

Editorial Notes: Marriage; The Dead of 1883; From Trial Practice; From Ex-Mayor Henry

Samuel Storrs Howe

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built churches at Blackberry, Lodi, De Kalb and Sycamore. He was successively President of the University of St. Marys, pastor of Wilmington and Chicago, Vicar-General of the diocese, and administrator after Bishop Foley's death. He was consecrated Bishop of Davenport, July 25, 1881, and, after a brief but most laborious administration, died, of Bright's disease and cancer, July 4, 1883.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

MARRIAGE.

Thomas Jefferson introduced by statute marriage into Virginia, where it had always been a religious rite by a clergyman, as a merely civil contract, whereas it had been regarded, the world over, as a religious ceremony. In his day, clergymen of England only could marry; and it seemed to work a hardship and a hindrance to have to go a distance to find a minister of the church of England. Following suite, in most or all of the United States a justice of the peace, mayor, or judge can marry as well as any ordained minister of the gospel. And it has become an easy matter to be married.

Mrs. Judge Dillon, late of Davenport, Iowa, said she should not consider herself married at all, without a clergyman solemnized the rite.

May not the loose way of being married by a justice of the peace, so common now-a-days be one cause of the frequent divorce of couples, after a short experience of matrimonial bonds? The statute laws of Iowa make many unscriptural causes of divorce. Only two causes are found in the Bible, adultery and wilful desertion. And the best commentators maintain that neither party to a divorce can again marry. Were this the civil law of our State, divorces would be less frequent. In some instances, a person has married again the very day of divorce, showing the intent of separation by law is to marry another party.

It is high time, our marriage and divorce laws were revised and restricted to the laws of God. And any justice who does not call in a minister in case of marrying a couple, ought not to be re-elected to office.

The writer has been led to this course of remark by the marriage of a grand niece, Miss Annie Morris, of Morris, N. Y., to Mr. C. P. Pomeroy, of San Francisco, on the 27th of October, 1883, in the Morris chapel, near the residence of her parents, at half past twelve o'clock (noon), with six brides maids, six ushers to match and a "best man," by Bishop Tuttle, of Utah, assisted by the Rector of the Morris church, Gilbertsville parish. Well married most certainly, and presents superbundant and magnificent. Long live the couple.

THE DEAD OF 1883.

Among the distinguished dead of 1883, we mention Ralph P. Lowe, ex-Governor of Iowa,—the fourth governor of Iowa, succeeding governor James W. Grimes for the short term. He has held several important offices in the State, as that of a member of the Board of Education, now abolished. In this capacity, he did much to give form to our school system in Iowa. The writer started last July, to call on him in Washington, D. C., but, overcome with the heat, failed to reach his residence.

Among Iowa pioneers who parted this life during 1883, was Timothy Day, of Van Buren county. He was probably the first man to introduce into Iowa the Short-horn breed of cattle, and was prominently identified with the State Agricultural Society in its early history.

There were 452 marriage licenses granted in Scott county during 1883.—*Davenport Gazette.*

FROM TRIAL PRACTICE, P. 392, JULY, 1883.

BY J. W. DONEVAN, DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

Judge William Wirt Howe, a tall, slender but graceful attorney, of cultivated manners and large business practice in New Orleans, is nearly 48 years old, an erudite scholar, a Jurist and writer of State reputation. Though a pleasing speaker, he relies more on the law of his cases, and a certain tact of winning easy victories.

On the bench, his reported opinions rank as of the best in his State. He has served as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, but from choice returned to a lucrative practice.

In voice, style and manner, he is of real southern type of advocates, courteous and considerate to others, firm and determined in duty, his decorum and urbane bearing make many friends and an increasing line of large cases.

FROM EX-MAYOR HENRY.

PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 13th, 1883.

REV. S. S. HOWE, D. D., Iowa City, Iowa:

Dear Sir—You have kindly sent me three or four numbers of *The Annals of Iowa*, and for sake of pleasant recollections as well as of the interesting contents of your Magazine, I would become a subscriber thereto, but am now preparing for a tour abroad.

Permit me to enclose the price of the numbers already sent, and with wishes for your success and welfare, I am

Very respectfully yours,

ALEX. HENRY.

Clarke, the last Territorial Governor of Iowa, was a Pennsylvanian by birth, and a printer by trade. He married a daughter of Colonel Dodge, afterward Governor of Wisconsin.