steadily increased in numbers, till at the close of the Collegiate year 1867-8, its membership reached 450. The following is a list of the Officers and Faculty of the Institution for the year 1869:

Officers of the Board.—Gov. Samuel Merrill, President; Wm. J. Haddock, Secretary; Wm. Crum, Treasurer.

Executive Committee.—Rev. James Black, D. D., President; Hon. John P. Irish, of Iowa City; Hon. R. M. Burnett, of Muscatine.

Board of Examiners for 1867-8.—Dr. S. Anderson, Davenport; Prest. Scarff, Pella; Prof. Wilson, Marshalltown.

Faculty.—Rev. James Black, D. D., President; Nathan R. Leonard, A. M., Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy; Theo. S. Parvin, A. M., Professor of Natural History; Gustavus Hinrichs, C. P., Professor of Natural Philosophy and Chemistry; Charles A. Eggert, A. M., Professor of Modern Languages and Literature; Amos N. Carrier, A. M., Professor of Latin and Greek Languages and Literature; Stephen N. Fellows, A. M., Professor of History and Political Economy.

Preparatory Department.—E. C. Ebersol, Principal; Miss Hale, Preceptress.

Assistant Teachers.—Miss Lavina Davis; Miss Ellen A. Moore, A. M.; Miss Celia Moore; Henry S. Perkins, B. M., Professor of Vocal Culture, Harmony, and Composition; A. T. Smith, Teacher of Pianoforte, Organ, and Singing.

The buildings devoted to the use of the University are spacious, capable of accommodating five hundred pupils. The location for the buildings and grounds is well chosen, upon an eminence overlooking the river, and from the cupola of the old Capitol commanding a view unsurpassed in beauty.

The Institution for the Instruction of the Blind was estab-

lished at Iowa City, the Seat of Government, by act of January 16, 1853.

Board of Trustees.—Robert Walker, of Johnson County, President; Geo. W. McCleary, of Johnson County, Secretary; Robert Hutchinson, of Johnson County, Treasurer. Samuel Bacon, Principal of the Institution.

Number of blind reported in the State in 1859, 190; number of pupils in the Institution, 36. From the report of Mr. S. Bacon, Superintendent, made to the Legislature in December, 1854, the following is taken:

“The course of instruction and division of time is as follows: The pupils rise at half-past 5 o'clock A. M., Geography from 6 to 7, breakfast and recess from 7 to 8, Arithmetic and Algebra from 8 to 9, recess ten minutes, one hour Grammar and Writing, ten minutes recess, one hour Instrumental Music and Reading Print; from 12½ to 2 P. M., dinner and recess; from 2 to 5 the pupils are engaged in some kind of work, the males in the manufacture of brooms, &c, the females in sewing, knitting and bead-work; supper and recess from 5 to 7, History from 7 to 8. The younger pupils retire at 9, the older ones at 10 P. M. In addition to the above course, the pupils receive instruction on the Piano, and Geometry is taught to a small class. The news of the day is read to the pupils from the various papers sent to the Institution, gratis. The pupils evince a great interest in their various pursuits, and feel grateful that there is a place provided for their education.”

For the support of this Institution the Legislature made an appropriation of \$3,000 per annum, to which was added a charge of \$25 as an admission fee for each pupil. This sum, together with the amount realized from the sale of articles manufactured by the pupils, such as brooms, brushes, &c, proved sufficient, under the judicious management of Mr. Bacon, to defray all the expenses of the Institution, and leave an annual surplus in the treasury, which amounted at the time of Mr. Bacon's removal to \$5,000. Mr. Bacon is blind, having lost his sight in the eighth year of his age. He was educated at the Institute for the Blind, at Columbus, Ohio. He organ-

ized and established the Blind Asylum at Jacksonville, Ill. Mr. B. is a ripe scholar, and as a mathematician is excelled by very few. In his removal from the Superintendency of the Institution, the public have sustained a great loss, and the pupils have been deprived of a most efficient manager and sincere friend.

By an act of the Legislature, the Institution was removed to Vinton, in Benton County, in the year 1862.

The Institution for the Deaf and Dumb was established at Iowa City by an act of the Legislature of Jan. 24, 1855. The number of deaf mutes then in the State was 301; number of pupils attending the Institution, 50. The first Board of Trustees was composed of the following named gentlemen: Hon. S. J. Kirkwood, Hon. E. Sells, W. Penn Clarke, J. P. Wood, H. D. Downey, Wm. Crum, and W. E. Ijams, Principal. On the resignation of Mr. Ijams in 1862, the Board appointed in his stead Mr. Benjamin Talbot, for nine years a teacher in the Ohio Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, who came well recommended as a suitable person to fill the position. He pledged to the Institution a hearty devotion to its interests, and the most earnest efforts to secure its advancement; and right well has he redeemed his pledge. The number of admissions to the Institution for the year 1862-3 was 63; for the year 1863-4, the number was 64. The following is a list of the Trustees and Officers for the year 1866-7:

Trustees.—Gov. Wm. M. Stone, *ex-officio*; Hon. Ed. Wright, Secretary of State, *ex-officio*; Hon. D. F. Wells, Superintendent of Public Instruction, *ex-officio*.

Officers.—N. H. Brainerd, President; B. Talbot, *ex-officio* Secretary; Thomas J. Cox, Treasurer; T. M. Banbury, M. B. Cochran, M. D.; Benjamin Talbot, A. M., Principal.

Assistant Teachers, &c.—Edwin Southwick, Ellen J. Israel, Conard S. Zorbaugh, Henry A. Turton, Mrs. Lou. J. Turton; Mrs. Mary B. Swan, Matron; Mrs. Mary M. Askens, Assistant Matron; T. S. Mahan, M. D., Physician.

The following extracts are taken from the report of the Principal of the Institution, for 1867-8:

“In accordance with the laws of the State, and with previous practice, the Seventh Biennial Report of the Iowa Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb, is respectfully submitted to the Legislature of the State. Since the date of the last report, the work of the Institution has been prosecuted with a good degree of success. The aim of all its officers has been to promote the real good and advance the highest interests of the pupils, and by the blessing of God their efforts have been unusually prospered, and reasonable progress has been made by all the classes in each department of instruction. It is pleasing to note the advancement made by our pupils from year to year, as well as the change which a few weeks make in those recently admitted. The most of them soon learn for what purpose they came; thought is awakened, and their minds are aroused to unwonted activity, which manifests itself in brightened looks and habits of inquiry. Thus stolid dullness often gives place in a few weeks or months to a bright activity, with a fair promise of good acquisitions and success in the pursuits of knowledge. The detailed financial statement annexed to this report, shows a considerable increase of expenditure, arising from the larger number of pupils and the high price of staple articles of food, together with some extraordinary expenditures which have been necessary for the health and convenience of our charge. We are able, however, to report a balance in hand somewhat larger than that with which we began the fiscal term in November, 1865. Herewith is appended a catalogue of the pupils in attendance for the current two years which are embraced in this report: Males, 60; females, 38; total, 98. I will here observe that not more than one-third of the counties in the State are represented in the school at any one time; while our State census this year shows sixty-six counties reporting deaf and dumb inhabitants, in number varying from one to eighteen in a county. Of course many of these are either too old or too young to be in school; but, as shown by the census, there is an apparent indifference or ignorance on the part of parents and friends of deaf mutes, as to the facilities furnished

by the State for their education. Those connected with the Institution would again urge that every friend of the unfortunate would use all reasonable dilligence to send these children to the school before they become too old to profit by its advantages. We appeal to the justice and generosity of the Legislature of Iowa, to deal fairly and liberally with this unfortunate class of her citizens, confident that our claim is just, and trusting that it will receive due attention and be followed by proper action. In this trust we go forward in the duties assigned us here, in humble reliance for success in our work, on the Giver of all wisdom and strength.

“BENJ. TALBOT, Principal.”

The State has been most fortunate in the selection of persons to have the management of this Institution. Mr. Talbot is remarkably well adapted to the position he now fills. He has proved himself an able financier, and at the same time a most competent manager of the educational department; while as a Matron, Mrs. Mary Swan has no superior. To this most excellent lady the inmates of the Institution are largely indebted for the many comforts and wise arrangements for their health and happiness. It has been said by some writer, that the construction of good roads formed the distinctive difference between a barbarous and a civilized people. But in no other thing is the difference shown so clearly as in the benevolent care extended to the unfortunate and afflicted members of civilized countries, through their government agents, and the total neglect displayed to these unfortunate beings by a barbarous nation; in many instances it being the custom to destroy these unfortunates in early life, which perhaps is not more inhuman than to allow them to live utterly neglected.

It has been ascertained since preparing the notices of State institutions located in Johnson County, that sketches upon the same subjects were published some time since in *THE ANNALS*; but as many of its present readers have not seen those articles, it is thought best not to change the arrangement of the present article. The readers of these pages will discover a want of regularity in the arrangement of dates and events. This

has been found to be unavoidable, particularly so in regard to certain subjects, such as "Mills and Machinery," "Education," and many other subjects. It has been found absolutely necessary, after having given their commencement, to bring their history up to the present time; and this has caused the confusion of dates, which it is to be hoped the reader will excuse.

STATE GOVERNMENT—ADMISSION INTO THE UNION.

At an extra session of the Territorial Legislature, held in July, 1840, an act was passed providing for a popular expression as to taking preparatory steps for admission into the Union. At the October election of the same year, a vote was taken, resulting in the rejection of the proposition for a Convention, by a large majority.

At the session of 1841-2, a similar act was passed, and a similar vote returned by the people at the August election of 1842. Another act of the same nature was passed and approved, February 12, 1844, submitting the question at the ensuing April election, resulting in the vote of a majority in favor of a Constitution and State Government. Delegates were elected in August, and convened at Iowa City, October 7th, 1844. A Constitution was framed, presented to Congress, and an act passed by that body March 3, 1845, for the admission of Iowa into the Union as a State, upon certain conditions, curtailing the limits of the proposed State on the north and west, in such a manner as to create dissatisfaction among the people, resulting in their rejecting the Constitution at an election held in April, 1845, and also a second time in August following, at an election held under the provisions of an act of the May session previous. In December, 1845, a bill to repeal so much of the act of March 3, 1845, as relates to the boundary of Iowa, was introduced into the House of Representatives, and referred to the Committee on Territories; the Committee reporting an amendatory act March 27, 1846.

Meanwhile, in January, 1846, the Territorial Legislature passed an act providing for the election, on the 6th of April, of delegates to a second Constitutional Convention. The Con-

vention so formed assembled at Iowa City on the 4th of May, and refused to agree to the change of boundaries as fixed by Congress. The second Constitution was submitted to the people in August, adopted by a vote of 9,492 to 9,036, and presented to Congress; and on the 28th of December, 1846, Iowa was admitted into the Union.

The first election for State officers was held in October, 1846, under proclamation of Gov. James Clark; at which election Ansel Briggs, of Jackson County, was duly elected the first Governor of the State. By a Legislative act passed January 25, 1855, Commissioners were appointed to re-locate the Capitol "within two miles of the junction of the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers, in Polk County;" and the provisions of the subsequent law, fixing the seat of Government at Des Moines, were incorporated into the new Constitution of 1857. In the fall of 1857, the furniture and effects of the Capitol were removed to Des Moines, the point selected by the Commissioners for the location of the new Capitol. No doubt existed in the mind of any one, that at some future period, public interest would require a re-location of the seat of Government; but that this step was called for by any considerable portion of the inhabitants of the State at that time, is not pretended; and, with the exception of those in the immediate vicinity of the new Capitol, and a few speculators, the movement was looked upon as premature, and entirely uncalled for. Although the movement was strongly opposed by the citizens of Johnson and adjoining counties, yet subsequent events have proved, by exchanging the seat of Government for the "State University," this section has been vastly and permanently benefited. Thus it often proves that those things the most far-seeing look upon as evils, result in our greatest good.

IOWA CITY GOVERNMENT—FIRST CHARTER.

"SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That the town of Iowa City, situated in Section ten and the northwest quarter of Section fifteen, in Township seventy-nine north, of Range six west, in Johnson

County, is hereby declared to be a city, to be known by the name of Iowa City.

“Approved January 25, 1853.”

On the 6th day of April, 1853, the City Government of Iowa City went into operation by the following persons being qualified for the respective offices:

Jacob P. DeForrest, Mayor; Anson Hart, Recorder; C. H. Buck, Treasurer; R. Hutchinson, Marshal; Benjamin King, Assessor. Aldermen: First Ward—Ed. Lanning, W. H. Hunt, E. C. Lee; Second Ward—Thos. Snyder, F. P. Brosart, W. Penn Clarke; Third Ward—Peter Roberts, Peter Stelzer, J. R. Van Flect.

At the city election in April, 1854, the following officers were chosen to carry on the City Government:

J. E. Fales, Mayor; M. J. Talbot, Recorder; C. H. Buck, Treasurer; J. B. Middleton, Marshal; Hiram Watts, Assessor. Aldermen: First Ward—Sam'l Magill, Eben Sangster, Robert Walker; Second Ward—M. J. Morsman, William E. Miller, R. S. Finkbine; Third Ward—S. Workman, Michael McGinnis, D. A. Dewey.

In 1855, the City Government was entrusted to the care of the following named gentlemen:

G. D. Woodin, Mayor; J. G. Sperry, Recorder; J. Ricord, Treasurer; J. N. Clark, Marshal; R. Walker, Assessor. Aldermen: First Ward—E. K. Rugg, N. H. White, Sylvanus Johnson; Second Ward—Lyman Allen, J. H. Gower, Wm. Crum; Third Ward—D. A. Dewey, F. Thompson, George W. Clark.

In 1856, the City Government passed into the hands of J. M. Carleton, Mayor; J. G. Sperry, Recorder; J. Ricord, Treasurer; Benj. King, Marshal; N. H. White, Assessor. Aldermen: First Ward—C. Bachelor, C. Cartwright, R. Walker; Second Ward—W. E. Miller, C. H. Berryhill, S. Windrem; Third Ward—H. Felkner, J. B. Rombach, D. A. Dewey.

The officers elected April 6th, 1857, were: Morgan Reno, Mayor; H. E. Brown, Recorder; Silas Foster, Treasurer; L.

W. Talbot, Marshal; D. A. Millington, Assessor. Aldermen: First Ward—Thomas Combe, E. Sangster, R. S. Finkbine; Second Ward—J. B. Edmonds, Peter Roberts, L. B. Patterson; Third Ward—Malcom Murray, John Rombach, Geo. W. Clark; Fourth Ward—L. P. Frost, E. M. Lytle, E. C. Lyon.

Officers elected April 5th, 1858: C. T. Ransom, Mayor; Jesse Berry, Treasurer; L. W. Talbot, Mashal; D. A. Millington, Assessor. Aldermen: First Ward—Wm. Shellato, A. E. Harker, O. Fisk; Second Ward—J. Powell, H. J. Shaub, J. W. Clark; Third Ward—S. J. Hess, J. G. Starkey, Dennis Tuttle.

The City Officers for 1859 were: M. J. Morsman, Mayor; Benj. King, Treasurer; M. J. Talbot, Recorder; W. G. Hickman, Marshal; L. S. Swafford, Assessor. Aldermen: First Ward—J. Berry, A. Hart, W. P. Doty; Second Ward—M. Reno, J. R. Van Fleet, F. Thompson; Third Ward—F. W. Hohman, Chas. Vogt, L. B. Patterson; Fourth Ward—H. W. Lathrop, J. T. Turner, L. Prince.

Officers elected April 2, 1860: P. A. Dey, Mayor; S. P. McCaddon, Recorder; Benj. King, Treasurer; John Bremer, Marshal; L. S. Swafford, Assessor. Aldermen: First Ward—J. Bullock, E. Worden, L. M. Rice; Second Ward—M. Bloom, J. C. Kuhner, J. H. Deacon; Third Ward—C. A. Vogt, C. C. McGovern, B. Feisler; Fourth Ward—W. J. McConnell, J. T. Turner, G. S. Hampton.

City Officers for 1861: G. W. Clark, Mayor; S. P. McCaddon, Recorder; R. H. Sylvester, Treasurer; J. Curry, Marshal; J. Bremer, Assessor. Aldermen: First Ward—S. Bachelor, J. Lodge, L. M. Rice; Second Ward—K. Porter, B. Mahana, J. H. Deacon; Third Ward—C. A. Vogt, C. C. McGovern, B. Feisler; Fourth Ward—S. Parshall, E. P. Coman, T. M. Banbury.

Officers for 1862: G. H. Collins, Mayor; S. P. McCaddon, Recorder; R. H. Sylvester, Treasurer; J. W. Methil, Marshal; J. E. Fales, Assessor. Aldermen: First Ward—J. Borland, P. Musser, L. M. Rice; Second Ward—J. D. Edwards, M. Fisher, J. R. Van Fleet; Third Ward—C. A. Vogt, A. J.

Rider, Sam. Baker; Fourth Ward—T. M. Banbury, M. Cavanaugh.

Officers chosen April 6th, 1863: J. B. Buttles, Mayor; J. Martin, Recorder; R. H. Sylvester, Treasurer; J. W. Mitchell, Marshal; J. Stentz, Assessor. Aldermen: First Ward—G. W. Dodder, L. M. Rice, J. A. Hursh; Second Ward—W. D. Berryhill, Peter Roberts, J. D. Edwards; Third Ward—C. A. Vogt, W. Michel, G. W. Kettlewell; Fourth Ward—S. E. Paine, L. M. Kingsley, J. Molloy.

Officers elected March 7, 1864: G. W. McCleary, Mayor; L. W. Talbot, Marshal; M. Murray, Treasurer; Z. C. Luse, Solicitor. Trustees: First Ward—J. G. Starkey, F. W. Prather; Second Ward—J. Porter, Chas. Lewis; Third Ward—C. A. Vogt, W. Michel; Fourth Ward—S. E. Paine, S. F. Baker.

The reader will perceive that in the last-named election, by a profound stroke of wisdom, our Legislature had transformed the *Aldermen* into *Trustees*. The beauty and convenience of this change will be seen at a glance, as now we have "City Trustees" and "Township Trustees," "Township Supervisors" and "District Supervisors," frequently all to be voted for at the same election, and on the same ticket. This is only equalled in point of convenience by the family who had a great fancy for the name of Joseph, and were compelled to designate the children thus: Big Joe, Little Joe, and Little Joe's Joe.

Officers elected March 6, 1865: G. W. McCleary, Mayor; L. W. Talbot, Marshal; S. P. McCaddon, Treasurer; J. N. Clark, Assessor. Trustees: First Ward—Chas. Lewis; Second Ward—E. Redhead, J. R. Van Fleet; Third Ward—C. A. Vogt; Fourth Ward—T. M. Banbury.

Officers elected March 5, 1866: G. W. McCleary, Mayor; E. Harrison, Marshal; S. P. McCaddon, Treasurer; E. O. Swain, Assessor; J. Y. Blackwell, Solicitor. Trustees: First Ward—G. W. McCall; Second Ward—M. B. Cochran; Third Ward—Jacob Hotz; Fourth Ward—M. W. Davis.

Officers for 1867: G. W. McCleary, Mayor; E. Harrison,

Marshal; S. P. McCaddon, Treasurer; E. O. Swain, Assessor. Trustees: First Ward—A. J. Tucker; Second Ward—H. Love; Third Ward—C. A. Vogt; Fourth Ward—W. E. Miller.

City Officers for 1868: G. W. McCleary, Mayor; E. Harrison, Marshal; Wm. Louis, Treasurer; L. S. Swafford, Assessor; L. B. Patterson, Solicitor. Trustees: First Ward—John Remick; Second Ward—J. Ricord; Third Ward—J. Hotz; Fourth Ward—Thomas Rogers.

THE TWENTY-SECOND IOWA INFANTRY AT VICKSBURG.

BY JOSEPH E. GRIFFITH, LIEUT. ENGINEER CORPS U. S. A.

The writer of the following sketch has a personal history connected with the famous charge of the 22d of May, 1863; one which won him promotion at the hands of Governor Kirkwood to a Lieutenancy in his company, and received also the recognition of General Grant, by the appointment to the Military Academy of West Point. We sought the particulars of this personal achievement. The modesty of the participants rendered unsuccessful this effort; but elicited from the then youthful soldier, now an officer of the regular Army, the following sketch of the brilliant part performed by his regiment in that grand but unsuccessful charge.—EDITOR.

The 22d Iowa belonged to the 2d Brigade, 14th Division, 13th Army Corps, according to the re-organization of the Army of the Tennessee in the March preceding the Vicksburg campaign. History records the events of the march through Louisiana to Hard Times Landing, the passage of the Mississippi below Grand Gulf in the face of the enemy, the eighteen days' campaign, the brilliant affairs of Port Gibson, Champion Hills, and Black River Bridge.

In the march towards the river from the rear, after the severing of the armies of Johnston and Pemberton, the 13th Army Corps occupied the left of the line, and was led by McClelland. The impetuosity of the movements from Champion Hills over the Black River gave the enemy no time to rally his men until the walls of Vicksburg formed a barrier to give

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