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*History of Franklin  
County, Iowa*

I. L. Stuart



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Franklin C  
Stuart









HISTORY OF  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
IOWA

A Record of Settlement, Organization, Progress  
and Achievement

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By I. L. STUART  
Supervising Editor

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*J. L. Stewart*

# History of Franklin County

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## CHAPTER I

FOUR SCORE YEARS AGO—RED MAN, WILD GAME AND VIRGIN PRAIRIE  
—INDIAN CONFLICTS AND INDIAN TREATIES—IOWA TERRITORY  
BECOMES A STATE—TOPOGRAPHY—FIRST LAND TITLES—STATE  
INSTITUTIONS.

Four score years ago all that part of the great and beautiful State of Iowa, of which the county of Franklin is a part, was practically *terra incognita*, a vast wilderness, given over by the Almighty to wild beasts, birds of the air and their masters, the Indians, who roamed the plains and forests at will, claiming and securing an existence from the bounteous hand of nature. Here the deer, buffalo and other fur-bearing animals found a habitat, and the main streams gave generously of the palatable fish. The red man had no care for the morrow. No thought came to him that his possessions would ever be disturbed by the pale face. So he continued his dreams. The hunt was his daily avocation, broken in upon at intervals by a set-to with a hostile tribe of aborigines, that was always cruel and bloody in its results and added spoils to the victor and captives for torture. He knew not of the future and cared less. But the time was coming, was upon him, when he was called upon to make way for a stronger and a progressive race of men; when the fair land that was his birthright and his hunting grounds, resplendent with the gorgeous flower and emerald sod, must yield to the husbandman. The time had come for the buffalo, deer and elk to seek pastures new, that the alluvial soil might be turned to the sun and fed with grain, to yield in their seasons the richest of harvests.

It is hard for the present generation to realize the rapid pace of civilization on the western continent in the past one hundred years; and when one confines his attention to the advancement of the State

of Iowa in the past seventy-five years, his amazement is all the more intense. Evidences of progress are on every hand as one wends one's way across the beautiful state. Manufacturing plants are springing up hither and yon; magnificent edifices for religious worship point their spires heavenward; schoolhouses, colleges, and other places of learning and instruction make the state stand out prominently among her sisters of this great republic. Villages are growing into towns, and towns are taking on the dignity of a city government, until today Iowa is noted throughout the Union for the number, beauty and thrift of her towns and cities. The commonwealth is cobwebbed with her telegraph, telephone and railroad lines, and all these things above mentioned have been made possible by the thrift, determination and high character of the people who claim citizenship within her borders.

#### THE INDIAN AND HIS FATE

It is conceded by historians who have given the subject deep thought and careful research that this country was inhabited by a race of human beings distinct from the red man. But that is beyond the province of this work. The men and women who opened up the State of Iowa and the county of Franklin to civilization had only the red man to dispute their coming and obstruct their progress; and in that regard something should be recorded in these pages.

So far as the writer can ascertain, the Indians were the first inhabitants of Iowa. For more than one hundred years after Marquette and Joliet had trod the virgin soil of Iowa and admired its fertile plains, not a single settlement had been made or attempted; nor even a trading post established. The whole country remained in the undisputed possession of the native tribes. These tribes fought among themselves and against each other for supremacy and the choicest hunting grounds became the reward for the strongest and most valiant of them.

When Marquette visited this country in 1673, the Illini were a powerful people and occupied a large portion of the state, but when the country was again visited by the whites, not a remnant of that once powerful tribe remained on the west side of the Mississippi, and Iowa was principally in the possession of the Sacs and Foxes, a warlike tribe which, originally two distinct nations residing in New York and on the waters of the St. Lawrence, had gradually fought their way westward and united, probably after the Foxes

had been driven out of the Fox river country in 1846 and crossed the Mississippi. The death of Pontiac, a famous Sac chieftain, was made the pretext for war against the Illini, and a fierce and bloody struggle ensued, which continued until the Illini were nearly destroyed, and their possessions went into the hands of their victorious foes. The Iowas also occupied a portion of the state for a time, in common with the Sacs, but they, too, were nearly destroyed by the Sacs and Foxes and in the "Beautiful Land," these natives met their equally warlike and bloodthirsty enemies, the Northern Sioux, with whom they maintained a constant warfare for the possession of the country for a great many years.

In 1803, when, under the administration of Thomas Jefferson, then President of the United States, Louisiana was purchased from Napoleon Bonaparte, Emperor of France, the Sacs, Foxes and Iowas possessed the entire State of Iowa and the two former tribes also occupied most of Illinois. The Sacs had four principal villages, where most of them resided. Their largest and most important town, from which emanated most of the obstacles encountered by the Government in the extinguishment of Indian titles to land in this region, was on the Rock river, near Rock Island; another was on the east bank of the Mississippi, near the mouth of Henderson river; the third was at the head of the Des Moines rapids, near the present site of Montrose; and the fourth was near the mouth of the Upper Iowa. The Foxes had three principal villages. One was on the west side of the Mississippi, six miles above the rapids of Rock river, another was about twelve miles from the river, in the rear of the Dubuque lead mines; and the third was on Turkey river.

The Iowas, at one time identified with the Sacs of Rock river, had withdrawn from them and become a separate tribe. Their principal village was on the Des Moines river, in Van Buren county, on the site where Iowaville now stands. Here the last great battle between the Sacs and Foxes and Iowas was fought, in which Black Hawk, then a young man, commanded one division of the attacking forces. The following account of the battle has been given:

"Contrary to long established custom of Indian attack, this battle was commenced in the daytime, the attending circumstances justifying this departure from the well settled usages of Indian warfare. The battlefield was a level river bottom, about four miles in length and two miles wide near the middle, narrowing to a point at either end. The main area of this bottom rises perhaps twenty feet above the river, leaving a narrow strip of low bottom along the shore



covered with trees that belted the prairie on the river side with a thick forest, and the immediate bank of the river was fringed with a dense growth of willows. Near the lower end of this prairie, near the river bank, was situated the Iowa village. About two miles above it and near the middle of the prairie is a mound, covered at the time with a small clump of trees and underbrush growing on its summit. In the rear of this little elevation, or mound, lay a belt of wet prairie, covered at that time with a dense growth of rank, coarse grass. Bordering this wet prairie on the north, the country rises abruptly into elevated, broken river bluffs, covered with a heavy forest for miles in extent and in places thickly clustered with undergrowth, affording convenient shelter for the stealthy approach of an enemy.

“Through this forest the Sac and Fox war party made their way in the night and secreted themselves in the tall grass spoken of above, intending to remain in ambush during the day and make such observations as this near proximity to their intended victims might afford, to aid them in their contemplated attack on the town during the following night. From this situation their spies could take a full survey of the village and watch every movement of the inhabitants, by which means they were soon convinced that the Iowas had no suspicion of their presence.

“At the foot of the mound above mentioned the Iowas had their race course, where they diverted themselves with the excitement of horse racing and schooled their young warriors in cavalry evolutions. In these exercises mock battles were fought and the Indian tactics of attack and defense carefully inculcated, by which means a skill in horsemanship was acquired that is rarely excelled. Unfortunately for them, this day was selected for their equestrian sports and, wholly unconscious of the proximity of their foes, the warriors repaired to the race ground, leaving most of their arms in the village, and their old men, women and children unprotected.

“Pash-a-popo, who was chief in command of the Sacs and Foxes, perceived at once this state of things afforded for a complete surprise of his now doomed victims, and ordered Black Hawk to file off with his young warriors through the tall grass and gain the cover of the timber along the river bank, and with the utmost speed reach the village and commence the battle, while he remained with his division in the ambush to make a simultaneous attack on the unarmed men whose attention was engrossed with the excitement of the races. The plan was skillfully laid and dexterously executed.

Black Hawk with his forces reached the village undiscovered, and made a furious onslaught upon the defenseless inhabitants by firing one general volley into their midst and completing the slaughter with the tomahawk and scalping knife, aided by the devouring flames with which they enveloped the village as soon as the fire-brand could be spread from lodge to lodge.

“On the instant of the report of firearms at the village, the forces under Pash-a-popo leaped from their couchant position in the grass and sprang, tigerlike, upon the unarmed Iowas in the midst of their racing sports. The first impulse of the latter naturally led them to make the utmost speed toward their arms in the village, and protect, if possible, their wives and children from the attack of their merciless assailants. The distance from the place of attack on the prairie was two miles, and a great number fell in their flight by the bullets and tomahawks of their enemies, who pressed them closely with a running fire the whole way and the survivors only reached their town to witness the horrors of its destruction. Their whole village was in flames and the dearest objects of their lives lay in slaughtered heaps amidst the devouring element, and the agonizing groans of the dying, mingled with the hideously exulting shouts of the enemy, filled their hearts with maddening despair. Their wives and children who had been spared the general massacre were prisoners, and their weapons in the hands of the victorious savages; all that could be done was to draw off their shattered and defenseless forces, and save as many lives as possible by a retreat across the Des Moines river, which they effected in the best possible manner, and took a position among the Soap Creek hills.”

The Sioux located their hunting grounds north of the Sacs and Foxes. They were a fierce and warlike nation and often disputed possession in savage and fiendish warfare. The possessions of these tribes were mostly located in Minnesota but extended over a portion of northern and western Iowa to the Missouri river. Their descent from the north upon the hunting grounds of Iowa frequently brought them into collision with the Sacs and Foxes and after many a sanguine conflict, a boundary line was established between them by the Government of the United States, in a treaty held at Prairie du Chien in 1825. Instead of settling the difficulties, this caused them to quarrel all the more, in consequence of alleged trespasses upon each other's side of the line. So bitter and unrelenting became these contests that in 1830 the Government purchased of their respective tribes of the Sacs and Foxes and the Sioux, a strip of land twenty miles wide on

both sides of the line, thus throwing them forty miles apart by creating a "neutral ground," and commanded them to cease their hostilities. They were, however, allowed to fish on the ground unmolested, provided they did not interfere with each other on United States territory.

Soon after the acquisition of Louisiana the United States government adopted measures for the exploration of the new territory, having in view the conciliation of the numerous tribes of Indians by whom it was possessed, and also the selection of proper sites for the establishment of military posts and trading stations. The Army of the West, General Wilkinson commanding, had its headquarters at St. Louis. From this post Captains Lewis and Clark, with a sufficient force, were detailed to explore the unknown sources of the Missouri, and Lieut. Zebulon M. Pike to ascend to the headwaters of the Mississippi. Lieutenant Pike, with one sergeant, two corporals and seventeen privates, left the military camp near St. Louis, in a keel boat, with four months' rations, August 9, 1805. On the 20th of the same month the expedition arrived within the present limits of the State of Iowa, at the foot of the Des Moines rapids, where Pike met William Ewing, who had just been appointed Indian agent at this point; a French interpreter, four chiefs, fifteen Sac and Fox warriors. At the head of the rapids, where Montrose is now situated, Pike held a council with the Indians, in which he addressed them substantially as follows:

"Your great father, the President of the United States, wishes to be more acquainted with the situation and wants of the different nations of red people in our newly acquired territory of Louisiana and has ordered the General to send a number of his warriors in different directions to take them by the hand and make such inquiries as might afford the satisfaction required."

At the close of the council he presented the red men with some knives, tobacco and whiskey. On the 23d of August he arrived at what is supposed from his description, to be the site of the present city of Burlington, which he selected as the location for a military post. He describes the place as "being on a hill, forty miles above the River de Moyne rapids, on the west side of the river, in latitude about forty degrees twenty-one minutes north. The channel of the river runs on that shore. The hill in front is about sixty feet perpendicular, and nearly level at the top. About four hundred yards in the rear is a small prairie, fit for gardening, and immediately under the hill is a limestone spring, sufficient for the consumption

of a whole regiment." In addition to this description, which corresponds to Burlington, the spot is laid down on his map at a bend in the river a short distance below the mouth of the Henderson, which pours its waters into the Mississippi from Illinois. The fort was built at Fort Madison but from the distance, latitude, description and map furnished by Pike, it could not have been the place selected by him, while all the circumstances corroborate the opinion that the spot he selected was the place where Burlington is now located, called by the early voyagers on the Mississippi "Flint Hills." In company with one of his men Pike went on shore on a hunting expedition and following a stream which they supposed to be a part of the Mississippi they were led away from their course. Owing to the intense heat and tall grass, his two favorite dogs, which he had taken with him, became exhausted, and he left them on the prairie, supposing they would follow him as soon as they should get rested, and went on to overtake his boat. After reaching the river he waited for some time for his canine friends but they did not come, and as he deemed it inexpedient to detain the boat longer, two of his men volunteered to go in pursuit of them. He then continued on his way up the river, expecting the men would soon overtake him. They lost their way, however, and for six days were without food, except a few morsels gathered from the stream. They might have perished had they not accidentally met a trader from St. Louis, who induced two Indians to take them up the river, overtaking the boat at Dubuque. At the latter place Pike was cordially received by Julien Dubuque, a Frenchman, who held a mining claim under a grant from Spain. He had an old field piece and fired a salute in honor of the advent of the first American who had visited that part of the territory. He was not, however, disposed to publish the wealth of his mines and the young, and evidently inquisitive, officer obtained but little information in that regard.

Upon leaving this place Pike pursued his way up the river but as he passed beyond the limits of the present State of Iowa, a detailed history of his explorations does not properly belong to this volume. It is sufficient to say that on the site of Fort Snelling, Minnesota, he held a council with the Sioux, September 23d, and obtained from them a grant of one hundred thousand acres of land.

Before the Territory of Iowa could be opened to settlement by the whites it was first necessary that the Indian title should be extinguished and the aborigines removed. The territory had been purchased by the United States but was still occupied by the Indians,

who claimed title to the soil by right of possession. In order to accomplish this purpose, large sums of money were expended, warring tribes had to be appeased by treaty stipulations and oppression by the whites discouraged.

#### BLACK HAWK WAR

When the United States assumed control of the country, by reason of its purchase from France, nearly the whole state was in possession of the Sacs and Foxes, a powerful and warlike nation, who were not disposed to submit without a struggle to what they regarded the encroachment on their rights of the pale faces. Among the most noted chiefs and one whose restlessness and hatred of the whites occasioned more trouble to the Government than any other of his tribe, was Black Hawk, who was born at the Sac village, on Rock river, in 1767. He was simply the chief of his own band of Sac warriors; but by his energy and ambition he became the leading spirit of the united nation of the Sacs and Foxes, and one of the prominent figures in the history of the country from 1804 until his death. In early manhood he attained distinction as a fighting chief, having led campaigns against the Osages and other neighboring tribes. About the beginning of the nineteenth century he began to appear prominent in affairs on the Mississippi. His life was a marvel. He is said by some to have been the victim of a narrow prejudice and bitter ill feeling against the Americans.

November 3, 1804, a treaty was concluded between William Henry Harrison, then governor of the Indian Territory, on behalf of the United States, and five chiefs of the Sac and Fox nation, by which the latter, in consideration of \$2,234 in goods then delivered, and a yearly annuity of \$1,000 to be paid in goods at just cost, ceded to the United States, all that land on the west side of the Mississippi extending from a point opposite the Jefferson, in Missouri, to the Wisconsin river, embracing an area of 51,000,000 acres. To this treaty Black Hawk always objected and always refused to consider it binding upon his people. He asserted that the chiefs and braves who made it had no authority to relinquish the title of the nation to any of the lands they held or occupied and, moreover, that they had been sent to St. Louis on quite a different errand, namely, to get one of their people released, who had been imprisoned at St. Louis for killing a white man.

In 1805 Lieutenant Pike came up the river for the purpose of holding friendly council with the Indians and selecting sites for forts within the territory recently acquired from France by the United States. Lieutenant Pike seems to have been the first American whom Black Hawk had met or had a personal interview with and was very much impressed in his favor. Pike gave a very interesting account of his visit to the noted chief.

Fort Edwards was erected soon after Pike's expedition, at what is now Warsaw, Illinois, also Fort Madison, on the site of the present town of that name, the latter being the first fort erected in Iowa. These movements occasioned great uneasiness among the Indians. When work was commenced on Fort Edwards, a delegation from the nation, headed by their chiefs, went down to see what the Americans were doing and had an interview with the commander, after which they returned home and were apparently satisfied. In like manner, when Fort Madison was being erected, they sent down another delegation from a council of the nation held at Rock river. According to Black Hawk's account, the American chief told them he was building a house for a trader, who was coming to sell them goods cheap, and that the soldiers were coming to keep him company—a statement which Black Hawk says they distrusted at the time, believing that the fort was an encroachment upon their rights, and designed to aid in getting their lands away from them. It is claimed, by good authority, that the building of Fort Madison was a violation of the Treaty of 1804. By the eleventh article of that treaty, the United States had the right to build a fort near the mouth of the Wisconsin river, and by article six they bound themselves "that if any citizen of the United States or any other white person should form a settlement upon their lands such intruder should forthwith be removed." Probably the authorities of the United States did not regard the establishment of military posts as coming properly within the meaning of the term "settlement," as used in the treaty. At all events, they erected Fort Madison within the territory reserved to the Indians, who became very indignant. Very soon after the fort was built, a party led by Black Hawk attempted its destruction. They sent spies to watch the movements of the garrison, who ascertained that the soldiers were in the habit of marching out of the fort every morning and evening for parade, and the plan of the party was to conceal themselves near the fort and attack and surprise them when they were outside. On the morning of the proposed day of the attack five soldiers came out and were fired upon by the Indians, two of

them being killed. The Indians were too hasty in their movements, for the parade had not commenced. However, they kept up the siege several days, attempting the old Fox strategy of setting fire to the fort with blazing arrows, but finding their efforts unavailing, they desisted and returned to their wigwams on Rock river. In 1812, when the war was declared between this country and Great Britain, Black Hawk and his band allied themselves with the British, partly because he was dazzled by their specious promises, but more probably because they were deceived by the Americans. Black Hawk himself declared they were forced into the war by having been deceived. He narrates the circumstances as follows: "Several of the head men and their chiefs of the Sacs and Foxes were called upon to go to Washington to see their great father. On their return they related what had been said and done. They said the great father wished them, in the event of war taking place with England, not to interfere on either side but to remain neutral. He did not want our help but wished us to hunt and support our families and live in peace. He said that British traders would not be permitted to come on the Mississippi to furnish us with goods but that we should be supplied by an American trader. Our chiefs then told him that the British traders always gave them credit in the fall for guns, powder and goods, to enable us to hunt and clothe our families. He repeated that the traders at Fort Madison would have plenty of goods; that we should go there in the fall and he would supply us on credit, as the British traders had done." Black Hawk seems to have accepted the proposition and he and his people were very much pleased. Acting in good faith, they fitted out for their winter's hunt and went to Fort Madison in high spirits to receive from the trader their outfit of supplies; but after waiting some time they were told by the trader that he would not trust them. In vain they pleaded the promise of their great father at Washington; the trader was inexorable. Disappointed and crestfallen, the Indians turned sadly to their own village. Says Black Hawk: "Few of us slept that night. All was gloom and discontent. In the morning a canoe was seen ascending the river; it soon arrived bearing an express who brought intelligence that a British trader had landed at Rock Island with two boats filled with goods, and requested us to come up immediately, because he had good news for us and a variety of presents. The express presented us with pipes, tobacco and wampum. The news ran through our camp like fire on the prairie. Our lodges were soon taken down and all started for Rock Island. Here ended all our hopes of remaining at peace, having been forced into the war

by being deceived." He joined the British, who flattered him and styled him "General Black Hawk," decked him with medals, excited his jealousy against the Americans and armed his band, but he met with defeat and disappointment and soon abandoned the service and returned home.

There was a portion of the Sacs and Foxes whom Black Hawk, with all his skill and cunning, could not lead into hostilities against the United States. With Keokuk, "the Watchful Fox," at their head, they were disposed to abide by the Treaty of 1804 and to cultivate friendly relations with the American people. So when Black Hawk and his band joined the fortunes of Great Britain, the rest of the nation remained neutral and for protection organized with Keokuk for their chief. Thus the nation was divided into the "war party" and "peace party." Keokuk became one of the nation's great chiefs. In person he was tall and of portly bearing. He has been described as an orator, entitled to rank with the most gifted of his race, and through the eloquence of his tongue he prevailed upon a large body of his people to remain friendly to the Americans. As has been said, the Treaty of 1804, between the United States and the Sac and Fox nations was never acknowledged by Black Hawk and in 1831 he established himself with a chosen band of warriors upon the disputed territory, ordering the whites to leave the country at once. The settlers complaining, Governor Reynolds, of Illinois, dispatched General Gaines with a company of regulars and one thousand five hundred volunteers to the scene of action. Taking the Indians by surprise, the troops burned their village and forced them to conclude a treaty, by which they ceded all their lands east of the Mississippi and agreed to remain on the west side of the river.

Necessity forced the proud spirit of Black Hawk into submission, which made him more than ever determined to be avenged upon his enemies. Having rallied around him the warlike braves of the Sac and Fox nations, he recrossed the Mississippi in the spring of 1832. Upon hearing of the invasion, Governor Reynolds hastily gathered a body of one thousand eight hundred volunteers, placing them under Brig.-Gen. Samuel Whiteside. The army marched to the Mississippi and, having reduced to ashes the village known as "Prophet's Town," proceeded several miles up Rock river to Dixon to join the regular forces under General Atkinson. They formed at Dixon two companies of volunteers, who, sighing for glory, were dispatched to reconnoitre the enemy. They advanced under command of General Stillman to a creek, afterward



called "Stillman's Run," and while encamping there saw a party of mounted Indians at a distance of a mile. Several of Stillman's men mounted their horses and charged the Indians, killing three of them, but attacked by the main body under Black Hawk, they were routed and by their precipitate flight spread such a panic through the camp that the whole company ran off to Dixon as fast as their legs could carry them. On their arrival it was found eleven had been killed. For a long time afterward Major Stillman and his men were subjects of ridicule and merriment, which was as undeserved as their expedition was disastrous. Stillman's defeat spread consternation throughout the state and nation. The number of Indians was greatly exaggerated and the name of Black Hawk carried with it associations of great military talent, cunning and cruelty. He was very active and restless and was continually causing trouble.

After Black Hawk and his warriors had committed several depredations and added more scalp locks to their belts, that restless chief and his savage partisans were located on Rock river, where he was in camp. On July 19th, General Henry being in command, ordered his troops to march. After having gone fifty miles, they were overtaken by a terrible thunderstorm which lasted all night. Nothing cooled in their ardor and zeal, they marched fifty miles the next day, encamping near the place where the Indians encamped the night before. Hurrying along as fast as they could, the infantry keeping up an equal pace with the mounted men, the troops on the morning of the 21st crossed the river connecting two of the four lakes, by which the Indians had been endeavoring to escape. They found on their way the ground strewn with kettles and articles of baggage, which in the haste of retreat the Indians were obliged to abandon. The troops imbued with new ardor, advanced so rapidly that at noon they fell in with the rear guards of the enemy. Those who closely pursued them were saluted by a sudden fire of musketry from a body of Indians who had concealed themselves in the high grass of the prairie. A most desperate charge was made on the four who, unable to resist, retreated obliquely in order to outflank the volunteers on the right but the latter charged the Indians in their ambush and expelled them from the thickets at the point of the bayonet and dispersed them. Night set in and the battle ended, having cost the Indians sixty-eight of their bravest men, while the loss of the Illinoisans was but one killed and eight wounded. Soon after this battle Generals Atkinson and Henry joined forces and pursued

the Indians. General Henry struck the main trail, left his horses behind, formed an advance guard of eight men and marched forward upon the trail. When these eight men came in sight of the river they were suddenly fired upon and five of them killed, the remaining three maintaining their ground until General Henry came up. Then the Indians, charged upon with the bayonet, fell back upon their main force. The battle now became general. The Indians fought with desperate valor but were furiously assailed by the volunteers with their bayonets, cutting many of the Indians to pieces and driving the rest of them into the river. Those who escaped from being drowned found refuge on an island. On hearing the frequent discharge of musketry, General Atkinson abandoned the pursuit of the twenty Indians under Black Hawk himself and hurried to the scene of action, where he arrived too late to take part in the battle. He immediately forded the river with his troops, the water reaching up to their necks, and landed on the island where the Indians had secreted themselves. The soldiers rushed upon the Indians, killed several of them, took other prisoners and chased the rest into the river, where they were either drowned or shot before reaching the opposite shore. Thus ended the battle, the Indians losing 300, besides 50 prisoners; the whites but 17 killed and 12 wounded.

Black Hawk with his twenty braves retreated up the Wisconsin river. The Winnebagoes, desirous of securing the friendship of the whites, went in pursuit and captured and delivered them to General Street, the United States Indian agent. Among the prisoners were the son of Black Hawk and the prophet of the tribe. These, with Black Hawk, were taken to Washington, D. C., and soon consigned as prisoners to Fortress Monroe. At the interview Black Hawk had with the president he closed his speech delivered on the occasion in the following words: "We did not expect to conquer the whites. They have too many houses, too many men. I took up the hatchet, for my part, to revenge injuries which my people would no longer endure. Had I borne them longer without striking, my people would have said: 'Black Hawk is a woman; he is too old to be a chief; he is no Sac.' These reflections caused me to raise the war whoop. I say no more. It is known to you. Keokuk once was here; you took him by the hand, and when he wished to return to his home you were willing. Black Hawk expects like Keokuk, he shall be permitted to return, too."

By order of the president, Black Hawk and his companions who were in confinement at Fortress Monroe, were set free on the 4th day of June, 1833. After their release from prison they were conducted in charge of Major Garland through some of the principal cities that they might witness the power of the United States and learn their own inability to cope with them in war. Great multitudes flocked to see them wherever they were taken and the attention paid them rendered their progress through the country a triumphal procession instead of prisoners transported by an officer. At Rock Island the prisoners were given their liberty amid great and impressive ceremony. In 1838 Black Hawk built him a dwelling near Des Moines, this state, and furnished it after the manner of the whites and engaged in agricultural pursuits, together with hunting and fishing. Here, with his wife, to whom he was greatly attached, he passed the few remaining days of his life. To his credit it may be said that Black Hawk remained true to his wife and served her with devotion uncommon among Indians, living with her upwards of forty years.

At all times when Black Hawk visited the whites he was received with marked attention. He was an honored guest of the Old Settlers' reunion in Lee county, Illinois, and received marked tokens of esteem. In September, 1838, while on his way to Rock Island to receive his annuity from the Government, he contracted a severe cold, which resulted in an intense attack of bilious fever, and terminated his life October 3d. After his death he was dressed in the uniform presented him by the president while in Washington. He was buried in a grave six feet in depth, situated upon a beautiful eminence. The body was placed in the middle of the grave, in a sitting position upon a seat constructed for the occasion. On his left side the cane given him by Henry Clay was placed upright, with his right hand resting upon it. His remains were afterward stolen and carried away but they were recovered by the governor of Iowa and placed in the museum at Burlington, of the Historical Society, where they were finally destroyed by fire.

#### INDIAN TREATIES

The territory known as the "Black Hawk Purchase," although not the first portion of Iowa ceded to the United States by the Sacs and Foxes, was the first opened to actual settlement by the tide of emigration which flowed across the Mississippi as soon as the Indian

tide was extinguished. The treaty which provided for this cession was made at a council held on the west bank of the Mississippi where now stands the city of Davenport, on ground now occupied by the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company, September 21, 1832. This was just after the Black Hawk war and the defeated savages had retired from east of the Mississippi. At the council the Government was represented by Gen. Winfield Scott and Governor Reynolds, of Illinois. Keokuk, Pash-a-popo, and some thirty other chiefs and warriors were there. By this treaty the Sacs and Foxes ceded to the United States a strip of land on the eastern border of Iowa, fifty miles wide, from the northern boundary of Missouri to the mouth of the Upper Iowa river, containing about 6,000,000 acres. The western line of the purchase was parallel with the Mississippi. In consideration for this cession the United States agreed to pay annually to the confederated tribes, for thirty consecutive years, \$20,000 in specie, and to pay the debts of the Indians at Rock Island, which had been accumulating for seventeen years and amounted to \$50,000, due to Davenport & Farnham, Indian traders. The Government also donated to the Sac and Fox women and children, whose husbands and fathers had fallen in the Black Hawk war, thirty-five beef cattle, twelve bushels of salt, thirty barrels of pork, fifty barrels of flour and six thousand bushels of corn.

The treaty was ratified February 13, 1833, and took effect on the 1st of June following, when the Indians quietly removed from the ceded territory and this fertile and beautiful region was opened by white settlers.

By the terms of the treaty, out of the "Black Hawk Purchase" was reserved for the Sacs and Foxes four hundred square miles of land, situated on the Iowa river, and including within its limits Keokuk village, on the right bank of that river. This tract was known as Keokuk's reserve and was occupied by the Indians until 1836, when, by a treaty made in September between them and Governor Dodge, of Wisconsin territory, it was ceded to the United States. The council was held on the banks of the Mississippi above Davenport, and was the largest assemblage of the kind ever held by the Sacs and Foxes to treat for the sale of land. About one thousand of their chiefs and braves were present, Keokuk being the leading spirit of the occasion and their principal speaker.

## FIRST LAND TITLE IN IOWA

By the terms of this treaty the Sacs and Foxes were removed to another reservation on the Des Moines river, where an agency was established at what is now the town of Agency, in Wapello county. The Government also gave out of the "Black Hawk Purchase," to Antoine LeClaire, interpreter, in fee simple, one section of land opposite Rock Island and another at the head of the first rapids above the island, on the Iowa side. This was the first land title granted by the United States to an individual in Iowa.

Gen. Joseph M. Street established an agency among the Sacs and Foxes very soon after the removal of the latter to their new reservation. He was transferred from the agency of the Winnebagoes for this purpose. A farm was selected, upon which the necessary buildings were erected, including a comfortable farm house for the agent and his family, at the expense of the Indian fund. A salaried agent was employed to superintend the farm and dispose of the crops. Two mills were erected—one on Soap creek and the other on Sugar creek. The latter was soon swept away by a flood but the former did good service for many years.

Connected with the agency were Joseph Smart and John Goodell, interpreters. The latter was interpreter for Hard Fishes' band. Three of the Indian chiefs—Keokuk, Wapello and Appanoose—had each a large field improved, the two former on the right bank of the Des Moines and back from the river in what was "Keokuk's Prairie," and the latter on the present site of Ottumwa. Among the traders connected with their agency was J. P. Eddy, who established his post at what is now the site of Eddyville. The Indians at this agency became idle and listless in the absence of their natural excitements and many of them plunged into dissipation. Keokuk himself became dissipated in the latter years of his life and it has been reported that he died of delirium tremens after his removal with his tribe to Kansas. In May, 1843, most of the Indians were removed up the Des Moines river, above the temporary line of Red Rock, having ceded the remnants of their land in Iowa to the United States, September 21, 1837, and October 11, 1842. By the terms of the latter treaty, they held possession of the "New Purchase," until the autumn of 1845, when most of them were removed to their reservation in Kansas, the balance being removed in 1846.

Before any permanent settlement was made in the Territory of Iowa, white adventurers, trappers and traders, many of whom were

scattered along the Mississippi and its tributaries, as agents and employees of the American Fur Company, intermarried with the females of the Sac and Fox Indians, producing a race of half-breeds, whose number was never definitely ascertained. There were some respectable and excellent people among them, children of some refinement and education.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT

The first permanent settlement made by the whites within the limits of Iowa was by Julien Dubuque, in 1788, when, with a small party of miners, he settled on the site of the city that now bears his name, where he lived until his death in 1810. What was known as the Girard settlement in Clayton county was made by some parties prior to the commencement of the nineteenth century. It consisted of three cabins in 1805. Louis Honori settled on the site of the present town of Montrose, probably in 1799, and resided there probably until 1805, when his property passed into other hands. Indian traders had established themselves at other points at an early date. Mr. Johnson, an agent of the American Fur Company, had a trading post below Burlington, where he carried on traffic with the Indians some time before the United States came into possession of Louisiana. In 1820, Le Moliere, a French trader, had a station at what is now Sandusky, six miles above Keokuk, in Lee county. The same year a cabin was built where the city of Keokuk now stands by Dr. Samuel C. Muir, a surgeon in the United States army. His marriage and subsequent life were very romantic. While stationed at a military post on the Upper Mississippi, the post was visited by a beautiful Indian maiden—whose native name unfortunately has not been preserved—who in her dreams had seen a white brave unmoor his canoe, paddle it across the river and come directly to her lodge. She felt assured, according to the superstitious belief of her race, that in her dreams she had seen her future husband and had come to the fort to find him. Meeting Dr. Muir, she instantly recognized him as the hero of her dreams which, with childlike innocence and simplicity, she related to him. Charmed with the dusky maiden's beauty, innocence and devotion, the doctor took her to his home in honorable wedlock; but after a while the sneers and jibes of his brother officers—less honorable than he—made him feel ashamed of his dark-skinned wife, and when his regiment was ordered down the river to Bellefontaine, it is said he embraced the opportunity to

rid himself of her, never expecting to see her again and little dreaming that she would have the courage to follow him. But with her infant, this intrepid wife and mother started alone in her canoe and after many days of weary labor and a lonely journey of nine hundred miles, she at last reached him. She afterward remarked, when speaking of this toilsome journey down the river in search of her husband: "When I got there I was all perished away—so thin." The doctor, touched by such unexampled devotion, took her to his heart and ever after until his death treated her with marked respect. She presided at his table with grace and dignity but never abandoned her native style of dress. In 1819-20 he was stationed at Fort Edwards, now Warsaw, but the senseless ridicule of some of his brother officers on account of his Indian wife induced him to resign his commission. He then built a cabin, as above stated, where Keokuk is now situated and made a claim to some land. This land he leased to parties in the neighborhood and then moved to what is now Galena, where he practiced his profession for ten years, when he returned to Keokuk. His Indian wife bore him four children: Louise, James, Mary and Sophia. Dr. Muir died suddenly, of cholera, in 1832, but left his property in such condition that it was wasted in vexatious litigation and his brave and faithful wife, left friendless and penniless, became discouraged, so with her two younger children she disappeared. It is said she returned to her people on the Upper Missouri.

#### CIVIL GOVERNMENT FOR TERRITORY AND STATE

After the "Black Hawk Purchase" immigration to Iowa was rapid and steady, and provision for civil government became a necessity. Accordingly, in 1834, all the territory comprising the present States of Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota, was made subject to the jurisdiction of Michigan territory. Up to this time there had been no county or other organization in what is now the State of Iowa, although one or two justices of the peace had been appointed and a postoffice was established at Dubuque in 1833. In September of 1834, therefore, the Territorial Legislature of Michigan created two counties on the west side of the Mississippi river—Dubuque and Des Moines—separated by a line drawn westward from the foot of Rock Island. These counties were partially organized. John King was appointed chief justice of Dubuque county and Isaac Leffler of Des Moines county was appointed by the Governor.

In October, 1835, Gen. George W. Jones, in recent years a citizen of Dubuque, was elected a delegate to Congress. April 20, 1836, through the efforts of General Jones, Congress passed a bill creating the Territory of Wisconsin, which went into operation July 4th of the same year. Iowa was then included in the Territory of Wisconsin, of which Gen. Henry Dodge was appointed Governor; John S. Horner, secretary; Charles Dunn, chief justice; David Irwin and William C. Frazer, associate justices. September 9, 1836, a census of the new territory was taken. Des Moines county showed a population of 6,257, and Dubuque county, 4,274.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE TERRITORY OF IOWA

The question of the organization of the Territory of Iowa now began to be agitated and the desires of the people found expression in a convention held November 1st, which memorialized Congress to organize a territory west of the Mississippi river and to settle the boundary line between Wisconsin territory and Missouri. The Territorial Legislature of Wisconsin, then in session in Burlington, joined in the petition. The act was passed dividing the Territory of Wisconsin and providing for the Territorial Government of Iowa. This was approved June 12, 1838, to take effect and be in force on and after July 3, 1838.

The new territory embraced "all that part of the present Territory of Wisconsin west of the Mississippi river and west of a line drawn due north from the headwaters of sources of the Mississippi river to the territorial line." The organic act provided for a Governor, whose term of office should be three years; a secretary, chief justice, two associate justices, an Attorney-General and marshal, to be appointed by the President. The act also provided for the election, by the white citizens over twenty-one years of age of a House of Representatives, consisting of twenty-six members and a council to consist of thirteen members. It also appropriated \$5,000 for a public library and \$20,000 for the erection of public buildings. In accordance with this act, President Van Buren appointed ex-Governor Robert Lucas, of Ohio, to be the first Governor of the territory; William B. Conway, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, secretary; Charles Mason, of Burlington, chief justice; Thomas S. Wilson, of Dubuque, and Joseph Williams, of Pennsylvania, associate justices; Mr. Van Allen, of New York, attorney; Francis Gehon, of Dubuque, marshal;



Augustus C. Dodge, register of the land office at Burlington; and Thomas C. Knight, receiver of the land office at Dubuque.

On the 10th of September, 1838, an election was held for members of the Legislature and on the 12th of the following November the first session of that body was held at Burlington. Both branches of this General Assembly had a large democratic majority but notwithstanding that fact, Gen. Jesse B. Brown, a whig, of Lee county, Des Moines and Dubuque counties having been previously divided into other counties, was elected President of the council, and Hon. William H. Wallace, of Henry county, also a whig, Speaker of the House. The first session of the Iowa Territorial Legislature was a stormy and exciting one. By the organic law the Governor was clothed with almost unlimited veto power. Governor Lucas was disposed to make free use of this prerogative and the independent Hawkeyes could not quietly submit to arbitrary and absolute rule. The result was an unpleasant controversy between the executive and legislative departments. Congress, however, by act approved March 3, 1839, amended the organic law by restricting the veto power of the Governor to the two-thirds rule and took from him the power to appoint sheriffs and magistrates. Among the first important matters demanding attention was the location of the seat of government and provision for the erection of public buildings, for which Congress had appropriated \$20,000. Governor Lucas in his message had recommended the appointment of commissioners with a view to selecting a central location. The extent of the future State of Iowa was not known or thought of. Only a strip of land fifty miles wide, bordering on the Mississippi river, was alienated by the Indians to the general government and a central location meant some central point within the confines of what was known as the "Black Hawk Purchase."

The friends of a central location favored the Governor's suggestion. The southern members were divided between Burlington and Mount Pleasant but finally united on the latter as the proper location for the seat of government. The central and southern parties were very nearly equal and in consequence much excitement prevailed. The central party at last was triumphant and on January 21, 1839, an act was passed appointing commissioners to select a site for a permanent seat of government within the limits of Johnson county. All things considered, the location of the capital in Johnson county was a wise act. Johnson county was from north to south in the geographical center of the future State of Iowa as could then

be made. The site having been determined, 640 acres were laid out by the commissioners into a town and called Iowa City. On a tract of ten acres the capitol was built, the corner-stone of which was laid, with appropriate ceremonies, July 4, 1840. Monday, December 6, 1841, the fourth Legislature of Iowa met at the new capital, Iowa City, but the capitol building not being ready for occupancy, a temporary frame house erected for the purpose, was used.

In 1841, John Chambers succeeded Robert Lucas as Governor and in 1845 he gave place to James Clarke. The Territorial Legislature held its eighth and last session at Iowa City in 1845. James Clarke was the same year appointed the successor of Governor Chambers and was the third and last Territorial Governor.

#### THE TERRITORY BECOMES THE STATE OF IOWA

The Territory of Iowa was growing rapidly in its population and soon began to look for greater things. Her ambition was to take on the dignity and importance of statehood. To the furtherance of this laudable ambition the Territorial Legislature passed an act, which was approved February 12, 1844, providing for the submission to the people of the question of the formation of a state constitution and providing for the election of delegates to a convention to be convened for that purpose. The people voted on this at their township elections the following April. The measure was carried by a large majority and the members elected assembled in convention at Iowa City, October 7, 1844. On the 1st day of November following, the convention completed its work and adopted the first state constitution. By reason of the boundary lines of the proposed state being unsatisfactorily prescribed by Congress, the constitution was rejected at an election held August 4, 1845, by a vote of 7,656 to 7,235. May 4, 1846, a second convention met at Iowa City and on the 18th of the same month another constitution, prescribing the boundaries as they now are, was adopted. This was accepted by the people August 3d, by a vote of 9,492 to 9,036. The new constitution was approved by Congress and Iowa was admitted as a sovereign state in the Union, December 28, 1846, and the people of the territory, anticipating favorable action by Congress, held an election for state officers, October 26, 1846, which resulted in the choice of Ansel Briggs for Governor; Elisha Cutler, Jr., secretary; James T. Fales, auditor; Morgan Reno, treasurer; and members of both branches of the Legislature.

The act of Congress which admitted Iowa into the Union as a state gave her the sixteenth section of every township of land in the state, or its equivalent, for the support of schools; also seventy-two sections of land for the purposes of a university; five sections of land for the completion of her public buildings; the salt springs within her limits, not exceeding twelve in number, with sections of land adjoining each; also in consideration that her public lands should be exempt from taxation by the state. The state was given five per cent of the net proceeds of the sale of public lands within the state.

The constitutional convention of 1846 was made up largely of democrats and the instrument contains some of the peculiar tenets of the party of that day. All banks of issue were prohibited within the state. The state was prohibited from becoming a stockholder in any corporation for pecuniary profit and the General Assembly could only provide for private corporations by general statutes. The constitution also limited the state's indebtedness to \$100,000. It required the General Assembly to provide for schools throughout the state for at least three months during the year. Six months' previous residence of any white male citizen of the United States constituted him an elector.

At the time of the organization of the state, Iowa had a population of 116,651, as appears by the census of 1847. There were twenty-seven organized counties and the settlements were being rapidly pushed toward the Missouri river.

The western boundary of the state, as now determined, left Iowa City too far toward the eastern and southern boundary of the state. This was conceded. Congress had appropriated five sections of land for the erection of public buildings and toward the close of the first session of the General Assembly a bill was introduced providing for the relocation of the seat of government, involving to some extent, the location of the state university, which had already been discussed. This bill gave rise to much discussion, and parliamentary maneuvering almost purely sectional in its character. February 25, 1847, an act was passed to locate and establish a state university, and the unfinished public buildings at Iowa City, together with the ten acres of land on which they were situated, were granted for the use of the university, reserving their use, however, for the General Assembly and state officers until other provisions were made by law.

Four sections and two half sections of land were selected in Jasper county by the new commissioners for the new capital. Here a town was platted and called Monroe City. The commissioners

placed town lots on sale in the new location but reported to the Assembly small sales at a cost exceeding the receipts. The town of Monroe was condemned and failed of becoming the capital. An act was passed repealing the law for the location at Monroe and those who had bought lots there were refunded their money.

By reason of jealousies and bickerings the first General Assembly failed to elect United States Senators but the second did better and sent to the Upper House of Congress Augustus Caesar Dodge and George Jones. The first representatives were S. Clinton Hastings, of Muscatine, and Sheppard Leffler, of Des Moines county.

The question of the permanent seat of government was not settled and in 1851 bills were introduced for its removal to Fort Des Moines. The latter locality seemed to have the support of the majority but was finally lost in the House on the question of ordering it to a third reading. At the next session, in 1853, a bill was again introduced in the Senate for the removal of the capital and the effort was more successful. On January 15, 1855, a bill relocating the capital of the state of Iowa within two miles of the Raccoon fork of the Des Moines river, and for the appointment of commissioners, was approved by Governor Grimes. The site was selected in 1856, in accordance with the provisions of this act, the land being donated to the state by citizens and property holders of Des Moines. An association of citizens erected a temporary building for the capitol and leased it to the state at a nominal rent.

#### THE STATE BECOMES REPUBLICAN

The passage by Congress of the act organizing the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, and the provision it contained abrogating that portion of the Missouri bill that prohibited slavery and involuntary servitude north of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes was the beginning of a political revolution in the northern states, and in none was it more marked than in the State of Iowa. Iowa was the "first free child born of the Missouri Compromise." In 1856 the republican party of the state was duly organized, in full sympathy with that of the other free states, and at the ensuing presidential election the electoral vote of the state was cast for John C. Fremont.

Another constitutional convention assembled in Iowa City in January, 1857. One of the most pressing demands for this convention grew out of the prohibition of banks under the old constitution. The practical result of this prohibition was to flood the state with

every species of "wildcat" currency. The circulation medium was made up in part of the free-bank paper of Illinois and Indiana. In addition to this there was paper issued by Iowa brokers, who had obtained bank charters from the Territorial Legislature of Nebraska and had had their pretended headquarters at Omaha and Florence. The currency was also variegated with the bills of other states, generally such as had the best reputation where they were least known. This paper was all at 2, and some of it from 10 to 15 per cent discount. Every man who was not an expert at detecting counterfeit bills and who was not posted in the methods of banking institutions, did business at his peril. The new constitution adopted at this convention made ample provisions for House banks under the supervision of laws of the state and other changes in the old constitution were made that more nearly met the views of the people.

The permanent seat of government was fixed at Des Moines and the university at Iowa City. The qualifications of electors remained the same as under the old constitution but the schedule provided for a vote of the people upon a separate proposition to strike out the word "white" from the suffrage clause. Since the early organization of Iowa there had been upon the statute books a law providing that no negro, mulatto or Indian should be a competent witness in any suit at law or proceeding, to which a white man was a party. The General Assembly of 1856-57 repealed this law and the new constitution contained a clause forbidding such disqualification in the future. It also provided for the education of "all youth of the state" through a system of common schools.

#### THE CAPITAL REMOVED TO DES MOINES

October 19, 1857, Governor Grimes issued a proclamation declaring the city of Des Moines to be the capital of the State of Iowa. The removal of the archives and offices was commenced at once and continued through the fall. It was an undertaking of no small magnitude. There was not a mile of railroad to facilitate the work and the season was unusually disagreeable. Rain, snow and other accompaniments increased the difficulties and it was not until December that the last of the effects—the safe of the State Treasurer, loaded on two large "bob-sleds" drawn by ten yoke of oxen—was deposited in the new capitol. Thus Iowa City ceased to be the capital of the state after four Territorial Legislatures, six State Legislatures and three constitutional conventions had held their regular sessions there.

In 1870 the General Assembly made an appropriation and provided for a board of commissioners to commence the work of building a new capitol. The corner-stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies, November 23, 1871. The estimated cost of the building was \$2,500,000, and the structure was finished and occupied in 1874, the dedicatory exercises being held in January of that year. Hon. John A. Kasson delivered the principal address. The state capitol is classic in style, with a superstructure of buff limestone. It is 363 feet in length, 247 feet in width, with a central dome rising to the height of 275 feet. At the time of completion it was only surpassed by the capitol building of the State of New York, at Albany.

#### CLIMATE

In former years considerable objection was made to the prevalence of high winds in Iowa, which is somewhat greater in the states south and east. But climatic changes have lessened that grievance. The air, in fact, is pure and generally bracing, particularly so during the winter. Thunderstorms are also more violent in this state than in those of the east and south but not nearly so much as towards the mountains. As elsewhere in the northwestern states, westerly winds bring rain and snow, while easterly ones clear the sky. While the highest temperature occurs in August, the month of July averages the hottest and January the coldest. The mean temperature of April and October nearly corresponds to the mean temperature of the year, as well as to the seasons of spring and fall, while that of summer and winter is best represented by August and December. "Indian Summer" is delightful and well prolonged.

#### TOPOGRAPHY

The state lies wholly within and comprises a part of a vast plain. There are no mountains and scarcely any hilly country within its borders, for the highest point is but 1,200 feet above the lowest point. These two points are nearly three hundred miles apart and the whole state is traversed by gently flowing rivers. We thus find there is a good degree of propriety in regarding the whole state as belonging to a great plain, the lowest point of which within its borders, the southeastern corner of the state, is only 444 feet above the level of the sea. The average height of the whole state above the level of the sea is not far from eight hundred feet, although it is over a thousand miles

from the nearest ocean. These remarks of course are to be understood as only applying to the state at large, or as a whole. On examining its surface in detail we find a great diversity of surface for the formation of valleys out of the general level, which have been evolved by the actions of streams during the unnumbered years of terrace epoch. These river valleys are deepest in the northwestern part of the state and consequently it is there that the country has the greatest diversity of surface and its physical features are most strongly marked.

It is said that 95 per cent of the surface of Iowa is capable of a high state of cultivation. The soil is justly famous for its fertility and there is probably no equal area of the earth's surface that contains so little untillable land, or whose soil has so high an average of fertility.

#### LAKES AND STREAMS

The largest of Iowa's lakes are Spirit and Okoboji, in Dickinson county, Clear Lake, in Cerro Gordo county, and Storm Lake, in Buena Vista county. Its rivers consist of the Mississippi and Missouri, the Chariton, Grand, Platte, One Hundred and Two, Nodaway, Nishnabotna, Boyer, Soldier, Little Sioux, Floyd, Rock, Big Sioux, Des Moines, Skunk, Iowa, Cedar, Wapsipinicon, Turkey and Upper Iowa.

#### IOWA AND THE CIVIL WAR

Iowa was born a free state. Her people abhorred the "peculiar institution" of slavery, and by her record in the war between the states proved herself truly loyal to her institutions and the maintenance of the Union. By joint resolution in the General Assembly of the state in 1857, it was declared that the State of Iowa was "bound to maintain the union of these states by all the means in her power." The same year the state furnished a block of marble for the Washington monument at the national capital and by order of the Legislature there was inscribed on its enduring surface the following: "Iowa—Her affections, like the river of her borders, flow to an inseparable Union." The time was now come when these declarations of fidelity and attachment to the nation were to be put to a practical test. There was no state in the Union more vitally interested in the question of national unity than Iowa. The older states, both

north and south, had representatives in her citizenship. Iowans were practically immigrants bound to those older communities by the most sacred ties of blood and most enduring recollections of early days. The position of Iowa as a state—geographically—made the dismemberment of the Union a matter of serious concern. Within her borders were two of the great navigable rivers of the country, and the Mississippi had for years been its highway to the markets of the world. The people could not entertain the thought that its navigation should pass to the control of a foreign nation. But more than this was to be feared—the consequence of introducing and recognizing in our national system the principle of secession and of disintegration of the states from the Union. “That the nation possessed no constitutional power to coerce a seceding state,” as uttered by James Buchanan in his last annual message, was received by the people of Iowa with humiliation and distrust. And in the presidential campaign of 1860, when Abraham Lincoln combated with all the force of his matchless logic and rhetoric this monstrous political heresy, the issue was clearly drawn between the north and the south and it became manifest to many that in the event of the election of Lincoln to the presidency war would follow between the states. The people of Iowa nursed no hatred toward any section of the country but were determined to hold such opinions upon questions of public interest and vote for such men as to them seemed for the general good, uninfluenced by any threat of violence or civil war. So it was that they anxiously awaited the expiring hours of the Buchanan administration and looked to the incoming President as to an expected deliverer that should rescue the nation from the hands of the traitors and the control of those whose resistance invited her destruction. The firing upon the flag of Fort Sumter aroused the burning indignation throughout the loyal states of the republic and nowhere was it more intense than in Iowa. And when the proclamation of the President was published April 15, 1861, calling for seventy-five thousand citizen soldiers to “maintain the honor, the integrity, and the existence of our national Union, and the perpetuity of popular government,” they were more than willing to respond to the call. Party line gave way and for a time, at least, party spirit was hushed and the cause of our common country was supreme in the affections of the people. Fortunate indeed was the state at this crisis in having a truly representative man as executive of the state. Thoroughly honest and as equally earnest, wholly imbued with the enthusiasm of the hour, and fully aroused to the



importance of the crisis and the magnitude of the struggle upon which the people were entering, with an indomitable will under the control of a strong common sense, Samuel J. Kirkwood was indeed a worthy chief to organize and direct the energies of the people in what was before them. Within thirty days after the date of the President's call for troops, the first Iowa regiment was mustered into the service of the United States, a second regiment was in camp ready for service and the General Assembly of the state was convened in special session and had by joint resolution solemnly pledged every resource of men and money to the national cause. So urgent were the offers of companies that the Governor conditionally accepted enough additional companies to compose two regiments more. These were soon accepted by the Secretary of War. Near the close of May, the Adjutant-General of the state reported that 170 companies had been tendered the Governor to serve against the enemies of the Union. The question was eagerly asked: "Which of us will be allowed to go?" It seemed as if Iowa was monopolizing the honors of the period and would send the largest part of seventy-five thousand wanted from the whole north. There was much difficulty and considerable delay experienced in fitting the first three regiments for the field. For the first regiment a complete outfit of clothing was extemporized, partly by the volunteer labor of loyal women in the different towns, from material of various colors and qualities, obtained within the limits of the state. The same was done in part for the Second Infantry. Meantime, an extra session of the General Assembly had been called by the Governor to convene on the 15th of May. With but little delay that body authorized a loan of \$800,000 to meet the extraordinary expenses incurred, and to be incurred, by the executive department in consequence of the emergency. A wealthy merchant of the state, ex-Governor Merrill, immediately took from the Governor a contract to supply a complete outfit of clothing for three regiments organized, agreeing to receive, should the Governor so elect, his pay therefor in the state bonds at par. This contract he executed to the letter and a portion of the clothing was delivered at Keokuk, the place at which the troops had rendezvoused, in exactly one month from the day in which the contract had been entered into. The remainder arrived only a few days later. This clothing was delivered to the soldiers but was subsequently condemned by the Government for the reason that its color was gray, and blue had been adopted as the color to be worn by the national troops. Other states had also clothed their

troops, sent forward under the first call of President Lincoln, with gray uniforms, but it was soon found that the Confederate forces were also clothed in gray and that color was at once abandoned for the Union soldier.

At the beginning of the war the population of Iowa included about 150,000 men, presumably liable to render military service. The state raised for general service thirty-nine regiments of infantry, nine regiments of cavalry and four companies of artillery, composed of three years' men, one regiment composed of three months' men, and four regiments and one battalion of infantry composed of one hundred days' men. The original enlistments in these various organizations, including 1,727 men raised by draft, numbered about 69,000. The reenlistments, including upwards of 7,000 veterans, numbered nearly 8,000. The enlistments in the regular army and navy organizations of other states will, if added, raise the total to upwards of 80,000. The number of men who under special enlistments and as militia took part at different times in the operations on the exposed borders, was probably 5,000.

Every loyal state of the Union had many women who devoted much time and great labor toward relieving the wants of our sick and wounded soldiery but for Iowa can be claimed the honor of inaugurating the great charitable movement, which was so successfully supported by the noble women of the north. Mrs. Harlan, wife of Hon. James Harlan, United States Senator, was the first woman of the country among those moving in high circles of society who personally visited the army and ministered to the wants of the defenders of her country. In many of her visits to the army, Mrs. Harlan was accompanied by Mrs. Joseph T. Fales, wife of the first State Auditor of Iowa. No words can describe the good done, the lives saved and the deaths made easy by the host of noble women of Iowa, whose names it would take a volume to print. Every county, every town, every neighborhood had these true heroines, whose praise can never be known till the final rendering of all accounts of deeds done in the body. The contributions throughout the state to "sanitary fairs" during the war were enormous, amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars. Highly successful fairs were held in the principal cities and towns of the state, which all added to the work and praise of the "Florence Nightingales" of Iowa, whose heroic sacrifices have won for them the undying gratitude of the nation. It is said, to the honor and credit of Iowa, that while many of the loyal states, older and larger in population and wealth, incurred heavy

state debts for the purpose of fulfilling their obligations to the general government, Iowa, while she was foremost in duty, while she promptly discharged all her obligations to her sister states and the Union, found herself at the close of the war without any material additions to her pecuniary liabilities incurred before the war commenced. Upon final settlement after restoration of peace, her claims upon the Federal Government were found to be fully equal to the amount of her bonds issued and sold during the war, to provide the means for raising and equipping her troops sent into the field and to meet the inevitable demands upon her treasury in consequence of the war. It was in view of these facts that Iowa had done more than her duty during the war, and that without incurring any considerable indebtedness, and that her troops had fought most gallantly on nearly every battlefield of the war, that the Newark (New Jersey) Advertiser, and other prominent eastern journals, called Iowa the "Model State of the Republic."

#### EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

School teachers here were among the first immigrants to Iowa. This gives point to the fact that the people of Iowa have ever taken a deep interest in education and in this direction no state in the Union has a better record. The system of free public schools was planted by the early settlers and it has expanded and improved until now it is one of the most complete, comprehensive and liberal in the country. The lead mining regions of the state were the first to be settled by the whites and the hardy pioneers provided the means for the education of their children even before they had comfortable dwellings for themselves. Wherever a little settlement was made, the schoolhouse was the first thing undertaken by the settlers in a body, and the rude, primitive structures of the early times only disappeared when the communities increased in population and wealth and were able to replace them with more commodious and comfortable buildings. Perhaps in no single instance has the magnificent progress of the State of Iowa been more marked and rapid than in her common-school system and in her schoolhouses. Today the schoolhouses which everywhere dot the broad and fertile prairies of Iowa are unsurpassed by those of any other state in this great Union. More especially is this true in all her cities and villages, where liberal and lavish appropriations have been voted by a generous people for the erection of large, commodious and elegant

buildings, furnished with all the modern improvements, and costing from \$10,000 to \$60,000 each. The people of the state have expended more than \$25,000,000 for the erection of public school buildings, which stand as monuments of magnificence.

#### THE FIRST SCHOOL BUILDING AT DUBUQUE

Dubuque saw within its limits the first school building erected in the State of Iowa, which was built by J. J. Langworthy and a few other miners in the fall of 1833. When it was completed, George Cabbage was employed as teacher during the winter of 1833-34 and thirty-five pupils answered to his roll call. Barrett Whittemore taught the school term and had twenty-five pupils in attendance. Mrs. Caroline Dexter commenced teaching in Dubuque in March, 1836. She was the first female teacher there, and probably the first in Iowa. In 1839 Thomas H. Benton, Jr., afterwards for ten years superintendent of public instruction, opened an English and classical school in Dubuque. The first tax for the support of schools at Dubuque was levied in 1840. A commodious log schoolhouse was built at Burlington in 1834, and was one of the first buildings erected in that settlement. A Mr. Johnson taught the first school in the winter of 1834-35. In Scott county, in the winter of 1835-36, Simon Crazen taught a fourteen months' term of school in the house of J. B. Chamberlin. In Muscatine county, the first term of school was taught by George Baumgardner in the spring of 1837. In 1839 a log schoolhouse was erected in Muscatine, which served for a long time as schoolhouse, meeting-house and public hall. The first school in Davenport was taught in 1838. In Fairfield, Miss Clarissa Sawyer, James F. Chambers and Mrs. Reed taught school in 1839.

Johnson county was an entire wilderness when Iowa City was located as the capital of the Territory of Iowa in May, 1839. The first sale of lots took place August 18, 1839, and before January 1, 1840, about twenty families had settled in the town. During the same year Jesse Berry opened a school in a small frame building he had erected on what is now known as College street.

In Monroe county the first settlement was made in 1843 by John R. Gray, about two miles from the present site of Eddyville, and in the summer of 1844 a log schoolhouse was built by Gray and others, and the first school was opened by Miss Uriana Adams. About a year after the first cabin was built in Oskaloosa, a log school-

house was built, in which school was opened by Samuel W. Caldwell, in 1844.

At Fort Des Moines, now the capital of the state, the first school was taught by Lewis Whitten, clerk of the district court, in the winter of 1846-47, in one of the rooms on "Coon Row," built for barracks.

The first school in Pottawattamie county was opened by George Green, a Mormon, at Council Point, prior to 1849, and until about 1854 nearly all the teachers in that vicinity were Mormons.

The first school in Decorah was taught in 1855 by Cyrus C. Carpenter, since Governor of the state. During the first twenty years of the history of Iowa the log schoolhouse prevailed, and in 1861 there were 893 of these primitive structures in use for school purposes in the state. Since that time they have been gradually disappearing. In 1865 there were 796; in 1870, 336; in 1875, 121; and today there is probably not a vestige of one remaining.

In 1846, the year of Iowa's admission as a state, there were 20,000 pupils in schools, out of 100,000 inhabitants. About 400 school districts had been organized. In 1850 there were 1,200 and in 1857 the number had increased to 3,265. The system of graded schools was inaugurated in 1849 and now schools in which more than one teacher is employed are universally graded. Teachers' institutes were organized early in the history of the state. The first official mention of them occurs in the annual report of Hon. Thomas H. Benton, Jr., made December 2, 1850, who said: "An institution of this character was organized a few years ago, composed of the teachers of the mineral regions of Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa. An association of teachers has also been formed in the county of Henry, and an effort was made October last to organize a regular institute in the county of Jones."

Funds for the support of public schools are derived in various ways. The sixteenth section of every Congressional township was set apart by the general government for school purposes, being one-thirty-sixth part of all the lands in the state. The minimum price of all these lands was fixed at \$1.25 per acre. Congress also made an additional donation to the state of 500,000 acres and an appropriation of 5 per cent on all the sales of public lands to the school fund. The state gives to this fund the proceeds of the sales of all lands which escheat to it, the proceeds of all fines for the violation of liquor and criminal laws. The money derived from these sources constitutes the permanent school fund of the state, which cannot be diverted to any other purpose. The penalties collected by the courts

in fines and for forfeitures go to the school fund in the counties according to their request, and the counties loan the money to individuals for long terms at 8 per cent interest, on security of lands valued at three times the value of the loan, exclusive of all buildings and improvements thereon. The interest on these loans is paid into the state treasury and becomes the available school fund of the state. The counties are responsible to the state for all money transferred to the counties. The interest on these loans is apportioned by the State Auditor semi-annually to the several counties of the state, in proportion to the number of persons between the ages of five and twenty-one years. The counties also levy a tax for school purposes, which is apportioned to the several district townships in the same way. A district tax is also levied for the same purpose. The money arising from these several sources constitutes the support of the public schools and is sufficient to enable every sub-district in the state to afford from six to nine months' school each year. The burden of district taxation is thus lightened and the efficiency of the schools is increased. The taxes levied for the support of the schools are self-imposed. Under the admirable school laws of the state no taxes can be legally assessed or collected for the erection of schoolhouses until they have been ordered by the election of a school district at a school meeting legally called. The teachers' and contingent funds are determined by the board of directors under certain legal instructions. These boards are elected annually. The only exception to this method of levying taxes for school purposes is the county tax, which is determined by the county board of supervisors. In each county a teachers' institute is held annually under the direction of the county superintendent, the state distributing annually a sum of money to each of these institutes.

#### STATE UNIVERSITY

By act of Congress, approved July 20, 1840, the Secretary of the Treasury was authorized to "set apart and reserve from sale, out of any public lands within the territory of Iowa not otherwise claimed or appropriated, a quantity of land not exceeding two entire townships, for the use and support of a university within said territory when it becomes a state." The first General Assembly, therefore, by act approved February 25, 1847, established the "State University of Iowa," at Iowa City, then the capital of the state. The public buildings and other property at Iowa City were appropriated to the uni-

versity but the legislative sessions and state offices were to be held in them until a permanent location for a capital was made. The control and management of the university were committed to a board of fifteen trustees and five were to be chosen every two years. The superintendent of public instruction was made president of this board. The organic act provided that the university should never be under the control of any religious organization whatever, and that as soon as the revenue from the grant and donations should amount to \$2,000 a year, the university should commence and continue the instruction free of charge, of fifty students annually. Of course the organization of the university was impracticable so long as the seat of government was retained at Iowa City.

In January, 1849, two branches of the university and three normal schools were established. The branches were located at Fairfield and Dubuque and were placed upon an equal footing, in respect to funds and all other matters, with the university at Iowa City. At Fairfield, the board of directors organized and erected a building at a cost of \$2,500. This was nearly destroyed by a hurricane the following year but was rebuilt more substantially by the citizens of Fairfield. This branch never received any aid from the state and, January 24, 1853, at the request of the board, the General Assembly terminated its relations to the state. The branch at Dubuque had only a nominal existence. The normal schools were located at Andrew, Oskaloosa and Mount Pleasant. Each was to be governed by a board of seven trustees to be appointed by the trustees of the university. Each was to receive \$500 annually from the income of the university fund, upon condition that they should educate eight common school teachers, free of charge for tuition, and that the citizens should contribute an equal sum for the erection of the requisite buildings. The school at Andrew was organized November 21, 1849, with Samuel Ray as principal. A building was commenced and over one thousand dollars expended on it but it was never completed. The school at Oskaloosa was started in the courthouse, September 13, 1852, under charge of Prof. G. M. Drake and wife. A two-story brick building was erected in 1853, costing \$2,473. The school at Mount Pleasant was never organized. Neither of these schools received any aid from the university fund, but in 1857 the Legislature appropriated \$1,000 for each of the two schools and repealed the laws authorizing the payment to them of money from the university fund. From that time they made no further effort to continue in operation.

From 1847 to 1855 the board of trustees of the university was kept full by regular elections by the Legislature and the trustees held frequent meetings but there was no actual organization of the university. In March, 1855, it was partially opened for a term of sixteen weeks. July 16, 1855, Amos Dean, of Albany, New York, was elected president but he never fully entered into its duties. The university was again opened in September, 1855, and continued in operation until June, 1856, under Professors Johnson, Van Valkenburg and Griffin. The faculty was then reorganized with some changes and the university was again opened on the third Wednesday of September, 1856. There were 124 students (eighty-three males and forty-one females) in attendance during the year 1856-57, and the first regular catalogue was published. At a special meeting of the board, September 22, 1857, the honorary degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred on D. Franklin Wells. This was the first degree conferred by the university.

By the constitution of 1857 it was provided that there be no branches of the state university. In December of that year the old capitol building was turned over to the trustees of the university. In 1858 \$10,000 was appropriated for the erection of a students' boarding hall. The board closed the university April 27, 1858, on account of insufficient funds, and dismissed all the faculty with the exception of Chancellor Dean. At the same time a resolution was passed, excluding females. This was soon after reversed by the General Assembly. The university was reopened September 19, 1860, and from this time the real existence of the university dates. Chancellor Dean had resigned before this, and Silas Totten, D. D., LL. D., was elected president, at a salary of \$2,000. August 19, 1862, he resigned and was succeeded by Oliver M. Spencer. President Spencer was granted leave of absence for fifteen months to visit Europe. Prof. Nathan R. Leonard was elected president pro tem. President Spencer signing, James Black, D. D., vice president of Washington and Jefferson College, of Pennsylvania, was elected president. He entered upon his duties in September, 1868.

The law department was established in June, 1868, and soon after the Iowa Law School at Des Moines, which had been in successful operation for three years, was transferred to Iowa City and merged in the department. The medical department was established in 1869, and since April 11, 1870, the government of the university has been in the hands of a board of regents. The university has



gained a reputation as one of the leading educational institutions of the west and this position it is determined to maintain.

#### STATE NORMAL COLLEGE

Cedar Falls, the chief city of Black Hawk county, holds the State Normal School, which is an institution for the training of teachers and is doing most excellent work.

#### STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

By act of the Legislature, approved March 23, 1858, the State Agricultural College and Farm was established at Ames, in Story county. In 1862 Congress granted to Iowa 240,000 acres of land for the endowment of schools of agriculture and the mechanical arts. In 1864 the General Assembly voted \$20,000 for the erection of the college buildings. In 1866 \$91,000 more was appropriated for the same purpose. The building was completed in 1868 and the institution was opened the following year. The institution is modeled to some extent after the Michigan Agricultural College. In this school of learning admission is free to all students of the state over sixteen years of age. Students are required to work on the farm two and a half hours each day. The faculty is of a very high character and the college one of the best of its kind. The sale of spirits, wine or beer is prohibited within three miles of the farm. The current expenses of this institution are paid by the income from the permanent endowment. Besides the institution here mentioned are many others throughout the state. Amity College is located at College Springs, in Page county, Burlington University, at Burlington, Drake University, at Des Moines, Iowa College, at Grinnell, etc.

#### STATE INSTITUTIONS

##### SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

The Legislature established the institution for the deaf and dumb, January 24, 1855, and located it at Iowa City. A great effort was made for its removal to Des Moines but it was finally located at Council Bluffs. In 1868 an appropriation was made by the Legislature of \$125,000 for the erection of new buildings, and ninety acres of land were selected south of the city. October, 1870, the main building and one wing were completed and occupied. In Febru-

ary, 1877, fire destroyed the main building and east wing. About one hundred and fifty students were in attendance at the time. There is a regular appropriation for this institution of \$22 per capita per month for nine months of each year, for the payment of officers' and teachers' salaries and for a support fund. The institution is free to all of school age, too deaf to be educated in the common schools, sound in mind and free from immoral habits and from contagious and offensive diseases. No charge is made for board or tuition. The session of the school begins the first day of October and ends the last day of June each year.

#### COLLEGE FOR THE BLIND

In 1852 Prof. Samuel Bacon, himself blind, established a school for the instruction of the blind at Keokuk. He was the first person in the state to agitate a public institution for the blind, and in 1853 the institute was adopted by the Legislature, by statute approved January 18, 1853, and removed to Iowa City. During his first term twenty-three pupils were admitted. Professor Bacon was a fine scholar, an economical manager and in every way adapted to his position. During his administration the institution was in a great measure self-supporting by the sale of articles of manufacture by the blind pupils. There was also a charge of \$25 as an admission fee for each pupil. In 1858 the citizens of Vinton, Benton county, donated a quarter section of land and \$5,000 for the establishment of the asylum at that place. May 8 of the same year the trustees met at Vinton and made arrangements for securing the donation and adopted a plan for the erection of a suitable building. In 1860 the contract for the building was let for \$10,420, and in August, 1862, the goods and furniture were removed from Iowa City to Vinton, and in the fall of the same year the school was opened with twenty-four pupils. There is a regular appropriation of \$22 per capita per month for nine months of each two dollars per capita per month for nine months of each year to year to cover support and maintenance. The school term begins on the first Wednesday in September and usually ends about the first of June. They may be admitted at any time and are at liberty to go home at any time their parents may send for them. The department of music is supplied with a large number of pianos, one pipe organ, several cabinet organs, and a sufficient number of violins, guitars, bass viols and brass instruments. Every pupil capable of receiving it is given a complete course in this department. In the industrial department

the girls are required to learn knitting, crocheting, fancy work, hand and machine sewing; the boys, netting, broom making, mattress making and cane seating. Those of either sex who desire may learn carpet weaving.

#### HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE

The hospital for the insane was established by an act of the Legislature, January 24, 1855. The location for the institution was selected at Mount Pleasant, Henry county, and \$500,000 appropriated for the buildings, which were commenced in October of that year. One hundred patients were admitted within three months after it was opened. The Legislature of 1867-68 provided measures for an additional hospital for the insane, and an appropriation of \$125,000 was made for the purpose. Independence was selected by the commissioners as the most desirable location and 320 acres were secured one mile from the town on the west side of the Wapsipinicon river and about a mile from its banks. The hospital was opened May 1, 1873. The amount allowed for the support of these institutions is \$12 per month for each patient. All expenses of the hospital except for special purposes are paid from the sum so named, and the amount is charged to the counties from which the patients are sent.

#### SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' HOME

The Soldiers' Orphans' Home is located at Davenport and was originated by Mrs. Anne Whittenmeyer, during the late rebellion of the states. This noble-hearted woman called a convention at Muscatine, September 7, 1863, for the purpose of devising means for the education and support of the orphan children of Iowa whose fathers had lost their lives in the defense of their country's honor. The public interest in the movement was so great that all parts of the state were largely represented and an association was organized called the Iowa State Orphan Asylum. The first meeting of the trustees was held February 14, 1864, at Des Moines, when Governor Kirkwood suggested that a home for disabled soldiers should be connected with the asylum, and arrangements were made for collecting funds. At the next meeting in Davenport the following month, a committee was appointed to lease a suitable building, solicit donations and procure suitable furniture. This committee obtained a large brick building in Lawrence, Van Buren county, and engaged

Mr. Fuller at Mount Pleasant as steward. The work of preparation was conducted so vigorously that July 13th following, the executive committee announced it was ready to receive children. Within three weeks twenty-one were admitted and in a little more than six months seventy were in the home. The home was sustained by voluntary contributions until 1866, when it was taken charge of by the state. The Legislature appropriated \$10 per month for each orphan actually supported and provided for the establishment of three homes. The one in Cedar Falls was organized in 1865. An old hotel building was fitted up for it and by the following January there were ninety-six inmates. In October, 1869, the home was removed to a large brick building about two miles west of Cedar Falls and was very prosperous for several years but in 1876 the Legislature devoted this building to the State Normal School. The same year the Legislature also devoted the buildings and grounds of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home, at Glenwood, Mills county, to an institution for the support of feeble-minded children. It also provided for the removal of the soldiers' orphans at Glenwood and Cedar Falls homes to the one located at Davenport. There is in connection with this institution a school building, pleasant, commodious and well lighted, and it is the policy of the board to have the course of instruction of a high standard. A kindergarten is operated for the very young pupils. The age limit to which children are kept in the home is sixteen years. Fewer than 20 per cent remain to the age limit. A library of well selected juvenile literature is a source of pleasure and profitable entertainment to the children, as from necessity their pleasures and pastimes are somewhat limited. It is the aim to provide the children with plenty of good, comfortable clothing, and to teach them to take good care of the same. Their clothing is all manufactured at the home, the large girls assisting in the work. The table is well supplied with a good variety of plain, wholesome food and a reasonable amount of luxuries. The home is now supported by a regular appropriation of \$12 per month for each inmate, and the actual transportation charges of the inmates to and from the institution. Each county is liable to the state for the support of its children to the extent of \$6 per month, except soldiers' orphans, who are cared for at the expense of the state.

#### FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN

An act of the General Assembly, approved March 17, 1878, provided for the establishment of an asylum for feeble-minded chil-

dren at Glenwood, Mills county, and the buildings and grounds of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home were taken for that purpose. The asylum was placed under the management of three trustees, one of whom should be a resident of Mills county. The institution was opened September 1, 1876. By November, 1877, the number of pupils was eighty-seven. The purpose of this institution is to provide special methods of training for that class of children deficient in mind or marked with such peculiarities as to deprive them of the benefits and privileges provided for children with normal faculties. The object is to make the child as nearly self-supporting as practicable and to approach as nearly as possible the movements and actions of normal people. It further aims to provide a home for those who are not susceptible of mental culture, relying wholly on others to supply their simple wants.

#### INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

The Industrial School for Boys is established at Eldora. By act, approved March 31, 1868, the General Assembly established a reform school at Salem, Henry county, and provided for a board of trustees from each congressional district. The trustees immediately leased the property of the Iowa Manual Labor Institute, and October 7th following, the school received its first inmate. The law at first provided for the admission of both sexes under eighteen years of age. The trustees were directed to organize a separate school for girls. In 1872 the school for boys was permanently located at Eldora, Hardin county, and some time later the one for girls was established at Mitchellville. There is appropriated for these schools and their support the sum of \$13 monthly for each boy, and \$16 monthly for each girl inmate. The object of the institution is the reformation of juvenile delinquents. It is not a prison. It is a compulsory educational institution. It is a school where wayward and criminal boys and girls are brought under the influence of Christian instructors and taught by example as well as precept the better ways of life. It is a training school, where the moral, intellectual and industrial education of the child is carried on at one and the same time.

#### PENAL INSTITUTIONS

The Governor, by an act approved January 25, 1839, was authorized to draw the sum of \$20,000, appropriated by an act of

Congress in 1838, for public buildings in the Territory of Iowa and establish a state penal institution. The act provided for a board of directors, consisting of three persons, to be elected by the Legislature, who should superintend the building of a penitentiary to be located within a mile of the public square in the town of Fort Madison, Lee county, provided that the latter deeded a suitable tract of land for the purpose, also a spring or stream of water for the use of the penitentiary. The citizens of Fort Madison executed a deed of ten acres of land for the building. The work was soon entered upon and the main building and the warden's house were completed in the fall of 1841. It continued to meet with additions and improvements until the arrangements were all completed according to the designs of the directors. The labor of the convicts is let out to contractors, who pay the state a stipulated sum for services rendered, the state furnishing shops and necessary supervision in preserving order. The Iowa Farming Tool Company and the Fort Madison Chair Company are the present contractors.

#### PENITENTIARY AT ANAMOSA

The first steps toward the erection of a penitentiary at Anamosa, Jones county, were taken in 1872, and by an act of the General Assembly, approved April 23, 1884, three commissioners were selected to construct and control prison buildings. They met on the 4th of June, following, and chose a site donated by the citizens of Anamosa. Work on the building was commenced September 28, 1872. In 1873 a number of prisoners were transferred from the Fort Madison prison to Anamosa. The labor of the convicts at this penitentiary is employed in the erection and completion of the buildings. The labor of a small number is let to the American Cooperage Company. This institution has a well equipped department for female prisoners, also a department for the care of the criminal insane.

#### STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A State Historical Society in connection with the university was provided for by act of the General Assembly, January 25, 1857. At the commencement an appropriation of \$250 was made, to be expended in collecting and preserving a library of books, pamphlets, papers, paintings and other materials illustrative of the history of Iowa. There was appropriated \$500 per annum to maintain this

society. Since its organization the society has published three different quarterly magazines. From 1863 to 1874 it published the Annals of Iowa, twelve volumes, now called the first series. From 1885 to 1902, it published the Iowa Historical Record, eighteen volumes. From 1903 to 1907, the society has published the Iowa Journal of History and Politics, now in its fifth volume. Numerous special publications have been issued by the society, the most important of which are the Messages and Proclamations of the Governors of Iowa, in seven volumes, the Executive Journal of Iowa, 1838-1843, and the Lucas Journal of the War of 1812.

#### IOWA SOLDIERS' HOME

The Iowa Soldiers' Home was built and occupied in 1888, at Marshalltown. The first year it had 140 inmates. In 1907 there were 794 inmates, including 112 women. The United States Government pays to the State of Iowa the sum of \$100 per year for each inmate of the soldiers' home who served in any war in which the United States was engaged, which amount is used as part of the support fund of the institution. Persons who have property or means for their support, or who draw a pension sufficient therefor, will not be admitted to the home, and if after admission an inmate of the home shall receive a pension or other means sufficient for his support, or shall recover his health so as to enable him to support himself, he will be discharged from the home. Regular appropriation by the state is \$14 per month for each member, and \$10 per month for each employee not a member of the home.

#### OTHER STATE INSTITUTIONS

There are at Clarinda and Cherokee state hospitals for the insane and one at Knoxville for the inebriate.

It is strange, but true, that in the great State of Iowa, with more than 60 per cent of her population engaged in agricultural pursuits and stock-raising, it was not until the year 1900 that a department of the state government was created in the interests of, and for the promotion of agriculture, animal industry, horticulture, manufactures, etc. The Iowa Department of Agriculture was created by an act of the Twenty-eighth General Assembly. In 1892 the Iowa Geological Survey was established and the law which provided therefor outlined its work to be that of making "a complete

survey of the natural resources of the state in the natural and scientific aspects, including the determination of the characteristics of the various formations and the investigation of the different ores, coals, clays, building stones and other useful materials." It is intended to cooperate with the United States Geological Survey in the making of topographical maps and those parts of the state whose coal resources make such maps particularly desirable and useful. The State Agricultural Society is one of the great promoters of the welfare of the people. The society holds an annual fair which has occurred at Des Moines since 1878. At its meetings subjects of the highest interest and value are discussed, and these proceedings are published at the expense of the state.

#### THE CELEBRATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSTITUTION OF IOWA

*By John C. Parrish*

In the year 1907 the State of Iowa closed the first half century of its existence under the constitution of 1857. In April, 1906, the General Assembly, looking forward to the suitable celebration of so important an anniversary, passed an act appropriating \$750 to be used by the State Historical Society of Iowa, in a commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the constitution of 1857. It was eminently desirable that the celebration should occur at Iowa City, for it was at that place, then the capital of the state, that the constitutional convention of 1857 was held. And it was particularly fitting that the exercises should be placed under the auspices of the State Historical Society of Iowa, for the same year, 1857, marks the birth of the society. While the convention was drafting the fundamental law of the state in a room on the lower floor of the Old Stone Capitol, the Sixth General Assembly in the legislative hall upstairs in the same building passed an act providing for the organization of a State Historical Society. Thus the event of 1907 became a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the State Historical Society as well as a commemoration of the semi-centennial of the constitution of 1857.

In due time plans were matured for a program covering four days, beginning on Tuesday, March 19, and closing on Friday, March 22, 1907. It consisted of addresses by men of prominent reputation in constitutional and historical lines, together with conferences on state historical subjects. On Tuesday evening Prof.



Andrew C. McLaughlin, of Chicago University, delivered an address upon "A Written Constitution in Some of Its Historical Aspects." He dwelt in a scholarly way upon the growth of written constitution, showing the lines along which their historical development has progressed.

The speaker of Wednesday was Prof. Eugene Wambaugh, of the Harvard Law School, one of the leading authorities in the country upon questions of constitutional law and formerly a member of the faculty of the college of law of the University of Iowa. Professor Wambaugh, taking for his subject "The Relation Between General History and the History of Law," outlined the history of the long rivalry between the civil law of Rome and the common law in their struggle for supremacy, both in the old world and the new. In closing, he referred to the constitution of Iowa as typical of the efforts of the American people to embody in fixed form the principles of right and justice.

Thursday morning was given over to a conference on the teaching of history. Prof. Isaac A. Loos, of the State University of Iowa, presided, and members of the faculties of a number of the colleges and high schools of the state were present and participated in the program. In the afternoon the conference of historical societies convened, Dr. F. E. Horack, of the State Historical Society of Iowa, presiding. Reports were read from the historical department at Des Moines and from nearly all of the local historical societies of the state. Methods and policies were discussed and much enthusiasm was aroused looking toward the better preservation of the valuable materials of local history.

The history of the Mississippi valley is replete with events of romantic interest. From the time of the early French voyagers and explorers, who paddled down the waters of the tributaries from the north, down to the days of the sturdy pioneers of Anglo Saxon blood, who squatted upon the fertile soil and staked out their claims on the prairies, there attaches an interest that is scarcely equalled in the annals of America. On Thursday evening, Dr. Reuben Gold Thwaites, superintendent of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, delivered an address upon "The Romance of Mississippi Valley History." He traced the lines of exploration and immigration from the northeast and east and drew interesting pictures of the activities in the great river valley when the land was young and the ways full of wonder to the pioneer adventurer.

Friday's program closed the session. On this day Governor Albert B. Cummins attended and participated in the celebration. At the university armory before a large gathering, he spoke briefly on the Constitution of the United States, paying it high tribute and at the same time showing the need of amendment to fit present-day needs. He then introduced Judge Emlin McClain, of the supreme court of Iowa, who delivered the principal address of the day. Judge McClain took for his subject "The Constitutional Convention and the Issues Before It." He told of that memorable gathering at the Old Stone Capitol in Iowa City fifty years ago when thirty-six men met in the supreme court-room to draft the fundamental law for the commonwealth.

The members of the convention of 1857 were from various occupations. The representatives of the legal profession led in numbers with fourteen members, among whom were many men of prominence. William Penn Clarke, Edward Johnstone and J. C. Hall were there. James F. Wilson, afterward so prominent in national politics, was a member, then only twenty-eight years of age. J. C. Hall was the only delegate who had served in either of the preceding constitutional conventions of the state, having represented Henry county in the convention of 1844. There were 12 farmers in the convention of 1857—rugged types of those men who settled upon land and built into the early history of the state its elements of enduring strength. Among the remaining members were merchants, bankers and various other tradesmen. They were a representative group of men and they attacked the problems before them with characteristic pioneer vigor.

The convention of 1857 chose for its presiding officer, Francis Springer, an able farmer and lawyer from Louisa county. Many were the discussions that stirred the convention. One of the first was over the proposition to move the convention bodily to Dubuque or to Davenport. The town of Iowa City it seems had not provided satisfactory accommodations for the delegates, and for hours the members gave vent to their displeasure and argued the question of a removal. But inertia won and the convention finally decided to remain in Iowa City and settled down to the discussion of more serious matters.

The constitution of 1846 had prohibited banking corporations in the state. But there was strong agitation for a change in this respect, and so the convention of 1857 provided for both a state bank and for a system of free banks. The matter of corporations

was a prominent one before the convention. So also was the question of the status of the negro. The issues were taken up with fairness and argued upon their merits. The convention was republican in the proportion of 21 to 15. The delegates had been elected upon a party basis. Yet they did not allow partisanship to control their actions as members of a constituent assembly. On the 19th of January they had come together and for a month and a half they remained in session. They adjourned March 5th and dispersed to their homes.

That the members of the convention did their work well is evidenced by the fact that in the 50 years that have followed only four times has the constitution of 1857 been amended. Nor did these amendments embody changes, the need of which the men of 1857 could have well foreseen. The first two changes in the fundamental law were due to the changed status of the negro as a result of the Civil war. In 1882 the prohibitory amendment was passed, but it was soon declared null by the supreme court of Iowa because of technicalities in its submission to the people and so did not become a part of the constitution. The amendments of 1884 were concerned largely with judicial matters, and those of 1904 provided for biennial election and increased the number of members of the House of Representatives.

With these changes the work of the constitutional convention of 1857 has come down to us. Fifty years have passed and twice has the convention been the subject of a celebration. In 1882, after a quarter of a century, the surviving members met at Des Moines. Francis Springer, then an old man, was present and presided at the meeting. Out of the original 36 members, only 20 responded to the roll call. Eight other members were alive but were unable to attend. The remainder had given way to the inevitable reaper. This was in 1882. In 1907 occurred the second celebration. This time it was not a reunion of the members of the convention, for only one survivor appeared on the scene. It was rather a commemoration of the fiftieth birthday of the constitution of the state. Only one member of the convention, John H. Peters, of Manchester, Iowa, is reported to be now living.

The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of our fundamental law was marked by a unique feature. There were present and participated in the program three aged pioneers of the state, a survivor of each of the three constitutional conventions. These three conventions met in 1857, in 1846 and 1844, respectively, 50, 61

and 63 years ago. On the opening day of the celebration, J. Scott Richman appeared upon the scene. Sixty-one years ago he had come to Iowa City as a delegate of the convention of 1846. Eighty-eight years old, with patriarchal beard and slow step, he came as the only living member of the convention that framed the constitution under which Iowa entered the Union. On Thursday there came from Marion, Samuel Durham, a tall pioneer, 90 years of age, the sole survivor of Iowa's first constitutional convention—that of 1844. His memory ran back to the days of Iowa's first governor, Robert Lucas, for he had reached Iowa from Indiana in the year 1840. On the last day of the program these two old constitution makers of 1844 and 1846 were joined by a third, John H. Peters, who had come from Delaware county as a member of the last constitutional convention of fifty years ago. They sat down together at the luncheon on Friday noon and responded to toasts with words that took the hearers back to the days when Iowa was the last stopping place of the immigrant.

Thus the celebration was brought to an end. From every point of view it was a success. Probably never again will the state see the reunion of representatives of all three constitutional conventions. Time must soon take away these lingering pioneers of two generations ago, but the state will not soon forget their services, for they have left their monument in the fundamental law of the commonwealth.



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CABIN IN INGHAM TOWNSHIP BUILT IN 50'S OCCUPIED BY WINFRED BROTHERTON AND FAMILY



OBADIAH SMITH, PIONEER CABIN

## CHAPTER II

THE LOG CABIN WAS THE PALACE OF THE PIONEER—CHINKED LOGS, COVERED WITH CLAPBOARDS—RIFLE AND SPINNING WHEEL—ALMOST ANYTHING WAS A BEDROOM—COOKING WAS PRIMITIVE FOR SHARP APPETITES—WELCOME FOR THE WAYFARER—PRAIRIE FIRES AND WOLF HUNTS—AMUSEMENTS FOR THE FRONTIER PEOPLE WERE NOT LACKING—WHAT UNREMITTING TOIL HAS ACCOMPLISHED.

### PIONEER LIFE

Most of the early settlers of Iowa came from older states, as Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio, where their prospects for even a competency were very poor. They found those states good to emigrate from. Their entire stock of furniture, implements and family necessities were easily stored in one wagon, and sometimes a cart was their only vehicle.

### THE LOG CABIN

After arriving and selecting a suitable location, the next thing to do was to build a log cabin, a description of which may be interesting to many of the younger readers, as in some sections these old-time structures are no more to be seen. Trees of uniform size were chosen and cut into logs of the desired length, generally 12 by 15 feet, and hauled to the spot selected for the future dwelling. On an appointed day a few neighbors who were available would assemble and have a "house-raising." Each end of every log was saddled and notched so that they would lie as close down as possible; the next day the proprietor would proceed to "chink" and "daub" the cabin, to keep out the rain, wind and cold. The house had to be redaubed every fall, as the rains of the intervening time would wash out the greater part of the mortar. The usual height of the house was seven or eight feet. The gables were formed by shortening the logs



gradually at each end of the building near the top. The roof was made by laying very straight small logs, or stout poles, suitable distances apart, and on these were laid the clapboards, somewhat like shingling, generally about two and a half feet to the weather. These clapboards were fastened to their place by "weight poles" corresponding in place with the joists just described, and these again were held in their place by "runs," or "knees," which were chunks of wood about eighteen or twenty inches long, fitted between them near the ends. Clapboards were made from the nicest oaks in the vicinity, by chopping or sawing them into 4-foot blocks and riving these with a frow, which was a simple blade fixed at right angles to its handles. This was driven into the blocks of wood by a mallet. As the frow was wrenched down through the wood, the latter was turned alternately over from side to side, one end being held by a forked piece of timber.

The chimney to the western pioneer's cabin was made by leaving in the original building a large open place in one wall, or by cutting one after the structure was up, a stone column, or a column of sticks and mud, the sticks being laid up cob-house fashion. The fireplace thus made was often large enough to receive fire wood six to eight feet long. Sometimes this wood, especially the "back log," would be nearly as large as a saw log. The more rapidly the pioneer could burn up the wood in his vicinity, the sooner he had his little farm cleared and ready for cultivation. For a window, a piece about two feet long was cut out of one of the wall logs, and the hole closed, sometimes by glass, but generally with greased paper. Even greased deer hide was sometimes used. A doorway was cut through one of the walls if a saw was to be had, otherwise the door would be left by shortened logs in the original building. The door was made by pinning clapboards to two or three wood bars and was hung upon wooden hinges. A wooden latch, with catch, then finished the door, the latch being raised by any one on the outside by pulling a leather string. For security at night, this latch string was drawn in, but for friends and neighbors, and even strangers, the "latch string was always hanging out as a welcome." In the interior over the fireplace would be a shelf, called the "mantel," on which stood the candle stick or lamp, some cooking and table ware, possibly an old clock, and other articles. In the fireplace would be the crane, sometimes of iron, sometimes of wood. On it the pots were hung for cooking. Over the door, in forked cleats, hung the ever trustful rifle and powder horn. In one corner stood the larger bed for the "old folks,"

and under it the trundle bed for the children. In another stood the old-fashioned spinning-wheel, with a smaller one by its side, in another the heavy table, the only table, of course, there was in the house. In the remaining corner was a rude clapboard holding the table-ware, which consisted of a few cups and saucers and blue-edged plates standing singly on their edges against the back, to make the display of table furniture more conspicuous, while around the room were scattered a few splint bottom or Windsor chairs and two or three stools. These simple cabins were inhabited by a kind and true-hearted people. They were strangers to mock modesty and the traveler seeking lodging for the night, or desirous of spending a few days in the community, if willing to accept the rude offering, was always welcome, although how they were disposed of at night the reader might not easily imagine, for as described, a single room was made to answer for the kitchen, dining room, sitting room, bedroom and parlor, and many families consisted of six or eight members.

#### SLEEPING ACCOMMODATIONS

The bed was very often made by fixing a post in the floor about six feet from one wall and four feet from the adjoining wall, and fastening a stick to this post about two feet above the floor on each of two sides, so that the other end of the two sticks could be fastened in the opposite wall. Clapboards were laid across these and thus the bed made complete. Guests were given this bed, while the family disposed of themselves in another corner of the room or in the "loft." When several guests were on hand at once they were sometimes kept over night in the following manner: When bedtime came, the men were requested to step out of doors, while the women spread out a broad bed upon the mid-floor and put themselves to bed in the center. The signal was given and the men came in and each took his place in bed next his own wife, and the single men outside beyond them again.

#### COOKING

To witness the various processes of cooking in those days would alike surprise and amuse those who have grown up since cooking stoves and ranges came into use. Kettles were hung over the large fire, suspended with pot hooks, iron or wooden, on the crane, or on poles, one end of which would rest upon a chain. The long handled

frying pan was used for cooking meat. It was either held over the blaze by hand or set down upon coals drawn out upon the hearth. This pan was also used for baking pancakes, also called "flap-jacks," batter cakes, etc. A better article for this, however, was the cast iron spider, or Dutch skillet. The best thing for baking bread those days, and probably even in these latter days, was the flat bot-tomed bake kettle, of greater depth, with closely fitting cast iron cover, and commonly known as the Dutch oven. With coals over it and under it, bread and biscuit would quickly and nicely bake. Turkey and spareribs were sometimes roasted before the fire, sus-pended by a string, a dish being placed underneath to catch the drippings.

Hominy and samp were very much used. The hominy, however, was generally hulled corn—boiled corn from which the hull or bran had been taken by hot lye—hence, sometimes called "lye hominy." True hominy and samp were made of pounded corn. A popular method of making this, as well as real meal for bread, was to cut off or burn a large hole in the top of a huge stump in the shape of a mortar and pounding the corn in this by a maul or beetle suspended by a swing pole like a well sweep. This and the well sweep con-sisted of a pole twenty to thirty feet long, fixed in an upright fork, so that it could be worked "teeter" fashion. It was a rapid and simple way of drawing water. When the samp was sufficiently pounded, it was taken out, the bran floated off, and the delicious grain boiled like rice.

The chief articles of diet in an early day were corn bread, hom-iny or samp, venison, pork, honey, pumpkin (dried pumpkin more than half the year), turkey, prairie chicken, squirrel and some other game, with a few additional vegetables a portion of the year. Wheat bread, tea, coffee and fruit were luxuries not to be indulged in except on special occasions, as when visitors were present.

#### WOMEN'S WORK

Besides cooking in the manner described, the women had many other arduous duties to perform, chief of which was spinning. The "big wheel" was used for spinning yarn and the "little wheel" for spinning flax. These stringed instruments furnished the principal music of the family, and were operated by our mothers and grand-mothers with great skill, attained without pecuniary expense, and with far less practice than is necessary for the girls of our period to

acquire a skillful use of their costly and elegant instruments. But those wheels, indispensable many years ago, are all now superseded by the mighty factories which overspread the country, furnishing cloth of all kinds at an expense ten times less than would be incurred now by the old system.

The loom was not less necessary than the wheel, though they were not needed in so great numbers. Not every house had a loom, one loom having a capacity for the needs of several families. Settlers, having succeeded in spite of the wolves in raising sheep, commenced the manufacture of woolen cloth. Wool was carded and made into rolls by hand cards and the rolls were spun on the "big wheel." We still occasionally find in the house of old settlers a wheel of this kind, sometimes used for spinning and twisting stocking yarn. They are turned with the hand and with such velocity that it will run itself, while the nimble worker, with her backward step, draws out and twists her thread nearly the whole length of the cabin. A common article woven on the loom was linsey, or linsey woolsey, the chain being linen and the filling woolen. The cloth was used for dresses for the women and girls. Nearly all the clothes worn by the men were also home made. Rarely was a farmer or his son seen in a coat made of any other. If occasionally a young man appeared in a suit of "boughten" clothes, he was suspected of having gotten it for a particular occasion, which occurs in the life of nearly every young man.

#### HOSPITALITY

The traveler always found a welcome at the pioneer's cabin. It was never full. Although there might already be a guest for every puncheon, there was still "room for one more," and a wider circle would be made for the newcomer at the big fire. If the stranger was in search of land he was doubly welcome and his host would volunteer to show him all the "first-rate claims in his neck of the woods," going with him for days, showing the corners and advantages of every "congress tract" within a dozen miles of his own cabin.

To his neighbors, the pioneer was equally liberal. If a deer was killed, the choicest bits were sent to the nearest neighbor, a half-dozen miles away perhaps. When a "shoat" was butchered, the same custom prevailed. If a newcomer came in too late for "cropping," the neighbors would supply his table with just the same luxuries they themselves enjoyed, and in as liberal quantity until a crop

could be raised. When a newcomer had located his claim, the neighbors for miles around would assemble at the site of the newcomer's proposed cabin and aid him in "gettin'" it up. One party with axes would cut down the trees and hew the logs, another with teams would haul the logs to the ground, another party would "raise" the cabin, while several of the old men would "rive the clapboards" for the roof. By night the little forest domicile would be up and ready for a "house warming," which was the dedicatory occupation of the house, when music and dancing and festivity would be enjoyed at full height. The next day the newcomer would be as well situated as his neighbor.

An instance of primitive hospitable manners will be in place here. A traveling Methodist preacher arrived in a distant neighborhood to fill an appointment. The house where the services were to be held did not belong to a church member, but no matter for that. Boards were collected from all quarters, with which to make temporary seats, one of the neighbors volunteering to lead off in the work, while the man of the house, with the faithful rifle on his shoulder, sallied forth in quest of meat, for this truly was a "ground-hog" case—the preacher coming and no meat in the house. The host ceased not the chase until he found the meat in shape of a deer. Returning, he sent a boy out after it, with directions on which "pint" to find it. After services, which had been listened to with rapt attention by all the audience, mine host said to his wife, "Old woman, I reckon this 'ere preacher is pretty hungry and you must git him a bite to eat." "What shaill I get him?" asked the wife, who had not seen the deer; "thar's nuthin' in the house to eat." "Why look thar," returned he, "thar's a deer, and thar's plenty of corn in the field; you git some corn and grate it, while I skin the deer, and we'll have a good supper for him." It is needless to add that venison and corn bread made a supper fit for any pioneer preacher and was thankfully eaten.

#### PRAIRIE FIRES

Fires set out by Indians or settlers, sometimes purposely and sometimes permitted through carelessness, would visit the prairies every autumn and sometimes the forests, either in autumn or spring, and settlers could not always succeed in defending themselves against the destroying element. Many interesting incidents are related. Often a fire was started to bewilder game, or to bare a piece of

ground for the early grazing of stock the ensuing spring, and it would get away under a wind and soon be beyond control. Violent winds would often arise and drive the flames with such rapidity that riders on the fleetest steeds could scarcely escape. On the approach of a prairie fire, the farmer would immediately set about "cutting off supplies" for the devouring enemy by a "back fire." Thus by starting a small fire near the bare ground about his premises and keeping it under control next his property, he would burn off a strip around him and prevent the attack of the on-coming flames. A few furrows or a ditch around the farm were in some degree a protection.

An original prairie of tall and exuberant grass on fire, especially at night, was a magnificent spectacle, enjoyed only by the pioneer. Here is an instance where the frontiersman, proverbially deprived of the sights and pleasures of an old community, is privileged far beyond the people of the present day in this country. One could scarcely tire beholding the scene, as its awe-inspiring features seemed constantly to increase, and the whole panorama unceasingly changed like the dissolving views of a magic lantern, or like the aurora borealis. Language cannot convey, words cannot express the faintest idea of the splendor and grandeur of such a conflagration at night. It was as if the pale queen of night, disdainful to take her accustomed place in the heavens, had dispatched myriads upon myriads of messengers to light their torches at the altar of the setting sun until all had flashed into one long and continuous blaze.

The following graphic description of prairie fires was written by a traveler through this region in 1849:

"Soon the fires began to kindle and rise higher from the long grass. The gentle breezes increased to stronger currents, and soon fanned the small, flickering blaze into fierce torrent flames, which curled up and leaped along in resistless splendor, and like quickly raising the dark curtain from the luminous stage, the scenes before me were suddenly changed as if by the magician's wand, into one boundless amphitheater, blazing from earth to heaven and sweeping the horizon round,—columns of lurid flames sportively mounting up to the zenith, and dark clouds of crimson smoke, curling away and aloft till they nearly obscured stars and moon, while the rushing, crashing sounds, like roaring cataracts mingled with distant thunders, were almost deafening. Danger, death, glared all around; it screamed for victims, yet, notwithstanding the imminent peril of prairie fires, one is loath, irresolute, almost unable to withdraw or seek refuge."

## WOLF HUNTS

In the early days more mischief was done by wolves than by any other wild animals, and no small part of their mischief consisted in their almost constant barking at night, which always seemed so frightful and menacing to the settlers. Like mosquitoes, the noise they made appeared to be about as dreadful as the depredations they committed. The most effectual, as well as the most exciting method of ridding the country of these hateful pests, was that known as the "circular wolf hunt," by which all the men and boys would turn out on an appointed day, in a kind of circle comprising many square miles of territory, with horses and dogs, and then close up toward the center of their field of operations, gathering not only wolves, but also deer and many smaller "varmint." Five, ten, or more wolves by this means would sometimes be killed in a single day. The men would be organized with as much system as a little army, every one being well posted in the meaning of every signal and the application of every rule. Guns were scarcely ever allowed to be brought on such occasions, as their use would be unavoidably dangerous. The dogs were depended upon for the final slaughter. The dogs, by the way, had all to be held in check by a cord in the hands of their keepers until the final signal was given to let them loose, when away they would all go to the center of battle, and a more exciting scene would follow than can easily be described.

## SPELLING SCHOOLS

The chief public entertainment for many years was the celebrated spelling school. Both young and old looked forward to the next spelling school with as much anticipation and anxiety as we nowadays look forward to a general 4th of July celebration. And when the time arrived, the whole neighborhood, yea, and sometimes several neighborhoods, would flock to the scene of academical combat, where the excitement was often more intense than had been expected. It was the better, of course, when there was good sleighing, then the young folks would turn out in high glee and be fairly beside themselves. The jollity is scarcely equalled at the present day by anything in vogue.

When the appointed hour arrived, the usual plan of commencing battle was for two of the young people who might agree to play against each other, or who might be selected to do so by the teacher,

to "choose sides;" that is, each contestant would choose the best speller from the assembled crowd. Each one choosing alternately, the ultimate strength of the respective parties would be about equal. When all were chosen one could be made to serve, each side would "number," so as to ascertain whether amid the confusion one side had more spellers than the other. In case he had, some compromise would be made by the aid of the teacher, the master of ceremonies, and then the plan of conducting the campaign, or counting the misspelled words, would be canvassed for a moment. There were several ways of conducting the contest, but the usual way was to "spell across;" that is, the first on one side would spell the first word, then the first on the other side; next, the second in line on each side, alternately down to the foot of each line. The question who should spell the first word was determined by the "choosers." One would have the first choice of spellers, the other spell the first word. When a word was missed, it would be repronounced, or passed along without repronouncing (as some teachers followed the rule never to repronounce a word), until it was spelled correctly. If a speller on the opposite side finally spelled a missed word correctly, it was counted a gain of one to that side. If the word was finally corrected by some speller on the same side on which it was originated as a missed word, it was "saved" and no tally mark was made. An hour perhaps would be occupied in this way and then an "intermission" was had, when the buzzing, cackling, hurraing and confusion that ensued for ten or fifteen minutes were beyond description.

Coming to order again, the next style of battle to be illustrated was to "spell down," by which process it was ascertained who were the best spellers and could continue standing the longest. But often good spellers would inadvertently miss a word in an early stage of the contest and would have to sit down, humiliated, while a comparatively poor speller would often stand till nearly or quite the last, amid the cheers of the assemblage. Sometimes the two parties first "chosen up" in the evening would again take their places after recess, so that by the "spelling down" process there would virtually be another race in another form; sometimes there would be a new "choosing sides," for the "spelling down" contest, and sometimes the spelling down would be conducted without any party lines being made. It would occasionally happen that two or three very good spellers would retain the floor so long that the exercise would become monotonous, when a few outlandish words like "chevaux-de-frise," "Ompompanoosuc," or "baugh-naugh-claugh-ber," as they



used to spell it sometimes, would create a little ripple of excitement to close with. Sometimes these words would decide the contest, but generally when two or three good spellers kept the floor until it became tedious, the teacher would declare the race ended and the standing spellers acquitted with a "drawn game."

The audience dismissed, the next thing was to go home, very often by a roundabout way, "a-sleighing with the girls," which, of course, was the most interesting part of the evening's performances; sometimes, however, too rough to be commended, as the boys were often inclined to be somewhat rowdyish.

#### THE BRIGHT SIDE

The history of pioneer life generally presents the dark side of the picture, but the toils and privations of the early settlers were not a series of unmitigated sufferings. No; for while the fathers and mothers toiled hard, they were not adverse to a little relaxation and had their seasons of fun and enjoyment. They contrived to do something to break the monotony of their daily life and furnish a good hearty laugh. Among the more general forms of amusements were the "quilting bee," "corn husking," "paring bee," "log rolling" and "house raising." Our young readers will doubtless be interested in a description of these forms of amusements, when labor was made to afford fun and enjoyment to all participating. The "quilting bee," as its name implies, was when the industrious qualities of the busy little insect that "improves each shining hour" were exemplified in the manufacture of quilts for the household. In the afternoon, ladies for miles around gathered at the appointed place, and while their tongues would not cease to play, the hands were as busily engaged in making the quilts, and the desire always manifested to get it out as quickly as possible, for then the fun would begin. In the evening the gentlemen came, and the hours would then pass quickly by in "plays," games, singing and dancing. "Corn huskings" were when both sexes united in the work. They usually assembled in a large barn, which was arranged for the occasion, and when each gentleman had selected a lady partner, the husking began. When a lady found a red ear of corn she was entitled to a kiss from every gentleman present. When a gentleman found one, he was entitled to kiss every lady present. After the corn was all husked, a good supper was served, then the "old folks" would leave and the remainder of the evening was spent in the dance and in having a gen-

eral good time. The recreation afforded to the young people on the annual recurrence of these festive occasions was as highly enjoyed and quite as innocent as the amusements of the present boasted age of refinement and culture.

The amusements of the pioneers were peculiar to themselves. Saturday afternoon was a sort of half holiday. The men usually went to town and when that place was reached, "fun commenced." Had two neighbors business to transact, here it was done. Horses were "swapped," difficulties settled and free fights indulged in. Whisky was as free as water. Twelve and a half cents would buy a quart and thirty-five cents a gallon, and at such prices enormous quantities were consumed.

#### WHAT THE PIONEERS HAVE DONE

Iowa is a grand state and in many respects, second to none in the Union, and in everything that goes to make a live, prosperous community, not far behind the best. Her harvests are bountiful; she has a medium climate and many other things that make her people contented, prosperous, and happy; but she owes much to those who opened up these avenues that have led to her present condition and happy surroundings. Unremitting toil and labor have driven off the sickly miasmas that brooded over swampy prairies. Energy and perseverance have peopled every section of her wild lands and changed them from wastes and deserts to gardens of beauty and profit. Where but a few years ago the barking wolves made the night hideous with their wild shrieks and howls, now is heard only the lowing and bleating of domestic animals. Only a half century ago the wild whoop of the Indian rent the air where now are heard the engine and rumbling train of cars, bearing away to markets the products of our labor and soil. Then the savage built rude huts on the spot where now rise the dwellings and schoolhouses and church spires of civilized life. How great the transformation! This change has been brought about by the incessant toil and aggregated labor of thousands of tired hands and anxious hearts, and the noble aspirations of such men and women as make any country great. What will another half century accomplish? There are few, very few, of these old pioneers yet lingering on the shores of time as connecting links of the past with the present. What must their thoughts be as with their dim eyes they view the scenes that surround them? We often hear people talk of the old fogy ideas and fogy ways and

want of enterprise on the part of the old men who have gone through the experiences of pioneer life. Sometimes, perhaps, such remarks are just, but considering the experiences, education and entire life of such men, such remarks are better unsaid. They have had their trials, hardships, misfortunes and adventures, and shall we now, as they are passing far down the western declivity of life, and many of them gone, point to them the finger of derision and laugh and sneer at the simplicity of their ways? Let us rather cheer them up, revere and respect them, for beneath those rough exteriors beat hearts as noble as ever throbbed in the human breast. These veterans have been compelled to live for weeks upon hominy, and if bread at all, it was bread made from corn ground in hand mills, or pounded up in mortars. Their children have been destitute of shoes during the winter; their families had no clothing except what was carded, spun, wove and made into garments by their own hands; schools, they had none; churches, they had none; afflicted with sickness incident to all new countries, sometimes the entire family at one time; luxuries of life, they had none; the auxiliaries, improvements, inventions and labor-saving machinery of today, they had not; and what they possessed they obtained by the hardest of labor and individual exertions; yet they bore these hardships and privations without murmuring, hoping for better times to come, and often, too, with but little prospect of realization.

As before mentioned, the changes written on every hand are most wonderful. It has been but four score years since the white man began to exercise dominion over this region, erst the home of the red men; yet the visitor of today, ignorant of the past of the country, could scarcely realize that within these years there has grown up a population of 2,225,000, who in all the accomplishments of life are as far advanced as are the inhabitants of the older states. Schools, churches, colleges, palatial dwellings, beautiful grounds, large, well cultivated and productive farms, as well as cities, towns and busy manufactories have grown up and occupy the hunting grounds and camping places of the Indians, and in every direction there are evidences of wealth, comfort and luxury. There is but little of the old landmarks left. Advanced civilization and the progressive demands of revolving years have obliterated all traces of Indian occupancy, until they are remembered only in name.

In closing this section we again would impress upon the minds of our readers the fact that they owe a debt of gratitude to those who pioneered this state, which can be but partially repaid. Never grow

unmindful of the peril and adventure, fortitude, self-sacrifice and heroic devotion so prominently displayed in their lives. As time sweeps on in its ceaseless flight, may the cherished memories of them lose none of their greenness, but may future generations alike cherish and perpetuate them with a just devotion to gratitude.



## CHAPTER III

IOWA'S FIRST LEGISLATURE—GRAPHIC, AMUSING AND INTERESTING  
PEN PICTURES BY A VETERAN MEMBER OF THAT HISTORIC BODY—  
HAWKINS TAYLOR'S PORTRAYAL OF THE FIRST IOWA LAW MAKERS—  
FRANKLIN COUNTY IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Hawkins Taylor was a member of the first Iowa Territorial Legislature from Lee county and afterward became a man of note and influence. Prior to his death he spent several years in Washington City and in 1884 contributed the article given here to the State Register:

"I propose to write up the first Territorial Legislature of Iowa that met in Burlington in the old Zion Methodist Church on Third street, on the 12th of November, 1838, now more than forty-five years ago. At this time very few of the members of the present Legislature of the State of Iowa had tasted their mother's milk, and at that time few of the members had ever seen a railroad. The settlers did not get free homes as the settlers do now, and they had pre-emption laws, but had to pay \$1.25 per acre for their land or risk its being entered by a speculator. Money was scarce and times hard but there was good will, the latch string was out at every cabin, and no one thought of locking the doors of cabin or stable. If one settler from sickness or any other cause needed help, his neighbors gave him the assistance, whether to cultivate his crops or pay for his land. There were few statute laws but the people were a law unto themselves, and there is never much injustice in such localities, where the ministers of the gospel are a part, and respected part, of the community. It is when civilization and courts assume control that locks are needed. It is the certainty of conviction and punishment that brings terror to the evil doer. There was certainty of punishment then. There is not much fear of certainty of punishment now, if the swag justifies the risk. At that time the man who attempted to rob his neighbor was speedily settled with, and without court expense.

"After this preface, the reader will not be surprised to have me say that no Legislature in the state, not excepting the present one, ever had more talent and honest, earnest work in preparing proper laws for the people than the first Iowa Territorial Legislature in proportion to members, and there certainly has never been more dignified or efficient presiding officers than Gen. J. B. Brown, of the council, and Col. W. H. Wallace, of the House. I have never seen in the Senate or House of Congress, with the exception of Vice-President Dallas, the same dignity and observance of the rules as in that first Territorial Legislature, both in the Council and House.

"There were thirteen members of the Council and twenty-six members of the House, all newcomers to each other, and naturally, among the members some odd characters. They were from all parts of the Union, and each member was interested in incorporating in the laws of the territory the laws of the state of his former residence. The territory had laws under the Territory of Michigan, and then under, or a part of, Wisconsin, but the new Legislature had no code of laws to work on or from. A large majority of the members were from Indiana, Illinois, or the South, and were interesting anti-Yankee, so much so that even Ohio was classed as a Yankee state and unfortunately, the Legislature at the outset got into a quarrel, first with the secretary of the territory (Conway) about pocket knives, and then with the Governor about the number of employees of the Legislature. and that quarrel lasted up to the end of the session. Governor Lucas had been Governor of Ohio for two terms, had presided over the Baltimore convention in 1832, that renominated 'Old Hickory.' He wore his hair like Old Hickory and looked like him, and was proud of it, claiming the Roman virtues of that old hero. He was a class leader of the Methodist church and felt that it was his special duty to civilize the swell mob of settlers and legislators that he had been appointed to govern. He was an economist of the strictest Holman order, and the Legislature, following the example of the Wisconsin Legislature, had elected a full corps of officers, some ten in the Council and a third more in the House, to which the Governor had entered his earnest protest. There had some half dozen followers come with the Governor from Ohio, some of them very indiscreet friends, and they contributed largely to the quarrel. The Council refused to confirm the Governor's nominees and the Governor would reappoint and the Council would persevere in rejecting them.

"An old fellow by the name of King, who kept a tavern where a good many members boarded, was nominated for justice of the peace

and rejected almost a dozen times. King was called 'The Bell Ringer.' He had a bell on a post out in the street that he rang before meals. On one occasion, Hempstead, of Dubuque, afterward Governor, when King had been rejected ten or a dozen times, on the arrival of a message from the Governor, inquired of the President of the Council if the 'aforesaid Bell Ringer was back again.'

"Frierson, a member from Muscatine, was probably more the cause of the continued trouble than all others. He assumed to speak for the Governor and would threaten all measures before the Legislature that he did not like with the Governor's veto; and the Governor's veto was then absolute. The Legislature, by more than two-thirds majority, passed a memorial to the President of the United States for the removal of the Governor. The memorial was prepared by a committee of which J. W. Grimes was chairman, and drawn mainly by Grimes. It was very nearly a copy of the Declaration of Independence, in the following words:

"'He has declared to members of the Legislative Assembly his determination to veto all laws for which he would not vote as a member of the Assembly, thereby placing his isolated opinion in opposition to that of the representatives of the people, as well as possible in matters of more expediency. He has appointed and nominated to office persons from abroad who were neither domiciled among nor had they any interest in common with the people of Iowa, and some of the persons thus nominated or appointed were connected with his excellency by intimate ties. He has manifested such a total want of abilities, not only to govern in time of peace but more especially to command in time of war, as are justly calculated to inspire your memorialists and their constituents with alarm for the security of their country, bordering as it does on the very confines of savage, warlike tribes.

"'Wherefore, and in consideration of the above recited facts, your memorialists are driven to the unpleasant alternative of appealing to the constitutional guardian of this people, who has, they firmly believe, the best interests of the people at heart, although in the language of your excellency, the appointing power cannot always be well advised in its selections and the experience of every county has shown that public officers are not always proof against temptation, and of declaring, your excellency, in the language of the Declaration of Independence, their firm conviction that Robert Lucas is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

"'They therefore, impelled by facts alone, and in nowise influenced by party or political motives, most respectfully and earnestly



pray, that his excellency be forthwith recalled from the further discharge of the executive duties of the territory, under the full conviction that the grievances of the people, whom they have the honor to represent, will not be heard and remain unredressed and that the misrule that otherwise might terminate in the ruin of the fairest and hitherto most prosperous and quiet portion of our common country will be practically and constitutionally arrested.'

"The Governor was not removed and no one expected that he would be when they voted for the memorial, but Congress did change the law creating the territory by allowing the Legislature to pass a measure over the veto of the Governor by a two-thirds vote.

"There had been no politics in the election of the members to either House of the Legislature. Every single member had been elected on a local issue, either the county boundary or county seat question, and mainly on the county seat question. The people then had heard of railroads but no person then expected that they would carry produce to market. They might take people and light baggage but never flour and meats. The water courses alone were relied upon for the transportation of produce. The Des Moines, Skunk, Iowa and Cedar rivers were all relied upon as navigable streams, especially the Des Moines. That river was to be the Muskingum of Iowa, with its banks lined with thriving towns. Farmington had been made the county seat of Van Buren county, by the Wisconsin Legislature, and then changed to Keosawqua, but Bonaparte, Bentonsport, Columbus, Farmington and Rising Sun were all ready to take their Bible oath that their town was the proper place for the county seat. Each of these towns had one or more candidates for the Legislature and each elected a member of one or the other House except Columbus. In Lee county the contest was between Fort Madison and the town of West Point. Fort Madison got the Council and West Point the House members. In Henry the contest was between Mount Pleasant and Trenton. Mount Pleasant elected the two members of the Council and two of the House. In Des Moines, it was Burlington and Franklin, and Burlington got all but one member. In Louisa, it was Wapello and Columbus City. Wapello got all. In Muscatine, it was Muscatine and Moscow. All the members lived in or near Muscatine but Moscow elected Hastings. In Scott, it was Davenport and Rockingham. Davenport got the members, as did Bellevue and Dubuque in Jackson and Dubuque counties."

The writer then gives in detail a description of the personality of each member of this first Territorial Legislature of Iowa and his method of handling the subject is more than interesting. But space forbids the inclusion of any of them save and except the men who were sent from Muscatine and Louisa counties, which formed this district at that time. An exception will be made, however, in that of Gen. Jesse B. Brown, of Lee county. The narrative, among other things had this to say of him:

#### FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

"From Lee, came Jesse B. Brown, the president of the Council. Brown was six feet seven inches in height and straight as an arrow. He has had no duplicate in Iowa or elsewhere. Sam Houston, of Texas, is the only man that had similar traits and the same capacity to attachments warm. But for dissipation Brown would have been the great leader of the people of Iowa and would have commanded any position desired. He never forgot a face or name, and his polished politeness when sober is a lost art at the present day. He was never beaten for any office in Lee county. The people would declare, after his troubled sprees, that they would never again 'support General Brown,' but they would forget their promises the next time he wanted their votes. But he had one remarkable trait. He never excused himself or made any excuses for his sprees; he made free concession of his unfortunate habits and evil acts and begged the forgiveness of his friends and he was forgiven. Brown was the Speaker of the House of the first Iowa State Assembly, known as the 'Pappoose' Legislature.

#### HASTINGS A UNIQUE CHARACTER

"From Muscatine and Louisa came John Frierson, S. C. Hastings, William L. Toole and Levi Thornton. Hastings was from Central New York, tall and as straight as an arrow, dark, oily face, coarse, long black hair like an Indian, strong guttural voice—a lawyer—and could carry more of the old-fashioned, unadulterated whisky of that day, without losing his balance, than any other member. Of the little money then in circulation a good deal of it was counterfeit and a decently good one dollar counterfeit was never questioned. About the only money in circulation was wildcat and it was not much better than counterfeit. Hastings carried in his pocket several hundred dollars of counterfeit money. He did not try to pass it. He was the:

paid lawyer of the organization of counterfeiters and horse thieves and said that they always sent him a bill of each new issue, that he would know that any one arrested for passing that issue, or kind of money, was to be defended by him. Hempstead told a story on Hastings that the latter greatly enjoyed. Two horse thieves had been arrested for horse stealing and were committed to jail in Dubuque. They were in jail several weeks before the meeting of the court, and had applied to no lawyer at Dubuque to defend them up to the day that court met, when they sent for Hempstead. They told Hempstead that they expected their lawyer from Muscatine, but he had not arrived, and that they had been instructed to employ him if Mr. Hastings did not come. The next morning, soon after the court met, a tall, uncouth, long-haired specimen of humanity came into the court room and looking around, inquired for Hempstead, to whom he made himself known as the attorney expected by the horse thieves. The following morning the thieves were arraigned under the indictment and plead not guilty, Hastings making oath that he could not proceed to trial on account of the absence of material witnesses. Their case was continued until the next term and bail set at \$3,000 each. Two men swore that they were worth the required amount and Hastings, the two sureties and the two horse thieves marched out of court together. The next that Hempstead heard of Hastings was as a member of the Legislature at Burlington; but he never heard of the thieves and their sureties. Some years later Joe Lverage, who was the head factor in the horse line in the Cedar valley, was indicted for some of his horse operations. Joe was in great trouble and employed General Lowe who then lived at Muscatine. Lowe would not agree to be associated with Hastings. Joe wanted Hastings and continued suggesting to Lowe the advisability of employing Hastings. Finally Lowe got mad and said: 'Yes, take your case and employe Hastings.' 'Oh, no, General, I cannot give you up; you must manage the case. Oh, no, I cannot give you up,' answered Joe, but in a whisper said: 'It may become necessary to steal the indictment.' Lowe told him that he might employ Hastings for that purpose if he wanted to. But the court decided the indictment dead and it was not necessary to steal the indictment.

#### AN 'ODD LOOKING FISH'

"At the opening of the Legislature the Speaker adopted a rule that has never been followed since, I believe. He called members

to the chair alphabetically. The result was that a good many members were called upon to preside that had no fitness for the position and was the cause of many amusing incidents. Wallace as Speaker established and required a courteous order that I have never seen equalled in any legislative body since, and least of all, in the House of Congress. When the House had been in committee of the whole and rose, the speaker, would walk up on one side of the rostrum, while the chairman would go down on the other, proceed to his desk, report the action of the committee of the whole, the most perfect silence being required during the report—in fact, perfect order was required at all times. There were twelve double desks and one single desk. I occupied a desk with Van Delashmutt, a man full of humor. Robert G. Roberts, of Cedar county, did not get to Burlington for several days after the meeting of the Legislature. Roberts was a character—a man of good sense but rough, uncouth, unlearned and sensitive. He was a burly, rugged fellow. He wore a coarse suit of cassinet. His coat in breadth was large but in length was of the present dude style and very odd at that time. His shoes were of the brogan kind, now out of fashion. His hair was long and loose, with no evidence of ever having seen a comb.

“All in all, he was an odd looking fish. He had never before seen any of the brother members but Hastings. The speaker, learning that he was in the city, sent for him to be sworn in. I never saw a man that seemed to be worse scared than Roberts. Van Delashmutt would whisper to me loud enough to be heard by other members near, ‘He’ll run, he’ll run!’ but Roberts did not run. He took a seat at the single desk and was the subject of much amusement during the session.”

#### THE FIRST BILL INTRODUCED BY HASTINGS

The first bill was introduced by Hastings for the benefit of Robert G. Roberts, legalizing his acts as justice of the peace. He had been appointed justice of the peace by the Governor and had acted as such without being sworn in.

#### HASTINGS BEWILDERS A STUTTERING MEMBER

“Sam Parker was from West Virginia and had at one time held the dignified office of constable. He was a fellow of quick wit and feared no one, was rough and uncouth in manner but naturally kind

and clever. The first time that Sam was called to the chair, and the committee arose, Sam went to his seat but made no report to the House. The speaker looked dignified and the members were in a broad grin but Sam did not understand it. Colonel Patterson went to him and told him he must report the action of the committee to the House. Sam jumped up and in a noble voice said: 'Mr. Speaker, the House in committee on the whole have considered the bill, have amended it and have told me to ask *you* to concur.' The Speaker without a smile put the question: 'Will the House authorize the Speaker to concur in the amendment made?' and the House told him to concur. Sam was again in the chair during the fight for the capital location. The fight between Burlington as the temporary and Mount Pleasant as the permanent location, and a central location by commissioners, was bitter in the extreme, lasting two days. Sam was for the Burlington and Mount Pleasant combination and the vote stood 13 for Mount Pleasant and 12 for commissioners. Hastings was one of the most active members of the minority and the whole of the two days had been spent mainly in voting down amendments, striking out Mount Pleasant and inserting the name of some other town unheard of. Name after name had been proposed by Hastings and voted down. Sam's patience was exhausted, when Hastings proposed the name of Mississippiwonoc. Sam rose and said: 'The gentleman from Muscatine proposed to strike out the name of Mount Pleasant and insert the name of Mis-sis-sis,' and down sat Sam. Hastings got up and pronounced the name, when Sam made another attempt but got no further than 'Mis-sis-sis,' and again sat down. Hastings again got up and repeated the name slowly and in a very sonorous voice, when Sam jumped up and with his shut fists and in a furious voice said: 'That may be the name, Mr. Hastings, but if it is it is d—d badly spelled.' Up to this speech the members had been fighting mad but all shouted with laughter at Sam's decision. Sam had restored good feeling and Laurel Summers, of Scott, changed his vote from the majority to the minority and the commissioners were appointed who located the capital at Iowa City. Swan was chairman of the commission and had charge of the laying off of the town. He settled there, built and kept Swan's Hotel, and if all that was said and done in that hotel could be written, it would be a readable book. Tom Johnson always stopped at the Swan and said many witty things. It was in that hotel that Breckenridge met the defeat that sent him back to Kentucky. He wanted to be the 8th of January orator but that post of honor was given to Mills, who was killed in

Mexico, and Breckenridge left the Yankee country. In that hotel a Lee county Senator raised a row because they numbered his cowhide boots 13 (the number of his room). He said his boots were only tens and that if he was to be so insulted he would leave the house.

"There were but two counties west of the Mississippi, while a part of the Territory of Wisconsin (then spelled Oisconsin), Des Moines and Dubuque dividing at Pine river between Muscatine and Davenport, and at the session of the Wisconsin Legislature in 1837-8, held at Burlington, the members of the old county lived in that part that remained after the new counties of Lee, Van Buren, Henry, Slaughter (now Washington), Louisa and Muscatine had been taken off, and they gave all the offices in the Legislature to citizens of the old county. When the members from the new counties met in the Iowa Legislature they determined to retaliate on the old county. There were duplicate candidates from Des Moines for all the officers of the Legislature but the members from the new counties apportioned out the officers, giving Des Moines county the fireman they would not have. The Legislature met in the Zion Methodist Church, then just built and not finished. It was the finest church in the territory and had been built under many trials. I. C. Sleeth had charge of the church and would gladly have taken the place of fireman. It paid three dollars a day and Sleeth could have hired a man to do the work for one dollar and besides he was most anxious to guard the building from fire. If there was any insurance on buildings in Burlington at that time, I never heard of it. There was no insurance on the church.

"The Des Moines delegation had candidates for all the offices down to fireman but were beaten by the combination for fireman. There was no nomination. The Des Moines delegation would not name a man and no other member would. Sleeth and others in Burlington wanted the place but Grimes and the other members refused to name them. Finally Hastings nominated an old Frenchman by the name of Dupont, who had been a sort of hanger-on among the Indians, and was a perfect specimen of an ill-spent life but, as Hastings reported, he had a very handsome wife. The first ballot Dupont got one vote and Blank twenty-five. It was about the seventh ballot that Dupont got a majority and an election and not until all were satisfied that the Des Moines delegation would not name a man. It took Hastings and the consumption of a good deal of whisky and several days to get Dupont sober enough to be able to perform his

duties as fireman but he sobered up and made a good one. Sleeth carefully looked after him and the building."

#### FRANKLIN COUNTY IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The men who were from Franklin in the General Assembly of Iowa were of high character and sterling worth. They had fitted themselves for broader and more responsible activities during the years that called for their energies and abilities at home. Most, if not all, of them had been trained to a greater or lesser extent in finesse and the intricacies of governmental affairs, so that they went to the Legislature equipped for the duties before them in that wider field.

Chauncey Gillett, according to the Iowa Official Register, was the first person to represent Franklin county in the General Assembly, whose home was in the county, and only those will be here mentioned. He represented the legislative district in the Eighth General Assembly and was present in an extra session held before the expiration of his term. The names of others from Franklin in the Legislature follow: Michael A. Leahy, fourteenth and fifteenth; Lorenzo D. Lane, sixteenth; Rufus S. Benson, nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first; John W. Luke, twenty-second and twenty-third; W. F. Harriman, twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth; C. F. Johnston, twenty-sixth, twenty-sixth extra session and twenty-seventh; D. J. Patton, twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth; D. W. Dow, thirtieth, thirty-first, thirty-second and thirty-second extra; Nathaniel W. Beebe, thirty-third and thirty-fourth; Frank A. Thayer, thirty-fifth. Mr. Thayer died February 28, 1913, and Orson G. Reeve was elected to fill the vacancy. Elisha G. Howland, of Otisville, was sent to the Senate for the Fourteenth General Assembly. He afterwards moved to Belmond, Wright county, and from there was returned to the Senate for the Fifteenth General Assembly. The present Senator from the Forty-third Senatorial District is Thomas J. B. Robinson, of Hampton.

## CHAPTER IV

BEFORE THE CREATION OF FRANKLIN COUNTY—THE FIRST TO SETTLE  
HERE—MAYNE'S GROVE SELECTED BY THEM—SKETCHES OF PIONEERS—THE INDIAN SCARE—HUNTING STORIES.

The late L. B. Raymond was for many years the leading journalist of Franklin county and made his paper, *The Recorder*, a household necessity in this section of the state. His versatility as a writer, lucidity of expression and keenness in securing facts made the products of his pen more than ordinarily valuable.

Early in the "Seventies" Mr. Raymond began collecting data for a history of Franklin county which he had in mind. Preparing his material with precision and literary taste, chapter after chapter appeared from week to week in the *Recorder* and met with universal interest and approbation. The writer of these articles had come to Franklin county early enough to meet face to face many of the men and women who first settled here. He got from the lips of these hardy and brave pioneers the stories of their early experiences in this new and wild country. He related in a plain, but fascinating manner the tales told him, without any frills, and exhibited consideration for facts truly admirable.

While in the midst of his multifarious duties, Mr. Raymond continued in the quest for local historical material and gathered a mass of valuable data that can never be replaced, as the sources of information are long since nonexistent. The real pioneers of Franklin county are gone, never to return, and the Raymond collection of historical data and reminiscences may be considered as treasure trove by the citizens of the county, who take a pride and pleasure in the preservation to themselves and future generations of these oft-told tales of the venturesome, courageous and thrifty men and women of the "Fifties," who came into this comparatively unknown land, cleared away the timber, broke the virgin prairie soil and turned a wilderness into cultivated fields, yielding annually bounteous harvests.



In the year 1883 a Chicago publishing concern took upon itself to give to the people of Franklin county the first printed history in book form of the community. L. B. Raymond was prevailed upon by the publishers to contribute of his valuable store of pertinent material to that history. One article from his pen was entitled "Early Settlers." It was prepared with care and having his facts at first hand this pioneer historian of the county preserved for posterity the names of the first settlers of the county and the periods of their arrival without making a material mistake as to either. That article appears below in its entirety:

"The first permanent settlement of Franklin county was indirectly due to the fact that in 1852 a man named Addison Phelps, residing in Ashtabula county, Ohio, started with his family, to find a new home in Iowa, and as one of his neighbors, named James B. Reeve, had for some time a desire to examine this unknown region for himself, Phelps employed him to take a team and bring a portion of his goods. Phelps had relatives residing on the Cedar river above Cedar Falls, and thither they went, and upon arriving there they left the family, and Phelps and Reeve struck out still further west. They went to Rice's mill on the Iowa river (now Hardin City) and there were joined by a man named Moore, of whom nothing is known excepting that they found him at Hardin City. These three men struck out on the trackless prairie and headed northward toward the body of timber now widely known as Mayne's Grove. Late in the afternoon they reached it and having found a suitable place to camp, near the Butterfield place in the west end of the grove, one of the party went out and shot a prairie chicken for supper. The noise of the gun brought to them in a few moments, to their great astonishment, a white man who, when he heard the gun, knew that it was, as he afterwards expressed it, 'no Injun's gun,' and started to look up his new neighbors.

"This man was John Mayne, who had that day come to the grove, following up the stream from its junction with the West Fork of the Cedar. He had an old style Hoosier wagon drawn by two yoke of oxen, his wife and child, a bundle of beaver and mink traps, his trusty rifle and a very scanty supply of domestic utensils. He also had in this wagon a tent which was not yet pitched, but upon meeting with Phelps, Reeve and Moore, he forthwith proposed that all should camp together, and the tent was put up. Mrs. Mayne got supper for the party, and while history is silent as to what the major

part of the meal consisted of, yet it is handed down that the hostess made biscuit for supper that were shortened with coon's grease.

"Messrs. Phelps and Reeve were so well satisfied with the appearance of the grove and its surroundings that they decided to locate there. Mayne said that if they would make claims, he would also. So the next day all hands packed up and turned down the creek and made their claims. Mayne took the farm now (1883) occupied by John C. Jones; Phelps the present Carter farm where S. H. Carter lives, and Reeve the place now occupied by his widow. With Mayne's oxen they broke furrows to mark the boundaries of their claims, and Phelps and Reeve returned to the Cedar river by way of Rice's mills for provisions and for Phelps' family. Mayne immediately set about building a shanty, which stood near the ford just east of John C. Jones' house and was the first building erected in Franklin county. It was of logs, of course, with no floor but the dirt, and covered with basswood bark, the chinks being daubed with mud. In a few days Reeve, Phelps and family returned and all took up quarters with Mayne. Phelps began a cabin on his claim just north of the house on the farm owned for many years by Colonel A. T. Reeve, but after getting it three or four logs high, cold weather set in and he abandoned the idea of finishing it until spring. As there was no hay to feed the horses belonging to Reeve, the latter returned with them to the Cedar, near Janesville, where they engaged keeping of them for the winter, and came to Mayne's grove on foot. Reeve and Mayne went to trapping and hunting for employment, being quite successful, and as the country abounded in elk, buffalo and smaller game, they did not lack for fresh meat. In fact, their larder was so scantily provided with everything else and so plentifully supplied in this respect, that it began to tell upon the health of the party. The supply of flour and meal becoming exhausted, Reeve started on foot for the Cedar river to bring back the much needed supplies with his team. The nearest settlement at this time was at Boylan's Grove, now Bristow, so he struck across the trackless prairie in that direction. Soon after he set out it began to storm and came on bitter cold. He found along towards night that he was freezing, and it required all his powers of endurance to keep up. Several times he was on the point of giving up and lying down to his fate, but by superhuman efforts kept under way. At last, just at night-fall, he reached the body of timber now known as Allen's Grove on the West Fork of the Cedar. Having a few matches he broke up some twigs, built a fire, and upon taking off his boots found that his

feet were badly frozen. Surrounded by howling wolves and suffering the most excruciating tortures with his feet and hands, he wore away the long night and in the morning upon attempting to put on his boots, found his feet so swollen that it seemed an utter impossibility to get them on, but finally, after cutting the boots nearly to pieces, he managed to get them on and set out for Boylan's Grove, where he arrived late that night more dead than alive. After two or three days' rest there, he got a team to take him to Janesville, where he remained for some weeks, unable to stand upon his feet, and only returned to Mayne's Grove in March, just in time to find Phelps and family discouraged and about to leave, which they shortly did. From the effects of this adventure Reeve never fully recovered. The flesh nearly all came off from the soles of his feet and his toes and it was several years before he could expose himself with impunity during the coldest winter weather.\*

"After Phelps' departure and about the time that the winter was breaking up, Reeve and Mayne divided their furs, Mayne giving Reeve a little dun mare and a certain number of weeks' board for his share. In a few days after the trade was made Mayne got up a quarrel, and it immediately occurred to Reeve that this was done to save the board. Mayne was ugly and vicious but Reeve was not to be discouraged nor scared off, and so he stayed by, and when Mrs. Mayne prepared a meal, Mayne would seat himself on one side of the table

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\* Orson G. Reeve, a son of Judge Reeve, gives a different version of this incident from Mr. Raymond. He says that Phelps had no team and after concluding to quit the settlement he borrowed Reeve's horses and wagon to take his wife and children back to Cedar Falls, promising to leave the team at Janesville, in Bremer county. After Phelps had been gone about a week, Mr. Reeve got uneasy about his team; there had come quite a snow storm and later a freeze, which made a hard crust on top of the snow. He started on his journey at about noon to look after his horses and after going some distance the sun had thawed the snow crust so that it became soft and at almost every step he would break through into the soft snow beneath. This wet the buckskin thongs used to tie on his snow shoes, so that they stretched and he had great difficulty in keeping the snow shoes on his feet. This caused delay. Reaching a tract of land between two creeks, he discovered two otters traveling in the path from one creek to the other. These he killed, and skinning them, used their pelts as gloves. This also caused delay, and in the meantime the wind suddenly changed to the northwest and in a few minutes a blinding blizzard confronted the traveler, who stood facing the wind to get his directions. The wind and snow became so furious that when Mr. Reeve got to Boylan's creek, and within a half mile of Boylan's house, he walked off an eight-foot bank. The thaw had raised the water three feet deep over the ice where he had to cross the creek. He could see the timber on the other side and reaching it, he gathered a few twigs and by shooting a wad of paper into a piece of punk, after many discouraging trials, he finally managed to start a blaze, which saved him from freezing to death.

and Reeve would seat himself on the other, although they were not on speaking terms. This state of affairs continued for several weeks until Mayne became convinced that Reeve would not scare nor leave, and a sort of a peace was patched up, which, however, was a sort of armed neutrality.

"In April, 1853, Leander C. Reeve, a brother of J. B., came from Ashtabula county, Ohio, and took the Phelps claim. Reeve broke ten acres on his claim and Mayne who had also claimed J. M. Soper's present farm, broke ten acres on that. Late in June of that year George Sturms, Henry Garner and a man named Fairchild, with their families, came to Mayne's Grove. Mayne claimed all the best locations and sold his original claim, with the shanty wherein he had wintered (the Jones place) to Mr. Sturms, the Soper place to Henry Garner, and the place where Amos Sheppard afterward lived, to Fairchild. Like a true pioneer, he went farther west, going up into the grove above Maysville and making a location on what in later years was known as the Lacey farm. A man named Stevens also came with this last party, but did not stay. In September, Garner sold his claim to Dr. L. H. Arledge, who had previously made a claim where Ackley now stands, and had sold out to Thomas Downs. A little later came Samuel Garner and Job Garner.

"In July the Reeves returned to Ohio, and in August of that year, J. B., with a team, his wife and eight children, started for their new home in Iowa, reaching there the 15th of September, 1853. Upon their arrival he finished up the shanty that Phelps had begun on the claim now owned by S. H. Carter, and in it they wintered.

"In October, 1853, there was quite an addition to the colony at Mayne's Grove. Silas Moon came and made a claim where J. D. Parks now resides. Peter Rhinehart came and made his claim to the place in Geneva township now owned by W. C. Haines. Rhinehart came too late to get his cabin up before winter set in, so he wintered with Sturms. Still later, in the fall of 1853, the little settlement was reinforced by the addition of two men named Crouch and Webb. They made their claims at the head of Mayne's Grove, Webb taking the claim known to all old settlers as the May place, now occupied and owned by J. H. Bond, and Crouch, who was a brother-in-law of Mayne, moving in with him on the Lacey farm. Late in the winter a babe of Mr. Crouch's, a few months old, died. This was the first death in the county. Mrs. J. B. Reeve tells how upon a Sunday Mrs. Mayne came to her house on horseback to borrow a

little sugar, and to invite her to the funeral at the same time, although the child was not dead. 'Come day after tomorrow,' she said, 'for it will surely be gone before that time.' On Tuesday the funeral came off according to appointment. In April, 1854, Mr. Webb, who had gone to Rice's Mills on the Iowa river, to work, died, and was brought home and buried. Dr. Arledge officiated, making a prayer and returning the thanks of the bereaved ones to the few and scattering neighbors for their sympathy. These two graves, yet visible in a lonely and secluded spot near the west end of Mayne's Grove, have been pronounced Indian graves by many persons who were not informed as to the circumstances of the case.

"As early as the spring of 1853, Dr. Arledge located at the little grove known in later years as Downs' Grove and where that portion of Ackley that lies in Franklin county is located. Arledge built a cabin on the north side of the county line about forty rods west of where A. Severance now resides. With him, or about the same time, came a man named McCormick, who made his claim in the grove generally known since by his name, his cabin standing south of where John Fahey now lives and near the north bank of the Beaver creek, being land now owned by R. T. Blake. Both Arledge and McCormick came from the Iowa river, somewhere about Hardin City, and it is possible that they made their claims in the fall of 1852, although neither of them wintered there. In fact the exact time that they located on their claims is somewhat obscure, but Mr. Blake, who bought out McCormick's claim in 1854, says that there were eight or ten acres of breaking upon it done in 1853. Arledge sold out to Thomas Downs in 1853 and moved to Mayne's Grove not long after J. B. Reeve brought his family from Ohio. Arledge bought out Henry Garner, who had claimed the present Soper farm, and the cabin on the place was in the timber south of the old saw-mill on Mayne's creek and north of Soper's present residence. All the families that wintered in the county in the winter of 1853-4 have been mentioned, and their names are here repeated: Judge Reeve, Job, Samuel and Henry Garner, John Mayne, Fairchild, George Sturms, Peter Rhinehart, Silas Moon, Dr. Arledge, Crouch and Webb, who came about midwinter. The settlement was also reinforced during the winter by two additions in 'the good old way,' the families of Mr. Sturms and Samuel Garner each having a son born to them. Abner Sturms, born in January, 1854, was the first white child born in Franklin county.

"It was quite a common custom for the settlers to pick out some eligibly located quarter section or eighty near them and claim it for some friend who had not yet arrived, so as to have him in their neighborhood when he did come. If he failed to come entirely, why, then the claim was for sale. James B. and Leander Reeve had a friend back in Ohio, named Andrew Coffin, so they had claimed for him the Stark's farm, better known as the Reed place. Job Garner, when he arrived in the summer, wanted it and came to the Reeve's to see about the prospect of getting it. They told him that Coffin had authorized them to sell it and they thought it was worth \$200. Garner said that he was a preacher and therefore entered into an argument to convince them what an advantage it would be to their settlement to have a minister of the gospel in their midst. Although not really church-going people the Reeve's finally told him that he might take the place and pay for it in preaching, but it must be recorded that although he took the claim, he never preached but once and that was some time during the winter of 1853 or 1854, at the house of Mr. Fairchild, on the Sheppard place.

"The land office for this portion of the state at that time was at Des Moines, and the abstract of original entries shows the following entries as made in the county during the year 1853:

"Some time during the early part of the summer of 1854, James Van Horn came from near Janesville, in Bremer county, and located where J. C. Mott now lives, about a mile north of Hampton. He did not move on to his claim, however, until fall. A man named Endsley about the same time settled on the place about a mile further north, now owned by Walter Beed, but occupied for many years by Henry Hacker. Amon Rice thinks that two brothers named Ellis were trapping about Shobe's Grove the spring before he came to the county, and that they had made claims there, and also that a man named Collyer must have come in there that same summer and located on the place now owned by John T. Richards. Collyer had run away from some place further east, with a daughter of his second wife, and after a time one of the Ellis brothers got the girl away from the old man, and, his wife coming on, he sold out his claims to a man named Berdell and went up near Forest City, in Winnebago county, and died there. He had always been on the frontier and never saw a threshing machine nor a train of cars. He did not leave his claim at Shobe's Grove, however, until 1855.

"John I. Popejoy is the oldest settler on the Iowa river that is there at this writing. He left Ohio in the spring of 1854 on a tour

of observation in the west. He came first to McLean county, Illinois, and there, in company with a brother-in-law, M. H. Pearsons, took a team and coming westward across the State of Illinois, crossed the Mississippi at Burlington, going to Palmyra, in Warren county, where Popejoy's father had in 1853 located and entered an eighty-acre tract. Not finding anything there to suit him, he went to the land office at Des Moines and upon looking over the plats of the different counties, noticed that there were timber lots not entered in Franklin county, both on the Iowa river, in Oakland township, and at Highland Grove, in Geneva township. He entered the forty in Highland Grove, then and there, 'sight unseen,' and he and Pearsons started for Franklin county. They went to Iowa Falls, stayed there all night and the next day went up to the grove, where Popejoy now resides. They drove into the grove on the east side of the river, stopped at a spring a few rods south of his present residence, and after drinking from the spring, sat down to rest. In a few moments, two men with guns came over the brow of the hill and rapidly approaching them, sung out: 'What the h—l are you doing here?' Popejoy replied: 'We came to look at this grove.' One of them replied: 'Well, there were three men here a day or two ago to look at this grove, and they left rather sudden.' Popejoy rose to his feet, put his fingers in his mouth and blew a shrill whistle. The two fellows evidently thought that reinforcements were near at hand and changed their tactics immediately. Popejoy said: 'Let me see your gun,' and taking it without resistance, raised it and fired at a tree a few rods off, and said: 'Now, I want this grove. If you have a claim on it, I will buy you out. If you haven't I will make one in a few moments.' The fellow then said he had a claim and if they would go up on to the hill, he would show them where he had begun a cabin, which they did, and there it was, not far from Popejoy's present residence. He then said he would take fifty dollars for his claim, which Popejoy paid him without more ado, and thus the grove changed hands. This man's name was Hurlbut C. Holmes, and he lived at that time across the river with one Dr. Crawford, in a cabin on the Brand place. Francis M. Mitchell, heretofore mentioned as making the first entry of land in Franklin county, had a family in the same cabin at that time, but was then away, Mr. Popejoy thinks at Des Moines. This was in May, 1854, and these were all the settlers on the Iowa in Franklin county at that time, excepting that a man named Dennis Sprague had a claim where Oak-

land village now is, although he had neither built a cabin nor moved there at this time.

"Popejoy and Pearsons went back to Des Moines, and the former bought land enough adjoining his new claim to make a section, before he got away from the land office. They then returned to Illinois, Popejoy going back to his home in Ohio.

"There does not appear to have been many entries of government land made in 1854 in the county, and among those made in the first part of the season were those of James Van Horn, who made his entries, as mentioned, about May 13, 1854; Andrew Cole, who entered the northeast quarter of the notheast quarter of section 22, township 91, range 20, where his family now resides; on the 20th of June of the same year, Leander C. Reeve, who entered part of section 23, same township; on the 14th of April, William May, who entered the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 27, where Maysville now is, and also the farm where J. H. Bond now resides; on the 22d day of May, James Newell, who also entered the land that is now a part of the old plat of Maysville, where the schoolhouse is and westward of it, on the 13th of May; Sanford B. Mitchell, who entered the northwest quarter of section 27, in township 90, range 22 (Oakland township), on the 27th of April. Also June 26, David Allen entered land on section 12, in Ingham township, at the grove that now bears his name. None of these, so far as we can find out, moved their families into the county before July 4, 1854.

"In June of this year, Charles M. Leggett and a man named Loomis, came from Lake county, Ohio, to take a look in Iowa, and as he was from the same vicinity as Judge Reeve, naturally bent his steps to Franklin county. From Waterloo they walked up to Mayne's Grove and as it was exceedingly hot weather, they had a hard and tedious trip. For water they were often compelled to drink out of sloughs and to find a hole wherein an elk or buffalo had stepped in the soft ground, leaving a hole that they could drop an empty pint bottle into and have it fill with the lukewarm water, was counted a streak of good luck. Leggett selected 120 acres in Geneva township, on section 18, where J. A. Pickering now resides, and Loomis bought Peter Rhinehart's claim, which it will be remembered is where W. C. Haines now resides, although the house was further west, up the creek, where O. D. Andrews lived for many years. Loomis engaged forty acres of breaking to be done immediately on his claim and Leggett and Loomis, engaging Judge Reeve to take them to Cedar Falls, returned to Ohio.



“About this time, Fairchild, who, it will be remembered, had settled on the present Sheppard place, got into a difficulty that had the effect of terminating his residence at Mayne’s Grove. Among the settlers ‘jumping a claim’ was called the greatest crime known to the community, and they were consequently banded together in a league offensive and defensive against all speculators and interlopers. Sometimes there was a question as to the legality of the preemption by which a settler held his claim, but it was always construed in favor of the settler, such little trifling irregularities as failing to properly mark his boundaries or give the proper notice, being overlooked. A speculator came to the grove on a land hunt along in June and took a fancy to the claim occupied by Mayne, and falling in with Fairchild he obtained the information as to wherein Mayne’s claim was defective, and accordingly the speculator ‘entered Mayne out’ as it was termed. This raised such a feeling against Fairchild that he packed up and left the settlement forthwith, and as one old settler naively remarked: ‘Twas the best thing he could do, for he would have been shot if he had stayed.’

“About the middle of May, 1854, David Allen and his sons, James and Jonathan, Wesley Hogan and L. Tatum left Janesville, in Bremer county, where they then resided, for a look at Franklin county. They came across to Jamison’s Grove and then struck across for the little grove three or four miles northeast of Hampton, now called Beed’s Grove. They went up and down the stream that runs through the grove, looking for a spring, as old Mr. Allen was bound never to locate until he found a spring of pure water to suit him. Finally they abandoned the idea of finding one there, and crossing over, looked along the north side of Van Horn’s Grove, but not as far down as C. J. Mott’s place, and then went back to Jamison’s Grove, crossed the West Fork and upon discovering the large spring on the present Gourley place about a half mile north of the county line bridge in Ingham township, the elder Allen forthwith drove his stake, declaring himself satisfied at last. Tatum went up the stream and found another spring on the Hoxie place, where he located, Hogan going further back from the river and locating where James Ray lives, just over the line in West Fork township. It was Saturday night when all had their claims made, but time was precious, and on Sunday they cut the logs and put up the walls of Tatum’s house on the Hoxie place, covered it with basswood bark and on Monday morning were ready to commence on Mr. Allen’s

house, which they did, and when that was finished, all returned to Janesville.

“On the 2d of May they all returned with their families and became the first settlers in Franklin county, outside of the settlement at Mayne’s Grove and the two families of Downs and McCormick in the southeastern corner of the county. No one was above them on the West Fork and only two families at Jamison’s Grove.

“David Allen was born in North Carolina, in 1804, and when about ten years of age removed with his parents to Indiana, where he resided until nearly thirty years of age, when he moved to Kentucky and while there married, and after residing there a few years returned to Indiana. About 1849 he moved from Putnam county in that state to Wapello county, in this state, and two years later, to Bremer county, where he had resided about three years when he came to Franklin county in 1854.”

This brings the settlement of Franklin county up to a time when immigration set in rapidly, and it is impossible to trace it further in this chapter. In the histories of the various townships the settlement is treated more at length and carried to a much later date.

#### BUFFALO AND ELK ABOUNDED

Game of almost every description abounded here in 1852 and 1853, including buffalo and elk. The buffalo disappeared about 1854, and the elk about 1856. Judge Reeve and Mr. Mayne, late in the fall of 1852, while hunting for elk, having an ox team with them, came across a drove of nearly a hundred buffaloes in the ravine below A. D. St. Clair’s present residence in Reeve township, and fired into them, but without effect. The buffaloes started northward and they followed them, getting a shot now and then, as the herd would come to a stream and be huddled together at the crossing. They killed none, however, until they had followed them to Chapin’s Grove, when they were fortunate enough to creep up behind a bluff and kill two. But it was already getting dark, and a sudden snow squall came up, so that they could not get their bearings, and accordingly they skinned their slain buffaloes and wrapping themselves in the hides, lay down between the upturned wagon box and a fire they had built and slept until morning. By daylight it was clear and they could distinguish the timber at Shobe’s Grove, whither they wended their way and reached home by noon. Judge Reeve and William Braden, now of Otisville, killed an immense buffalo

bull on the prairie in June, 1856, somewhere near section 16, in Hamilton township. The old fellow was just jumping the channel of Mayne's creek, when a shot brought him down and he tumbled into the bed of the creek, and was so heavy that it was impossible for them to get him out without going for more help. This is about the last buffalo that we have any record of excepting a stray one that wandered into the county about 1854-5 and was discovered near Maysville by W. L. Shroyer. The whole neighborhood turned out on horseback and after a three hours' hunt he was finally killed near the south line of the county, about half way between Ackley and Iowa Falls. The elk stayed longer. C. M. Leggett tells of killing one in September, 1855, on or near the place now owned by S. H. Carter, in Reeve township. Leggett and Solomon Staley were drawing hay, Leggett being on the load. He saw the elk off about half a mile, and calling Staley's attention to it, slid down from the load and each taking a horse and pitchfork, started in pursuit. Leggett overtook him and struck him in the neck with the fork, but the tines stuck fast and jerked the handle out of his hands. He kept close behind, however, and when the elk came to the little creek that runs across the southeast corner of Carter's farm, the handle stuck in the ground and Leggett, jumping from his horse, held on until Staley came up with the other fork, which he firmly planted in the elk's neck on the other side. Dr. Mitchell was out hunting prairie chickens and came up with a shot gun, terribly excited. Standing off about ten feet, he took good aim, fired and missed clean. He then took aim with the other barrel, but had the "buck ague" so badly that he landed the charge in the elk's nose, whereupon the poor beast bellowed terrifically. Leggett then tried to get the doctor to take hold of the pitchfork and let him try his hand with the gun, but the doctor's blood was up and he swore he would shoot that elk if it took all the powder he had in his horn. Accordingly he reloaded and walking up to the animal, putting the muzzle of the gun about six inches from its head, put an end to its sufferings.

This exploit excited all hands so much that the next morning they made up a party consisting of half a dozen men, a team, two or three saddle horses, and no end of dogs, and all hands went up southwest of the Merriss place, in Grant township, and after skirmishing around they got up a small herd and Dr. Mitchell had the good fortune to kill another one, and some one else in the party, whose name we cannot now give, killed one also, which they thought was good enough for one day. In the fall of 1855, Leggett and his

wife were going across the prairie to John I. Popejoy's, when they saw a large herd of elk crossing Mayne's creek directly west of George Wright's residence, in Lee township. They counted 195, and saw more that they did not count. Deer never were numerous, as they are more apt to frequent timbered countries, but what few there were when the first settlers came, soon disappeared.

#### THE INDIAN SCARE

All newly settled countries, if they do not suffer from the depredations of the Indians, have panics caused by reports of their depredations elsewhere, or frequently, by false reports of massacres, etc. Franklin county had her first experience in this line on the 4th of July, 1854, and its origin is believed to be about as follows:

Clear Lake was regarded as within the "neutral ground" between the Sioux, Sacs and Foxes, and any trespassing on this ground by either tribe, was sure to bring on trouble. But the Government had made it a Winnebago reservation, and placed the Winnebagoes thereon, although the Sioux never consented to have the reservation used by that tribe and became so hostile in their attitude towards them that Fort Atkinson, in the southwest corner of Winneshiek county, was built in 1840, and soldiers placed therein to protect the Winnebagoes from the inroads of the bloodthirsty Sioux.

In 1851, a man named Hewitt, who had been a trader among the Winnebagoes, located at Clear Lake, and in the fall of 1853, several families of Winnebagoes, headed by a chief called To-Shan-ega (The Otter), came and located where the village of Clear Lake now stands. The Sioux who, as has been stated, lived farther north, in Minnesota, hearing of this, determined to exterminate the little party of Winnebagoes, and accordingly, in June, 1854, came down to the lake about five hundred strong. For some time they pretended to be friendly, but before long caught a Winnebago boy away from the village alone, whom they killed and chopped off his head. Hewitt and his two other white neighbors then seeing that trouble was inevitable, sent the Winnebagoes with their teams to Fort Snelling, near St. Paul, starting them in the night. After they were gone, the settlers all gathered at the house of Mr. Dickinson and the Sioux hung around until satisfied that the Winnebagoes had gone, when they left for Minnesota. Soon after their departure, a detachment of fifty soldiers that had been sent by the Governor of the state, arrived at the lake, and it was from this affair that the report spread

through all northern Iowa that a general massacre of the whites was intended by the Indians.

The little settlement at Mayne's Grove, or the greater portion of it, spent July 4, 1854, at the house of John Mitchell, which our readers will remember was the old Mayne house on the John S. Jones place. While history and tradition both are silent as to what the particular exercises of the day were, so far as the lords of creation are concerned, yet it is to be presumed that they sat out-doors in the shade and talked politics or told hunting stories, like their brethren of a later day. The ladies had a quilting, and all had a good dinner, thanks to the hospitality and culinary skill of Mrs. Mitchell and Miss Smith. At an early hour they separated and wended their way homeward with their ox teams, and we presume that the most of the families, after comparing *their fourth* with the good times gone by, back in Ohio, or Indiana, or elsewhere, retired to their beds about the usual time. In the middle of the night, however, word was carried hurriedly from cabin to cabin: "The Indians! the Indians!" And as the pioneer would open his door and stand, half asleep and half awake, he would be entirely awakened by his neighbor's statement that "Four hundred Sioux warriors are at Clear Lake and moving this way!" How the report reached the settlement we are unable to say, but so far as we now learn, Silas Moon, who lived on the J. D. Parks place, was the first to spread the news. A son of Job Garner notified the people who lived in the "bend" of the creek—Mitchells, Springers, Arledges, etc. By daylight the whole settlement was ready for the march and excepting the families of John Mayne and Dr. Arledge, struck out for the settlement at Beaver Grove, in Butler county. It should have been stated that the wife of Dr. Arledge died two or three days before this time, and was buried in the cemetery on the hill west of J. S. Jones', being the first person buried there, and her children had all been taken home by relatives residing near Hardin City, Arledge absolutely refusing to go, and when the train left, was still there. Miss Smith (now Mrs. H. J. Mitchell) and others think that he either remained there while they were away or went to Hardin City. Mayne, too, went to the Iowa river with his family instead of going with the rest.

Old Mr. Mitchell, too, strongly objected to going, and wanted to stay and fight it out, and at first declared he would not go, but finally was persuaded to accompany the rest. It was warm weather and there were but two horse teams in the train, all the balance be-

ing oxen. The settlers, too, had gathered up most of their cattle, and as they were driven along their progress was necessarily tedious and slow. They passed within a mile or so of Downs' Grove, and the Downs, family seeing the wagons, came out. To the excited imaginations of the fugitives, the panic-stricken family, who it seems had also heard something of the Indian troubles, became bloodthirsty savages who had already murdered the Downs family, and now sallied forth from the grove to massacre the emigrants, pillage the train and exterminate the white population of Franklin county at one blow. Flight was impossible, so a halt was ordered and the little party disposed in as good order as possible for defense. Happily, however, the precautions were needless, and the train forthwith proceeded on its way, augmented by the Downs family who, having no team, accompanied it on foot. Where the McCormick family were at this time does not appear, but they were probably at Hardin City spending the Fourth and had not yet returned home.

At night they camped and sentinels were posted, and let it be recorded that Miss Smith, the pioneer teacher of Franklin county, insisted on taking her turn in standing guard with the rest.

In about three days they reached their destination and most of them camped near where the village of New Hartford now is, some of them going to Cedar Falls.

The two elder sons of Mr. Allen, together with Hogan and Tatum, had gone back to Janesville to spend the Fourth, and at that place heard of the Indian trouble, and while one of the boys and Hogan joined a company who were going up to Clear Lake to learn the exact state of affairs, the other one and Tatum returned to Allen's Grove after the families, bringing them down to Janesville, where they remained nearly two months, returning about the first of September.

Of the party who went to Beaver Grove, some of them returned in about two weeks, while some stayed until after the harvest, and returned to find the most of their sod corn and vegetables destroyed by what stock they had left at home.

It is doubtful whether Mayne ever returned with his family to the grove after this time or not. His claim, as has been stated, had been "entered out" and late in the summer he left for Missouri in about the same style, and just about as rich in this world's goods as he had come into Franklin county, two years before. He was a remarkable man in many respects and there was something mysterious about him that none of his neighbors ever solved. From what

his wife said, he was from Indiana and had always been just on the verge of civilization, dividing his time between trapping, hunting and making claims. He never referred to his past life, and from this it was inferred that he had committed some deed for which he had fled westward.

He was quick witted and sharp in many things but exceedingly superstitious and distrustful. When going on a hunting expedition, he never took his gun and went out-of-doors, but always went out without it and had his wife bring it out to him. This he fancied brought him good luck, and it is said that he would wait for hours before setting forth upon a hunt when his wife was absent, for her to return and hand him out his gun. He could neither read nor write and as his name was given to the grove where he resided and the creek that runs through it, it is spelled on all old maps as "Main," but in later years W. N. Davidson, an attorney at Hampton, drew a large map of the county and in lettering the creek, adopted the plan of spelling the name "Mayne," and his method of spelling it generally prevails at present. Of Mayne's subsequent history we have never heard anything, yet it is fair to presume, that if alive, he is somewhere at the heels of the buffalo and the Indian in the Far West.

Amon and Urias Rice have been mentioned as locating at Four Mile Grove, in June, 1854. They arrived there on the 25th of June, and moved into the house with Job Garner, who lived on the Boots place. With the family of Amon Rice came a sister of Mrs. Rice—Anna Scott (now Mrs. J. B. Goldsborough)—who is a resident of Hampton at the present time, and was one of the party at John Mitchell's, on the 4th of July,\* but she states that instead of the Indian scare being the night following, it was the Sunday night following, although she cannot now recollect what day in the week the 4th came on. The news was brought to the families of Garners and Rices by one of the Van Horns, who had been up to his claim on the farm where C. J. Mott now resides just north of Hampton, and was then on his way back to his family near Janesville, in Bremer county. It now appears probable that Van Horn must have been the one who also carried the news to the settlement at Mayne's Grove, probably to Moon's on the J. D. Park's place. Van Horn came to Garners before bed-time and the families immediately set

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\* Orson G. Reeve declares he distinctly remembers that the Indians were discussed on this occasion. He thinks the 4th of July that year came on Sunday and that night word came that the Indians were approaching.

about making preparations for departure. Garner's people had quite a number of chickens and the thrifty housewife concluded that the best method of taking them along was to kill, pick and cook them, which job took nearly all night to accomplish, and when daylight came, all were loaded up and on the way down Mayne's creek. They camped the first night at the "Horse-neck," near Willoughby, in Butler county, which must have been a pretty good drive for ox teams. The next day they went to Cedar Falls. The Garner family remained away about three weeks and Amon Rice's about four. Urias Rice did not return to the county at all.

Mention has been made of Peter Rhinehart's selling his claim (the Haines place), to a man named Loomis, who came out with C. M. Leggett, in June. Immediately after the Indian "hegira" Rhinehart went still farther down the creek and made a claim where W. B. Bryan now lives, and where William Ward lived for several years. There just above the spring on the side hill he built a double log house that was imposing in its dimensions in those days. The same house was afterwards torn down and moved to Hampton, and stood until about 1877 on the front of the lots now occupied by Major Kellam's residence on Reeve street.

Rhinehart got well settled in his new house in November and about the same time a man named Carnes came and made a claim where Richard Horner now lives and built there. Of him we know scarcely anything excepting that his wife died that winter and that he left the county a year or so afterwards.

Silas Moon sold his claim on the J. D. Parks place in September to a man named McCrary or McCreery and also went farther down the creek, locating where A. D. Benson now lives. About the same time a man named Henry W. Smith came and made a claim on the old Perdue place, now also owned by Benson, and built a house. Later still in the fall, Quincy A. Jordan, from Illinois, came and taking the claim where Rufus Benson resides, built a large log house there. Jordan was pretty well-to-do in this world's goods and had furniture and family clothing, considerably ahead of the average of his neighbors. Jordan's people brought with them a little Swiss girl, apparently ten or twelve years of age, of whom they made a sort of a menial. The child could not speak a word of the English language, but seemed unhappy and wretched, and in a couple of months after the arrival of the family here, two men, dressed and appearing like gentlemen, came on and took the child away. No explanations were made to the neighbors, but it was reported in the



community at the time that Jordan was compelled to pay the men quite a respectable sum as damages. Nothing further was ever known about the matter.

In December, 1854, a subscription school was started in one room of Rhinehart's double log house, and Miss Anna Scott, although not yet fifteen years of age, was engaged as its teacher. The school continued through the winter with good success. Spelling schools were frequent and the whole population of the settlement would turn out. This was the second school taught in the county, the first being that of Miss Smith (Mrs. Mitchell), already mentioned.

Not a little of the details of this chapter was obtained from O. G. Reeve, son of Judge J. B. Reeve, who was seven years of age at the time his father located in Franklin county. This same O. G. Reeve is now representative from the Seventy-fourth Assembly district and up to the fall of 1912, remained on the farm in Reeve township, where he was one of its prominent farmers and stock raisers. At the time mentioned, Mr. Reeve took up his residence in Hampton.

The writer had the pleasure of meeting this hardy son of a pioneer father. Mr. Reeve has now been a resident of the county sixty years and has grown up with it. When he came, a little fellow of seven summers, there were no houses, no farms. There was not one domestic animal anywhere near, save and except his father's team of horses, and John Mayne's oxen. The elder Reeve brought into the county the first chickens. These he obtained by trading baskets for them at the settlement on the Iowa river. The baskets were woven by Peter Rhinehart, who made his appearance at the hospitable Reeve cabin the first winter of its existence.

Mr. Reeve tells it, that his father, Judge Reeve, first broke ten acres of prairie land in Reeve township with John Mayne's plow, that had a "land side." This plow was carried by the elder Reeve on his shoulder to Hardin City, where it was sharpened and then taken back the same way to the settlement.

In speaking of Job Garner, who owned the land now the site of Hampton, Mr. Reeve says that he preached the first sermon ever heard in Franklin county. This took place about 1854, in the Fairchild house, then standing on section 23, Reeve township, and on what is now known as the Amos Sheppard farm.

There was plenty of game in those early days and Mr. Reeve called to mind that his father and John Mayne killed the last buffalo

seen in the county, in front of Ed Hicks' house. Previous to this occurrence these pioneers killed three buffaloes in one night and about fifteen during the winter a short time before the Civil war. The narrator also remembered Dr. L. H. Arledge, who was one of the first of his profession to appear in the county. He also called to mind that a "doctor" came to the settlement the first fall and discovered to his father the medicinal virtues of Wahoo bark. The method of preparing Wahoo bitters was by steeping the bark in whisky. The liquid thus prepared was an old Indian remedy for the ague and other afflictions and in many instances it proved quite efficacious. The Reeve family kept Wahoo bitters on hand almost constantly and the memory of it clings to at least one member to this day. In this connection it may be well to state that for seventeen years after coming to Franklin county, no physician was called to the Reeve homestead in a professional capacity. This is all the more matter of comment, when one is informed the Reeve family had grown in the meantime. Those of the children born here were: Ella, who lives in St. Maries, Idaho; Herman D., member of the law firm of Hull & Reeve, Washington, D. C.; Emily, for six years county superintendent of schools for Franklin county, and now an instructor in a missionary school in India. The children who were existent at the time of Judge Reeve's location in the county were: Fernando T., the oldest son, who was taken prisoner in 1864 and died that year in Andersonville prison; Theodore H., now living in Dewey, Oklahoma; Orrilla M. who became the wife of John James, is now a widow and lives in Arkansas; Orson G., the teller of these tales; Beulah M.; J. Rumsey, lumber merchant, Hampton; Susan M., wife of Henry Clock, Long Beach, California; and J. A., a resident of Reeve township.

#### ANOTHER HUNTING STORY

Mr. Foutch, a resident of Bremer county, told the following hunting story in 1905:

In June, 1853, Mr. Foutch, in company with Mace Eveland, Joshua Stufflebeam, Columbus Stufflebeam, Goforth Julian, Webster and Austin Ferris left their log cabins on the Cedar for a week's hunting trip in the wilds of Butler, Franklin and adjoining counties west. They crossed the Shell Rock river at what was then known as Coon's Grove. At that time there was not a house between there and Boylan's Grove near Dumont. The second day out they struck a buffalo trail about where the town of Allison is located and hurrying on

caught sight of a herd of over fifty buffaloes heading west. They followed all that afternoon but were unable to get near enough to bring the bison within range of their guns. The creeks and rivers were swollen by heavy June rains and the buffaloes had the advantage of the hunters. The buffaloes would plunge into the stream anywhere it crossed their trail and swim across while the hunters were compelled to find a shallow place where they could ford, as they had a team and covered wagon along, beside their saddle horses. At one good sized stream they found a favorable crossing over a beaver dam, which had been constructed by these busy animals in these early days. Another crossing was made in Indian canoes in which the baggage and perishable goods were transported to the other side and the horses swam the stream, being led behind the canoes.

They followed the buffaloes to the identical spot where Hampton now stands, and when night came on the party gave up the chase which they intended to resume the next morning. They now felt sure of bagging the big game next morning and as a matter of precaution built no camp fire that night for fear it might scare away the buffaloes. They ate a scanty meal of cold corn bread, tethered their horses and lay down to sleep away the June night on the Hampton prairie with dreams of great sport in store for them the next day. When morning came, the buffaloes had disappeared, but the herd of elk were quarried near Tharp's Grove, and a fine day's sport the hunters had from there to Van Horn's Grove. During the day they killed seven elk, four of them with horns measuring six feet from tip to tip.

## CHAPTER V

**GEOLOGIC FEATURES OF FRANKLIN COUNTY—ITS ROCKS, STREAMS AND HILLS—WOODS, FRUITS, SOIL AND COMMERCIAL CLAY—TO THE STUDENT THIS IS AN INTERESTING CHAPTER.**

### EARLIER GEOLOGICAL WORK

The area now within the confines of Franklin county was traversed previous to 1852 by parties under the direction of David Dale Owen in tracing the boundary between the Devonian and Carboniferous systems.

Dr. C. A. White states that the Kinderhook limestone outcrops along the Iowa river in Franklin county. Careful search at the present time failed to reveal any exposures of this formation along the Iowa in the county. In Volume II of White's report published the same year, a general review of the geology and natural resources of Franklin county is given. All the indurated rocks exposed in the area were by this author referred to the Kinderhook. The present study indicates the presence of Devonian rocks in West Fork and Ingham townships. Exposures of shales and limestones may be frequently observed in the neighborhood of the west fork of the Cedar river, which bear typical Devonian fossils, thus leaving no question as to their identity.

The surface features of Franklin county are such that it can primarily be separated into two fairly distinct districts. The boundaries of these districts have been determined by the deposition of glacial detritus from the two ice sheets last to invade the territory. Essentially the eastern tier of townships and the two upper members, Ross and Mott, of the second row, are included in the area of Iowan drift. The remainder of the county, approximately five-eighths of its total area, is covered with the more recent Wisconsin glacial till, and its topography is, as a result, characteristically immature.

The boundary line between these two provinces is somewhat irregular, but with few exceptions the differences in surface con-

figuration are so marked that there arises no question as to its location. Its course across the county is in general from west of north to east of south. Entering two and a quarter miles from the east border of Richland, and passing one mile to the west of the city of Hampton, it divides Reeve township diagonally nearly into halves and detaching somewhat more than one and one-half square miles from the northeast corner of Grant, makes its exit into Hardin county two and one-quarter miles east of the western boundary of Osceola township. To the suspecting observer, who is already familiar with the trend of this dividing line in the counties to the north and south, there is much of suggestion as to its probable course in Franklin county to be obtained from the ordinary civil map which shows only legal boundaries, railroads and streams. Perusal of such a map will show the prevailing courses of the streams within the Wisconsin area to be eastward. Just before breaking through the moraine these streams, without exception, assume a northeasterly direction, with many sharp turns and windings, as though seeking a vulnerable point of egress. Outside of the Wisconsin they at once assume the uniform south of easterly direction of flow.

On closer inspection of each of these two areas, it will be found that they again break up into more or less well defined districts according to, and depending on, the particular type of land form predominating. The Iowan drift area may be considered in two parts, first, that portion whose surface features are due to the materials of the Iowan drift; and second, that part whose topography depends on the earlier erosion of the limestones and shales of the older formations and later modifications by loess deposition. The Wisconsin drift area is separable into the Altamont moraine and the more level portion of the drift surface to be designated the drift plain.

#### IOWAN DRIFT AREA

About three-eighths of the county is covered with drift of Iowan age. But the materials of this sheet of drift are not alone responsible for the topographic features of more than one-third of this area. The Iowan till sheet is relatively thin wherever observed in the state, and it becomes more attenuated near its southern border, which crosses eastern Hardin county some nine miles south from the Franklin county line. The thickness of this deposit in Franklin county is, over considerable areas in Ross, West Fork, Reeve and Osceola townships, sufficient to disguise largely pre-existing features and to exert

a ruling influence on the present topography. Away from the streams in the townships mentioned the land surface is in general level, often monotonously so for miles, the characteristic Iowan drift plain. This is especially true of portions of Ross and West Fork townships. The surface is occasionally broken by the trenching of the smaller streams whose valleys are seldom cut to any considerable depth however, without exposing the underlying shales or limestones. The landscape is occasionally varied by the presence of the usual large fresh granite boulders which characterize this drift.

In the vicinity of the larger streams and in fact over a good share of Mott, and especially in Ingham and Geneva townships, the land surface is more hilly and rugged. This would be expected as a result of the down-cutting of the streams no matter what the material in which they had to work; but here the relief is due very largely to the outcropping or barely covered ledges of Kinderhook limestone. Along the west fork of the Cedar river the Devonian strata are responsible for many of the prominent topographic features. East of this river hills of limestone underlain with shales form the bounding walls of the valley, and outcrops are common in the northwest part of West Fork township. The area westward from this stream to the border of the Carboniferous rocks has the characteristic mild topography of the Lime creek shales, somewhat modified by the Iowan drift and loess, and is in contrast with the more pronounced reliefs imparted by the Kinderhook limestone as will be later noted.

The practical absence of the earlier Kansan drift as a factor of topographic importance may be accounted for by erosion preceding the Iowan stage. The indurated rocks are therefore the chief determining factors, but these, while commonly outcropping on the hill slopes and along the borders of the river valleys, are universally capped with a thin layer of drift and a greater or less thickness of loess.

The occurrence of loess overlying Iowan drift has been recorded by Calvin in Mitchell county, by Beyer in Marshall and by Savage in Tama and Fayette counties, and is known at various other points in the Iowan drift area. It is usually but a thin veneer and seldom sufficient to exert a controlling influence on topography. In the portion of the Iowan drift area in Franklin county just outlined, however, the characteristics of typical loess topography are unmistakable. While the Iowan is in most places in this county covered with a loess-like material, it is here only that its presence becomes conspicuously noticeable. A series of loess-covered hills, growing in

prominence northwestward, extends from the county line in east Ingham to the southeast corner of Ross township. The hills are supported by limestone and represent the extreme northeasterly outliers of the Kinderhook. The more prominent eminences rise frequently fifty to sixty feet above water in the streams. A similar series of hills extends across northern Geneva into the southern part of Mott township. They are also to be found south of Mayne creek in Geneva and north Osceola townships. In general, the larger streams are skirted by loess-erosional hills of this type.

In some respects these land forms resemble the paha described by McGee as occurring in Delaware, Fayette, Bremer, Benton and other counties in this section of the state. The nuclei of such elevations are of indurated rocks, they are always crowned with loess and stand at times considerably above the level of the surrounding drift plain.

#### WISCONSIN DRIFT AREA

Essentially five-eighths of the area of the county is included in the region occupied by the Wisconsin drift. This region displays two types of surface, the hilly, knobby tracts of the Altamont and Gary moraines and the relatively level drift plain.

The Moraines.—The eastern border of the Wisconsin area is in general marked by a belt of hilly country varying in width from two to seven miles. In Richland and north Marion townships it has an average width of four to five miles, broadening southward so as to include practically the southern half of Marion and nearly three square miles in the southwest corner of Mott township. This outer zone of hills narrows in its course to the southeast across Reeve, and in Grant and Osceola townships is but two and a half to three miles wide.

The hills in this morainal area are not prominent, and the topography grows milder to the westward, gradually merging into the drift plain. This is especially true in Richland, Marion and Grant townships. Passing from the Iowan to the Wisconsin drift there is a rise in elevation of from twenty to eighty or ninety feet, the most noticeable relief being in the northern part of Reeve township. Here the rise is rapid to the summits of conspicuous ridges of drift that were deposited close to the ice border, and beyond which a fairly high slope leads to the level of the drift plain in north Hamilton township. Throughout this morainal tract the surface is one of

mounds and rounded hills, knob-like in places, composed mostly of gravelly drift, and interspersed with ponds and marshy depressions. In fact, the presence of the latter must in some localities, for example west of Hampton in southwest Mott township, be largely depended on to establish the position of the edge of the Wisconsin. Occasional kame-like hills are found in portions of the moraine which, where they have been dissected, prove to be composed of partially stratified gravel and sand. Such are common in southwest Marion township.

The belt just described may be termed the outer moraine in contrast to the more pronounced marginal topography in the southwest townships of the county, and marks the extreme limit of the eastward advance of this ice sheet. To the west, and occupying portions of Morgan, Oakland, Hamilton, Lee and Grant townships is a series of crescentic ranges of morainal hills which exhibit on a grand scale the features of a terminal moraine.

From the main range, which enters the county at the middle of the west side of Morgan township and is two miles wide, spurs lead off into north central Morgan and into west Hamilton townships. A more or less connected series extends from northwest Grant into southern Hamilton township. The central range extends through southern Morgan, across the northeast corner of Oakland and then swings due eastward across central Lee township where it joins with the spur from the northwest already mentioned. A crescentic spur from the main chain extends southeastward into east Oakland, and a similar though more prominent one, through south central Lee and into Hardin county.

Warren Upham has the following regarding the nature of this portion of the moraine: "This belt is very rough, with many hillocks and short ridges, generally trending in the same direction with the series, composed of till with abundant boulders, and divided by depressions which often contain sloughs or lakelets. Its height is fifty to seventy-five feet above the smooth areas of till on each side, and about one hundred feet above the Iowa river." The series of hills comprising this inner moraine is conspicuous for miles when approached from the north and especially so where they cross Lee township. In the northern part of this township is an area five or six miles long by one mile wide known as the "Big Slough." A body of water of some size seems to have been confined here at some former time by the wall of high drift hills to the south. One of the headwaters of Mayne creek now flows through this depression.



Wisconsin Drift Plain.—Outside of the morainal belts the surface of the drift is substantially a plain varied only by occasional low ridges of drift or knobs of sand and gravel and the usual numerous ponds and marshy places. Drainage is practically lacking, except in close proximity to the larger streams. Such is the topography of Wisner and Scott townships. Portions of Morgan, Hamilton, Oakland, Lee and Grant townships are to be included in the drift plain, but the relief is in general greater because of the more or less promiscuous disposition of the morainal hills in these townships. South of the Iowa river in Oakland township the surface is unusually level, and shallow ponds and “sour” places in the land are common.

#### DRAINAGE

The drainage of the county may be considered with reference to the two drift sheets which occupy its territory. There is a marked difference in the development of the streams in these two provinces. With the exception of the Iowa river, all the streams of any considerable size are practically confined to the Iowan drift area. Some of these head in the ponds and marshes of the Wisconsin drift but the areas drained by such headwaters are very limited.

Viewed as a whole the general direction of the streams indicates the slope of the country to be to the southeast. The figures given in the table likewise suggest an inclination in this same general direction. The maximum difference in elevation between any two points mentioned is 270 feet between Alexander and the county line at the east side of Ingham township, giving a gradient of approximately ten and one-half feet to the mile.

All the streams in the county, excepting the Iowa river, belong to the Cedar river system. The west fork of the Cedar is the parent river and, while not the chief drainage way, is joined before it reaches the Cedar by Hartgrave and Mayne creeks, the most important waterways in the county. Beaver, with its branches, which tap a small area in the southeast corner of the county, flows directly into the Cedar in Black Hawk county some distance below its confluence with the West Fork.

West Fork of Cedar River.—This river with its several small tributaries, of which Bailey creek is the most important, drains West Fork and Ross townships. It is the largest stream in the Iowan drift area, and traverses a broad depression excavated in this drift and the shales of the Lime creek formation. It has long since ceased

down-cutting and is now widening its valley by a process of tortuous meandering. The stream is skirted in places by narrow belts of alluvium which is found to overlie stratified sand and gravel. Broad gravel terraces border the stream channel throughout its course in the county. At the north line of section 2, Ross township, where West Fork enters the county, this terrace is twelve to fifteen feet above the flood plain and lies to the west of the stream. In section 18, West Fork township, it is ten feet and although it is in evidence in places as low ridges in the stream valley until the east county line is reached, it thins almost to disappearance.

Bailey creek enters the county near the northeast corner of Richland, and, flowing southeastward across northern Ross, joins the west fork of the Cedar in section 19 of West Fork township. It is normally a small stream and occupies a narrow alluvial valley, but it has the reputation of rising very rapidly at times without warning, and accomplishing considerable damage by its overflow. A level gravel terrace flanks this stream to the north. The town of Sheffield is situated on this terrace which is here over a mile in width. The gravels border Bailey creek to its union with West Fork, and the coalescence of the two gravel benches here forms a very level wedge-shaped tract of considerable extent. Several smaller branches effect the drainage of southern Ross township and enter the West Fork below the confluence of Bailey creek in West Fork township.

Hartgrave Creek.—Hartgrave creek is formed by the union of Otter, Spring and Squaw creeks in southwest Ingham township.

The headwaters of Otter creek come from the Wisconsin drift in the northwest part of the county. Within this area they are aimlessly meandering prairie streams which accomplish little more in the way of drainage than to connect a series of swales or marshes. Buffalo creek, which rises in southeast Wisner and flows across northern Marion township, is the most important branch. Outside of the moraine Otter creek is confined within valley walls of Kinderhook limestone, which is found outcropping at intervals along its entire course.

Spring creek takes its rise in southeast Scott and leaves the Altamont moraine in western Mott township. It has a flood plain of moderate width outside of the moraine through Mott and into Ingham townships and is rock-bound with frequently outcropping ledges of limestone.

The source of Squaw creek is in the morainal belt. It meanders amongst the limestone hills of the southwest Mott township as

though leisurely seeking a line of least resistance. This stream seems not to have been an important waterway during the melting of the Wisconsin ice nor to have been long established in its present position; for there is no sign of the usual gravel deposit, and its channel is immediately bounded by Iowan drift which, with a loess covering, overspreads the pre-glacial features of the Kinderhook.

Otter and Spring creeks, outside of the Wisconsin drift, occupy pre-Iowan depressions and their valleys are marked by the presence of Wisconsin gravel trains. As a general rule the gravel benches disappear at the Wisconsin border, but conspicuous terraces are to be observed along both Spring and Buffalo creeks in Marion township some distance within the border of this drift. It is to be noted also that the gravels grow finer and are more perfectly assorted as the distance eastward from the moraine increases. In sections 23 and 24 of Mott township a broad flat connects the valleys of these two creeks which here approach each other to within one mile. A spur of loess-covered limestone hills along the east edge of section 24 intervenes and the streams separate to join some four miles beyond to the southeast.

Again in section 33, Ingham township, a broad flat leads southward from the valley of Hartgrave creek across sections 4 and 9 of Geneva township and merges with the valley of Mayne creek. This flat-bottomed depression is bounded by loess capped limestone hills. It lacks drainage, and ponds are so numerous that cultivation is for the most part impossible. The gravel terraces become broader and more conspicuous along Hartgrave creek proper in the southeastern part of Ingham township, but their height above the flood plain level of the creek diminishes to practically zero at its exit from the county. This stream occupies a very wide erosional depression, out of proportion, it would seem, to its present volume and capacity to do work. This, the main stream, together with its two principal contributory branches, flows in an ancient valley which the deposition of detritus by the Iowan glacier failed to obliterate.

Mayne Creek.—Mayne creek issues from the moraine in section 26 of Reeve township. It has two principal branches in the Wisconsin area which unite in section 29, Reeve township. These are prairie streams with their sources in the hills and ponds of the inner moraine. The course of Mayne creek through the Altamont moraine in Reeve township is somewhat sinuous. It has not only excavated its way through the hills of Wisconsin drift but has eroded deeply

into the Kinderhook rocks of the Lower Carboniferous. The valley is densely wooded in this portion of its course. Outside of the moraine this stream flows in a wide depression and is skirted by gravel terraces. The latter fail in western Geneva township, and the trend of the valley is such as to lead into the large bayou depression already mentioned as extending northward in northern Geneva township to the valley of Hartgrave creek. The valley occupied by Mayne creek to this point is earlier than, and out of proportion to, the size of the present stream. Through sections 10, 11 and 12, Mayne creek flows in a valley seldom over a third of a mile in width and one of which the stream is unquestionably the author.

It is plain that an adjustment in the drainage lines has taken place in this vicinity during glacial times. The lower part of the course of Mayne creek through eastern Geneva township is not that followed by its pre-glacial ancestor. The main channel was then through the depression opening northward into Hartgrave creek; and Mayne creek through some exigency of glacial movement has been diverted from this ancient course. The diversion of Mayne creek will also aid to some extent in explaining the lack of harmony between the breadth of the valley of Hartgrave creek and the size of the stream. Doubtless a master stream occupied this wide valley prior to the Iowan ice and received tribute from an even larger tributary than the present Mayne creek.

Beaver Creek.—The surplus waters in Osceola township are removed by Beaver creek and a number of small tributaries. The source of the Beaver is in Grant township where it effects a partial drainage of the eastern portion. The remainder of Grant township has no well developed drainage lines. Osceola township is but thinly covered with Iowan drift so that the stream courses outside of the Wisconsin are universally eroded in the limestone. Beaver creek itself is the only stream of appreciable size. In it the limestone is obscured by the loess and glacial gravels which skirt it eastward from the Wisconsin border. It has no flood plain of mapable width, but flows over a limestone bed in the lower part of its course in the county as do its tributaries to the north of it, which meet the Beaver in Butler county to the east.

Iowa River.—This river is itself the only representative of the Iowa river system in this county. From its random meanderings among the mounds and hills of the Gary moraine in Wright county, it enters Morgan township, Franklin county, two miles from its southern border and with a bold curve in the southwest corner of

this township leaves it still one-half mile north of this same boundary. The town of Dows is situated in the curve to the west of the river, the main part of the corporation being in Wright county. With minor meanders along the county line on the west side of Oakland, the Iowa river angles across the southwest corner of the township from the middle point of its west boundary to an exit into Hardin county one mile west of the southeast corner. The Iowa river here is much diminished in size as compared with the same stream outside of the morainal district. It has no confluents of any importance and flows in a shallow channel in the Wisconsin drift plain. In places some alluvium has been put down and at intervals along its course heavy deposits of gravel have been made use of for road materials. From the river the land gradually rises to the northeast to the morainal belt in northeast Oakland and Morgan townships; while to the south the level drift plain stretches beyond the limits of the county.

The county has never been very well supplied with timber of a natural growth, although eleven out of the sixteen congressional townships had more or less timber within their borders. The banks of all the streams were skirted by timber, which in many places widened into groves. Mayne's grove was the largest body of timber in the county, embracing over three thousand acres. Otis' grove, on the Iowa river, Van Horn's grove, in the central portion of the county, Tharp's grove, Shobe's grove and Bailey's grove, in the northern part of the county, were bodies of timber containing from one thousand to fifteen hundred acres. Tow Head and Blake's groves in the southeastern part of the county, Four Mile, Highland, Hartgrave's and Allen's groves, near the eastern side of the county, and Beed's grove, near the center, were smaller and not one of them contained over a section. The timber indigenous to and found in Franklin county consisted mostly of oak, which was interspersed along the streams with basswood, water elm, soft maple, honey locust and cottonwood.

Aside from the granite boulders that are often found on the prairies, the only stone is a buff-colored sandstone and limestone that is found in abundance in the central and eastern parts, appearing mainly in low ledges along the streams and ravines. Quarries have been opened in West Fork township, from which a supply of building material has been utilized at many points. There was also a quarry at one time on section 23, Reeve township. On section 10, Geneva township, just east of the wagon bridge over Mayne

creek is a quarry, opened by Oren Benson. There is also a quarry near the north boundary of section 14, on the H. H. Andrews property. Stone has long been quarried in the north part of Hampton on Squaw creek.

All the streams that issue from the moraine are bordered by more or less continuous layers of gravel. These are especially noticeable on Bailey, Otter and Buffalo creeks; also along Mayne creek in Reeve and Geneva townships. Where the west fork of the Cedar enters the county, it is skirted by a gravel bench, twelve to fifteen feet higher than the flood plain. The terrace in places extends a mile back from the stream, the town of Sheffield being built on such a flat to the north of Bailey creek. The gravels in Sheffield are twenty-five to thirty feet thick.

Fruits of every variety indigenous to the Middle Western States thrive in Franklin county. Peaches do not do well, but bounteous crops of apples, pears, cherries and berries are garnered almost yearly. The cereals, such as corn, oats, rye, potatoes and others, yield large returns from the seed planted. The production of wheat has become a negligible quantity.

The various kinds of grasses thrive and the raising of alfalfa is becoming popular among the husbandmen of this community.

#### SOILS

Franklin is preeminently an agricultural county. Farming is the vocation of the rural population and there are no tracts of any size that have not been disturbed by the implements of the tiller of the soil. The marshy peat bogs as well as the glacial ponds are giving way to modern drainage methods, while productive soils are slowly replacing the peat, and growing crops the worthless waste of sedge, rush and water willow. The general fertility of the soils of the county is attested by the flourishing crops that are to be seen on every hand during the growing seasons.

The soils may be primarily classified as residual and transported soils. The latter is the prevailing type, and may be subdivided into the drift, loess, alluvium and terrace varieties.

The drift soils occupy areas corresponding to the two till sheets that superficially cover the county. The soils of the western portion of the county are relatively new as the time which has elapsed since the deposition of the Wisconsin drift has been short. Surface modification by weathering has progressed to but slight depth and as a re-

sult the soil has a yellow or light brown color and is still very limy. It is also less porous than the older soils, which lack of porosity prevents thorough aeration and the free circulation of the soil moisture. It is recognized that the typical Wisconsin boulder clay soil requires more thorough and deeper tillage to obtain the most favorable results. As weathering progresses and plant growth loosens up and alters the surface layer, many of the finer particles are carried down the slopes and accumulate in and around the marshes and ponds which, until recently have been very common. In this way have been produced the sticky, clayey, muck and impure peat soils that are well known in low undrained places. The so-called "sour" or alkaline spots are due to the impervious nature and undrained condition of such soils and these can be corrected only by the removal of the surplus moisture. In view of their origin it is evident that the marsh soils may vary from a fairly pure grade of peat to a mucky clay containing a greater or less amount of partially decayed organic matter. While not actually covered with water, such soils usually support a growth of uncultivated but nutritious grasses, but it often requires considerable patience, even after drainage is secured, to subdue them into perfect tractability. This once accomplished, however, they become fertile and lasting because of the humus they contain.

The materials of the Iowan drift have been longer subjected to the action of the atmospheric agents, and a more perfect soil is the result. The Iowan drift soil, while still quite calcareous, is of darker color and more open texture than that of the Wisconsin drift, and is therefore better suited to tillage and to plant growth. As has been noted earlier, however, the Iowan is directly responsible for the soils of but limited portions of the area outside of the Wisconsin drift. It is for the most part buried by the silty, in places sandy, loess covering whose alteration forms the basis for most of the soil over the eastern part of the county. The loess is a clayey deposit of yellow to light brown color and entirely free from the gravel pebbles and coarse sand which permeate the drift clays. Rounded or irregular concretions of lime carbonate are abundant, but these are secondary and have been formed by the leaching action of water. It effervesces freely with acid, and microscopic examination shows a large proportion of angular particles which should perhaps be called very fine sand. Physically, the soil which is formed on the loess is permeable both to water and to the roots of plants. On account of the clay constituent and the readiness with which water both enters

and dries from it, the loess soils are very apt to bake hard after wetting. For the same reasons they wash readily, and from unprotected fields tons of the richest portions of the soil may be carried away during heavy rainfall or the melting of the winter's snows. Plowed fields exposed to the unhindered sweep of the winds are likewise denuded by the drifting of loose soil particles. The loess affords a fertile soil, and the cereal and legume crops grown upon it rival those produced on any other class of soil. It is usually found expedient, however, to take some precautions in the rotation of crops in order to avoid the necessity of leaving the uncovered fields open to the attack of winds and rain.

It has already been stated that at a few points along the principal streams of the county bodies of alluvium have been deposited. The materials have come from the upland soils, and this type is therefore one of great richness. Alluvial soils are usually sandy, of dark or black color, and where developed are the most productive of the region.

Covering the gravel terraces wherever they are developed in the county is a very productive soil. It is of the nature of alluvium, somewhat modified by later additions of rich loamy materials, and was undoubtedly spread over the surface of the gravel beds at a time following the close of the glacial period, while the streams were still of large volume, and in a manner similar to the deposition of alluvium over the flood plains of today. The permeable gravels below afford perfect underdrainage. The terrace soils require seasons of more than the common amount of precipitation to produce the very best results. They are sandy, open textured and warm soils and appear best suited to the raising of corn, but in ordinary years even this crop does better on the less porous, more clayey soils.

The residual soils are of minor importance although at some points the weathered limestones and shales have contributed largely to the elements necessary for plant growth. In the southeast corner of Mott and the southwest two sections of Ingham township the Kinderhook limestone is very thinly covered, and in many places along the angular terraces which border Squaw creek the soil layer appears to be due almost entirely to the decomposition of the limestone. To the south of Mayne creek in sections 10 and 11 of Geneva township a similar state of affairs obtains over small areas. In West Fork and Ross townships the Devonian shales have lent appreciably to soil formation in numerous localities. This is notably true along the west fork of the Cedar in section 7 of West Fork and



section 1 of Ross township; and at various other points in Ross township south of Bailey creek. The presence near the surface of the shales is not so evident topographically as is the presence of the limestone. The characteristic yellow color and the marly nature of the shale soils are the distinguishing features. The limestone soils are highly impregnated with iron oxide and are therefore typically deep red to rust brown in color, and are found to grade downwards into the rotten and partially decayed limestone.

#### ECONOMIC PRODUCTS

From the foregoing discussion it may be construed that Franklin county's most important asset is its fertile soil. On the soil the majority of its inhabitants depend and the products of the many prosperous farms are the chief articles of export. The county possesses besides, ample supplies of building stone, abundant clay resources from which are wrought most durable building material and drain tile which are at present so much in demand, and finally, a moderate supply of timber for fuel. In a way, therefore, it may be said that Franklin county is sufficient unto itself, and yet it depends, as do all other communities, for certain of the necessities, on neighboring fields having more abundant supplies that they are willing to exchange for articles which Franklin county is able to spare. Thus, coal must be shipped in, and lumber for building, while in return are sent out the bountiful products of the farm, the orchard and the dairy.

#### CLAY

Franklin county is generously supplied with clay suitable for making all the common grades of stone ware. Those which are readily available are the loess and river clays and the clay shales of the Devonian. The loess which overlies the Iowa drift in the eastern part of the county is not utilized at any point. This material is employed over the state more than any other class of clays for brick and tile manufacture, and good substantial products are made from it.

River or alluvial clay is made use of in a large tile manufacturing plant at Dows. The clay is taken from the river bottom below the plant. It is black soil at the surface, grading downward into gray and yellowish plastic clay. Gravel underlies the clay, so the

depth of the pit is limited to about four feet. The clay is spaded from the bank and hauled to the works in two-wheeled carts. The product is of a high class and the local demand large. A considerable portion of the output is shipped into Mason county.

Splendid varieties of blue and yellow clay are found near Sheffield, from which all sizes of tile are made.



## CHAPTER VI

### FRANKLIN COUNTY ERECTED AND ORGANIZED—SELECTION OF THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT—EFFORT TO MAKE MAYSVILLE THE COUNTY SEAT—EARLY PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY COURT.

Up to the convening of the Third General Assembly at Iowa City, December 2, 1850, the greater part of Iowa was unorganized territory, and as far as the records go it appears that no white man had entered the confines of Franklin county until August, 1849, when James M. Marsh came here to run township lines. He was assisted by William M. Dean and N. P. Cook, chainmen; B. H. Springer, flagman; James Casteel, axman. The work was finished in about one month. Certain of the townships were subdivided into sections in October, 1849, by John G. McDonald, deputy surveyor, presumably of Hardin county. His work consisted of sectionizing township 90, ranges 19, 20, 21 and 22, which now comprise the civil townships of Osceola, Grant, Lee and Oakland. There was then a hiatus of several months. During June, July, August and September, 1851, Alonzo Shaw marked out the section lines of Reeve, Geneva and Ingham townships. In 1852, John T. Everett surveyed into sections Hamilton, Marion, Richland, Ross, Clinton, Scott and Wisner townships. In the same year Charles Gilliam subdivided into sections townships Morgan and West Fork.

### FRANKLIN COUNTY CREATED

At the adjourned session of the Third General Assembly, in the winter of 1851, fifty counties were created out of a vast territory belonging to the state, and among them was Franklin. The act was approved by Stephen Hempstead, Governor of the state, January 15, 1851, and on that day this county was born.

The boundary lines of the several counties erected by the act of 1851 were set forth in distinct terms in the legislative measure. That part of the act relating to Franklin reads as follows:

“Section 12—That the following shall be the boundaries of a new county, which shall be called Franklin, to wit: Beginning at the northwest corner of township 93 north, range 18 west, thence west on the line between 93 and 94 to the northwest corner of township 93 north, range 22 west, thence south on the line between ranges 22 and 23, to the southwest corner of township 90 north, range 22 west; thence east on the line dividing townships 89 and 90 to the southwest corner of township 90, range 18 west, thence north to the place of beginning.”

Franklin county stands fifth from the Mississippi and seventh from the Missouri river in the third tier of counties from the Minnesota line. The county lies between Cerro Gordo and Hardin counties to the north and south respectively; while Butler and Wright counties form the east and west boundaries. In outline it is square and contains sixteen standard sized townships. It has an area therefore of 576 square miles, or 368,640 acres.

#### THE COUNTY IS ORGANIZED

When the county of Franklin was created there were not enough inhabitants within her borders to warrant the formalities of organization for civil or judicial purposes. Hence, Franklin was attached to Hardin county and later to Chickasaw county. In July, 1855, the county judge of Chickasaw issued an order for the holding of an election in Franklin county and on the 5th day of August, 1855, forty-eight male residents of the county, of legal age, met at the house of James B. Reeve, in what is now Reeve township, and cast their ballots for the first officials of the county, and by that act completed the organization of the new civil entity. The result of the election showed that James B. Reeve was the choice for county judge; Isaac Miller, treasurer and recorder; Dr. S. R. Mitchell, clerk of courts; Solomon Staley, sheriff; Henry Shroyer, school fund commissioner; John I. Popejoy, assessor; H. P. Allen, surveyor; Q. A. Jordan, prosecuting attorney; C. M. Leggett and J. Jones, justices of the peace.

After the election John Mitchell, who was one of the election judges, took the returns to Bradford, the county seat of Chickasaw county, and the newly elected judge and treasurer went all the way to Davenport, there to secure books and blanks to be used in the business of the county.

The formality of inducting the various officials into office devolved on the sheriff, Solomon Staley. That officer having been sworn to do his duty by the presiding judge at Bradford, received the official oaths of his confreres and thus qualified them for their new and somewhat difficult positions. The sheriff also copied and certified to the new treasurer the assessment levied against Franklin county by Judge Ellis Parker of Hardin, and thus the new bailiwick began its career.

For business purposes the county was practically in embryo. The officials had no one near to instruct them in their duties. Each one had been supplied with a record book and a few blanks. There was not, as a matter of course, a building for county purposes, so that the public business was transacted at the homes of the officials, but mainly at the house of the pioneer settler and judge, James B. Reeve. The Reeve home became the court house and at times the family had little space left in which to turn around, as the settlers gathered there in numbers and filled every inch of the log cabin.

#### SELECTION OF THE COUNTY SEAT

It does not appear that the appointment of commissioners to select a seat of government for Franklin county was made by the Legislature. This duty therefore devolved upon Judge Cave J. McFarland, who chose Dr. Adam T. Ault, M. M. Trumbull, of Butler county, and J. D. Thompson, of Hardin, to perform that office; not, however, without some show of dissatisfaction on the part of those most interested in having the matter properly and impartially arranged. It appeared to the settlers, by the arbitrary manner in which the commissioners were appointed and the appearance of what was then known as "land sharks," that they were to be made the victims of a county seat ring and that if possible the county's capital city would be located without consulting their wishes or best interests. This was made all the more certain when it became known that Thomas B. Abel, of Marshall county, a man of consummate business acumen and shrewdness, had entered into an agreement with William Loughridge, of Oskaloosa, and a man named Farner, whereby they planned to control the situation. Abel owned a tract of land near the present site of Hampton and with the persons just mentioned, acquired several hundred acres in other parts of Reeve township. It later developed that Judge McFarland

was identified with Abel and his partners, as was also Dr. Adam T. Ault.

The commissioners met at the house of Judge Reeve, but twice adjourned without accomplishing their purpose. Many liberal offers were made by interested persons, in the effort to secure the county seat. S. M. Preston, proprietor of a town; W. G. Loughridge, who had some land; and Thomas B. Abel all were willing to make great sacrifices to obtain the much desired plum. The commissioners examined various sites and Commissioner Trumbull was emphatically in favor of Job Garner's tract of land in Mott township. But Abel had done his work well. Trumbull was outvoted and the other commissioners carried the day. The county seat was located on the Abel place and was called Jefferson.

It is needless to say that the selection of Jefferson as the county seat was far from satisfactory, and steps were immediately taken to change it by placing the matter before the voters of the county for their decision. But little time for action was left, however. Commissioner Trumbull, who favored the Garner site, took the initiative and before going to his home, after Jefferson had been chosen, he himself prepared the requisite legal notices of a petition to the county court, praying that tribunal to order a vote on the question at the next April election, and saw that they were properly posted that day. He then drafted a petition, which was generously signed. This was filed in Judge Reeve's court and the prayer of the petition was granted in the following words, to wit:

"Be it remembered that at a regular term of the county court in and for the county of Franklin, State of Iowa, held on Monday, the 3d of March, A. D., 1856, a petition was filed, signed by S. C. Brazzelton and ninety others, praying that the court order a vote to be taken, at the next April election, on the question of removing the county seat of said county from the present location to the proposed town site situated on the south half of the northeast quarter, and the north half of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 33, township 92, range 20 west, and it appeared by the affidavit of Job Garner, a creditable witness, that the petitioners are legal voters of said county, and it appeared to the satisfaction of the court that the notices required by law have been duly posted up, and that the petitioners constitute a lawful majority of the legal voters of said county, and all other things required by law in relation to such publications having been done, it is therefore ordered by the court that the

prayer of said petitioners be heard, and that a vote be taken at the next April election between said proposed site and the present county seat, in accordance with the prayer of petitioners.

“James B. Reeve, County Judge.”

At the April election the settlers took the matter out of the hands of the commissioners and speculators and by their votes declared almost unanimously for the Garner site. It is said Jefferson, in this contest, received but two votes. This consummation of the pioneers' wishes was brought about primarily through the honesty and rectitude of purpose of Judge Reeve, who desired to see fair play, and the untiring energy and aptitude of M. M. Trumbull. Judge Reeve entered the following order in accordance with the vote:

“April 15, 1856. At an election held in Franklin County, Iowa, on the 7th day of April, 1856, in pursuance of an order made by the county judge that a vote be taken on the question of removing the county seat from its present location to the proposed town of Benjamin, and it appearing from the whole number of votes cast, that the proposed town of Benjamin had a majority of all the votes cast, it is therefore declared the county seat of said county.

“James B. Reeve,  
“County Judge.”

The proprietor of the county seat site, Job Garner, first had named the town Benjamin, assuming it would be appropriate, as the noted statesman's and philosopher's family name had been given the county; but he was afterwards induced to change the name to Hampton. At the time he made his proposition to the county, his plat embraced the eighty acres bounded on the north by First street, on the east by Main street in front of Harriman's Opera Hall; on the south by Fifth street, and on the west by the division line between the original plat and Kingman's addition. George Ryan, who was something of a speculator, owned a quarter section of land adjoining the proposed town plat. The arrangement prior to the location of the county seat here, was that Ryan deeded over to the county one-half of the land; but when the time for platting came, he deeded the county an undivided half of the eighty acres platted, that is, every other lot. Ryan's and Garner's lands were platted the same day.

The election above referred to did put to rest the ambitions of certain persons to further their own interest. It was considered



that the question was not permanently settled and to the end that the county seat might again be changed a petition was presented to the county court, at its February term in 1857, signed by J. G. Curry and one hundred and ten voters, praying that at the April election the question of removing the county seat be submitted to the voters of the county. Against this proposition a strong remonstrance was filed, which coincided with the views of the court and the prayer of the petitioners was therefor refused.

Still another effort was made to wrest the prize from Hampton. A petition was presented to Judge Reeve at the January term of court in 1858, signed by S. C. Brazzelton and others. To counterbalance this petition a remonstrance was submitted, signed by James McManes and others and again the decision was in favor of Hampton. Another attempt was made at the March term of court in 1860 to remove the county seat from Hampton. A. T. Reeve and others were this time the petitioners. They asked Judge Henry Shroyer, who had succeeded Judge Reeve, that the question of removing the county seat from Hampton to Maysville be submitted to the citizens of the county at the April election. The petition was confronted by a strong and vigorous remonstrance, presented to the court by George Ryan and others, and the issue having been made several days' time was consumed in strenuous argument of counsel. The friends of Hampton again were triumphant. But the question, like Banquo's ghost, would not down. For almost immediately, or to be more exact, at the following June term of the court, E. H. Sparling's petition, with one hundred and sixty-two names thereon, was up for consideration. The prayer of this petition was that the county seat be changed from Hampton to Maysville. C. Gillett and others were on hand with a remonstrance. In this instance Judge Henry Shroyer directed that an order be issued for the submission of the question at the election to be held in April, 1862; but the vote was never taken, as an injunction was obtained restraining the authorities from any such procedure. Baffled and discouraged, the anti-Hamptonites gave up the struggle and no further efforts to change the location of the county seat have come to the surface.

#### EARLY PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY COURT

Franklin county's organization was perfected in August, 1855, by the election of officials whose several duties were to attend to the affairs coming under their jurisdiction. Judge Reeve convened his

court and as has been stated, each officer was sworn to do his duty by the sheriff, who had previously qualified in the court at Bradford, Chickasaw county. But no record of any business of this court during the year of 1855 can be found and it is surmised that there was no sitting of the court in the winter of that year.

Judge Reeve convened the county court, March 3, 1856, and from that time on the record is measurably complete and intelligible. The most important entry appearing is the one ordering the question of relocating the county seat to be submitted to the electors at the ensuing April election. There is also an entry, which is a statement of the county judge, relative to the salaries of the various officers, and is in the following words:

“It appears from the books of the county officers that the county judge has received nothing; the county treasurer \$38.40; the clerk seventy cents, amounting to \$39.10, for the last quarter of A. D. 1856, ending on the first Monday of August, which is to be equally divided between them, making for each of them \$13.03, and that the balance of their salary be drawn upon the treasurer, which amounts to \$61.97 each.

“James B. Reeve,  
“County Judge.”

The office of clerk of court was resigned by Samuel R. Mitchell in November, 1856, to which Judge Reeve appointed James Thompson.

Pursuant to a state law then in force Judge Reeve, on the 27th day of August, 1856, appointed Thomas Baker “Agent to sell liquors in Maysville, for Franklin county, and is to have a salary of five dollars per month for his services.”

It appears by the minutes of the county court, that a building was ordered in 1857 to be erected for county purposes, for under date of May 29, 1857, an order was issued to F. A. Denton for \$200, that being the amount due him as the second payment for building the courthouse.

All legislative powers were taken from the county court, by act of the General Assembly, in the winter of 1859-60. By that act the board of supervisors was created and the county judge shorn of most of his prerogatives and importance. Theretofore he had been almost autocratic in his powers, but all matters now left to his office was the issuance of marriage licenses, probate matters and certain civil

cases. The county court continued in existence, however, until 1869, when it was abolished by law.

The first board of supervisors was elected in November, 1860, at which time seven townships had been organized. The first meeting of the board was held in January, 1861, when the following members qualified: John E. Boyles, Clinton; J. H. Allen, Ingham; J. M. White, Washington; Richard Horner, Geneva; G. M. Davidson, Osceola; Erastus Baker, Reeve; Jesse R. Dodd, Morgan; John E. Boyles was elected chairman by his fellow members.

To govern the board in its proceedings, Charles Flanigan, at the January session of 1862, presented a set of rules which was adopted. Twenty-seven copies of the rules were ordered printed at the office of the Record.

At this time the country was in the throes of a sectional war. Many of Franklin's sons had willingly and eagerly responded to the call for men to enlist in that civil war, to put down rebellion and resist secession of the southern states. Many of them left dependent families. That these should not suffer and to encourage the men at the front fighting for home and free institutions, the board passed the following resolutions:

*"Resolved, 1.* That we, at our next regular meeting, appropriate the sum of fifty dollars out of the county treasury to each volunteer that is hereafter sworn into the United States service from Franklin county, and ten dollars to each volunteer heretofore sworn into the service, who has not received the same in accordance with a resolution heretofore passed.

*"Resolved, 2.* That the wife of each volunteer, from this county, receive the sum of one dollar per week and each child, under the age of twelve years, receive the sum of fifty cents per week during the term of such volunteer's service in the army."

Nothing of great importance was transacted by the board during the year 1865, but at the January session, 1866, a contract was let for the building of a courthouse at Hampton. U. Weeks was the successful bidder at \$12,500. The specifications called for a stone building, 48x70 feet, and two stories high.

At the June session of the board in 1868, upon a petition of E. A. Howland and others, Oakland township was created out of Morgan and Reeve townships. West Fork was also created this year.

In 1870 the last board of supervisors under the township organization convened. Nine townships had been organized up to this time, as follows: West Fork, Ingham, Washington, Geneva, Os-

ceola, Reeve, Clinton, Oakland and Morgan. This board before adjourning passed this resolution:

*Resolved.* That the amount of exemption from taxation, shall be \$2.50 on each acre of forest trees planted for timber; 50 cents on each mile of shade trees, along the highway. Also \$1.00 for each half mile of hedge, and \$2.50 for each acre of fruit trees, in a healthy, growing condition. The fruit trees to be not more than eight feet apart. This resolution applies to trees planted in 1870, only."



## CHAPTER VII

MEN WHO HAVE SERVED THE COUNTY—JUDGE J. B. REEVE THE FIRST OFFICIAL—ESTABLISHMENT OF VARIOUS OFFICES—BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

### COUNTY JUDGE

The office of county judge was the most important in the county at the time of its organization. James B. Reeve, the pioneer settler, was the first to be elected to this office and after two years' term was reelected in 1857. The opposing candidate was Dr. S. R. Mitchell, who unsuccessfully contested the vote. Judge Reeve was the incumbent of the office until January, 1860. The names of his successors follow: 1859, Henry Shroyer; 1861, A. T. Reeve; 1862, Austin North; 1867, W. W. Day.

Mr. Day remained in office until it was abolished in the year 1869.

### TREASURER

When the county was organized, and for some years thereafter, the offices of treasurer and recorder were combined. The work of both was about the same as at the present time but there was little to do and the duties were not onerous; so that one man could perform them and still have leisure time upon his hands. Isaac Miller was first elected to this office. He was succeeded in 1859 by James Thompson, and he by George Beed in 1861. In the winter of 1863-4, the General Assembly passed an act separating these offices. Beed, however, continued to attend to the duties of both until 1865, when he was elected treasurer, and in 1867 was reelected. The names of his successors follow: 1869, A. T. Reeve; 1873, R. S. Benson; 1877, T. C. McKenzie; 1881, C. L. Clock; 1883, John E. Evans; 1887, Louis Elsefer; 1891, N. W. Beebe; 1895, Henry Proctor; 1899, H. A. Clock; 1903, S. H. Mendell; 1908, E. H. Mallory; 1912, C. D. Williams.

## AUDITOR

When the office of county judge was abolished in 1869, that of county auditor was created. Capt. R. S. Benson was the first auditor of Franklin county, being first elected in 1869. He was re-elected in 1871 and performed the duties imposed to the utmost satisfaction of the whole county. Below is a list of the auditors of Franklin county from the creation of the office to the present time: 1869, R. S. Benson; 1873, J. M. Wait; 1877, C. L. Clock; 1881, J. M. Wait; 1885, C. W. Boutin; 1889, T. E. B. Hudson; 1894, Charles Krag; 1898, E. D. Haecker; 1902, W. T. Adams; 1906, Frank G. Luke; 1910, Frank McSpaden.

## RECORDER

Isaac Miller was the first county recorder, first serving in the dual capacity of treasurer and recorder. The first person to perform the duties of this office after the separation was James H. Beed. The names of his successors follow his name in the list below: 1855, Isaac Miller; 1857, Milton Clover; 1861, George Beed; 1866, James H. Beed; 1868, Henry Meyer; 1871, R. S. Benson; 1873, J. M. Wait; 1877, C. L. Clock; 1881, J. M. Wait; 1884, Louis Elsefer; 1886, William Avery; 1890, H. E. Latham; 1894, W. L. Burres; 1898, John W. Cummings; 1902, George H. Lambert; 1906, Will Lane; 1910, Floyd Gillett; 1912, B. D. Lane.

## CLERK OF THE COURT

According to early historians of the county, Dr. S. R. Mitchell was elected clerk of the court in 1855 and served until 1857. At that time he was succeeded by Sowel C. Brazzelton, of Maysville, who figured quite prominently in the efforts to secure the location of the county seat for his home town. John D. Leland was elected clerk of the court in October, 1858, defeating the incumbent and John E. Boyles. D. W. Dow, still living in Hampton, was the successful candidate for this office in November, 1860, defeating J. D. Leland and Henry White. Mr. Dow served the county acceptably in this office for six years, part of which time he was fighting for his country in the Civil war. Others who presided over the office were: 1866, R. S. Benson; 1870, T. C. McKenzie; 1874, M. A. Ives (failed to qualify and T. B. Taylor appointed to the office); 1875, T. B. Taylor;

1878, Henry A. Harriman; 1880, C. S. Guilford; 1884, J. S. Raymond; 1888, G. R. Miner; 1892, David Vought; 1896, R. E. McCrillis; 1900, G. T. McCrillis; 1904, W. J. Van Nuys; 1908, W. T. Webb; 1912, H. L. Proctor.

#### PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Early in the '50s, and prior to the organization of Franklin county, the office of prosecuting attorney was created by an act of the General Assembly. The first incumbent was Q. A. Jordan, who was elected at the time of the organization in 1855. He was succeeded by Samuel B. Jackson, who was elected in August, 1856, and served but a few months. Robert Piatt was then elected in the following April and held the office until it was abolished by law and that of district attorney took its place, which was in 1870. In that year J. H. Bradley was elected to the office without opposition. His successors were: M. D. O'Connell, who was elected in 1872 and served four years; J. L. Stevens, elected in 1878 and remained in the office until 1886.

In the General Assembly of 1885-6 an act was passed abolishing the office of district attorney and creating the office of county attorney, thereby confining the duties of the prosecutor to his own county. The first election in Franklin county for county attorney was held in 1886. W. D. Evans was the successful candidate. The list of county attorneys follows: 1886, W. D. Evans; 1890, D. W. Dow; 1894, H. C. Liggett; 1898, John Y. Luke; 1902, B. H. Mallory; 1906, J. M. Hemingway; 1908, S. A. Clock; 1912, J. J. Sharpe.

#### SHERIFF

Solomon Staley was the first person to occupy the office of sheriff in Franklin county. He went to Chickasaw county to qualify and then returned to Franklin and performed the ceremony of inducting into office the various other persons elected in 1855. Staley remained in the county until 1876, when he went to Nebraska. The names of his successors follow: 1857, A. S. Ross; 1859, F. A. Denton; 1861, J. W. Ward; 1867, A. Pickering; 1869, A. B. Hudson; 1873, Abel N. Miner; 1877, Martin B. Jones; 1881, S. C. Stevens; 1885, Josiah Phelps; 1886, James Ormrod; 1888, Josiah Phelps (to fill vacancy caused by death of James Ormrod); 1889, W. T. O.



Rule; 1892, H. Z. Tucker; 1896, John M. Wait; 1900, L. H. Wolf; 1906, C. L. Jernegan; 1910, A. P. Millett.

#### COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

At the time of the organization of Franklin county, the office of superintendent of schools had not been created. A school fund commissioner was the only official at that time who had any connection with educational matters in the county, and his duties simply extended to the making of loans of school funds. In those primitive days school directors hired the teacher, first examining them as to their efficiency. It is a well known fact that had many of the directors themselves been examined, they would have been disqualified from performing this particular part of their duties. Public examinations were unknown. Henry Shroyer was the first school fund commissioner. He was elected in August, 1855, and was later elevated to the county judgeship. George W. Hansell was his successor. In 1858 the office was abolished and that of county superintendent of schools created. Robert F. Piatt, the first lawyer to appear here, was elected to this office in 1858 but resigned in November of the same year. W. N. Davidson was appointed to fill the vacancy and was elected to the office in 1859. Below is a list of the county superintendents of schools from 1861 to the present time: 1861, N. B. Chapman; 1867, L. B. Raymond; 1869, J. Cheston Whitney; 1872, I. W. Myers (to fill vacancy); 1873, G. G. Clemmer; 1875, Orilla M. Reeve; 1877, I. W. Myers; 1879, John E. Evans; 1883, T. H. Haecker; 1893, Emily Reeve; 1899, H. J. Henderson; 1903, S. E. Campbell; 1908, John A. Iverson; 1912, Delia McSwiggen.

#### SURVEYOR

Herman P. Allen was the first official surveyor of Franklin county, having been elected to the office in August, 1858, and remaining therein until August, 1859. The names of those who have since served the county in the capacity of official surveyor follow: 1859, Obadiah Smith; 1867, S. H. Vankirk; 1871, Obadiah Smith; 1873, P. S. Brennan; 1875, L. B. Raymond; 1877, S. H. Vankirk; 1883, G. C. Anderson; 1890, L. P. Kron; 1893, W. F. Kelly; 1897, Frank D. Pease; 1899, G. C. Clemmer; 1906, L. J. Kron.

## CORONER

There was no person elected to the office of coroner at the time the county was organized. The first coroner was William Ward, who was the successful candidate against George Ryan, in 1857. Those who have followed him in the office are: 1858, John Cromwell; 1859, L. Armstrong; 1860, L. Shroyer; 1867, J. Caddis; 1870, J. M. Wait; 1871, Andrew Graham; 1875, O. B. Harriman; 1877, James H. Hutchins; 1883, H. R. Floyd; 1884, E. N. Keyes; 1888, J. Krebbs; 1890, Dr. M. P. Brown; 1895, O. P. Thompson; 1896, J. W. Bailey; 1903, M. P. Brown; 1906, John M. Wait; 1910, J. C. Powers.

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The first officials provided for by the Territorial Legislature of Iowa to govern and transact the business of organized counties were known as commissioners, whose acts were designated as being of the commissioners' court. The jurisdiction of this court was almost without limitation. As time went on, dissatisfaction arose with the commissioners' court and its methods of conducting business. The office was the subject of much unfavorable criticism in the various counties of the state, and in 1851 the commissioners' court was abolished by law, and by an act of the Legislature the county court system was substituted therefor. This court was given equal power to that of its predecessor in all business matters of the county and coordinate jurisdiction with justices' courts. Ten years' trial of the county court seems to have been sufficient for the people to determine that the best means of running the affairs of the bailiwick had not been adopted. It was far from being satisfactory. Many of the early taxpayers claimed that the judge of the court had altogether too much power and that the general interests of the community were continually imperiled.

Then the township, or board of supervisor system came to the fore by legislative enactment, and in 1861 the first board of township supervisors was elected, each township being entitled to one member. This plan prevailed until 1870, when again the system was changed. In the last mentioned year, the General Assembly passed an act which made it optional with the people whether they elect three or five members to compose the board of supervisors provided for in the previous year. Franklin county chose to have a

board of three members and that has been the composition of the body from 1871 to the present time. Hereto attached is a list of the names of all persons who have served their several townships and the county at large, on the board:

1861—Clinton, John E. Boyles, chairman; Ingham, J. H. Allen; Washington, J. M. White; Geneva, Richard Horner; Osceola, G. M. Davidson; Reeve, Erastus Baker; Morgan, Jesse R. Dodd.

1863—Washington, Charles Flanigan, chairman; Ingham, John O. Crapser; Reeve, Levi Jones; Morgan, Jesse R. Dodd; Clinton, John Ashman; Osceola, John Fahey; Geneva, Rufus Benson.

1864—Reeve, A. Pickering, chairman; Clinton, John Ashman; Geneva, Rufus Benson; Ingham, Henry Bushyager; Washington, Daniel Scott; Morgan, L. A. Morgan; Osceola, John Fahey.

1865—Reeve, Charles Pickering, chairman; Washington, James Scott; Morgan, L. A. Morgan; Ingham, Henry Bushyager; Geneva, D. G. Carbaugh; Osceola, John Fahey; Clinton, B. H. Gibbs.

1866—Geneva, D. G. Carbaugh, chairman; Clinton, B. H. Gibbs; Osceola, John Fahey; Reeve, E. L. Clock; Washington, W. G. Beed; Morgan, E. A. Howland; Ingham, W. H. Hoxie.

1867—D. G. Carbaugh, chairman; W. H. Hoxie, William G. Beed, E. L. Clock, E. A. Howland, H. H. Grinnell and John Fahey.

1868—D. G. Carbaugh, chairman; H. H. Grinnell, John Fahey, A. T. Reeve, Milo Ross, W. H. Hoxie and E. A. Howland.

1869—At the June session of the board, upon a petition presented by E. A. Howland, the territory known as Oakland township was set off from Morgan and Reeve townships. West Fork township was also created this year.

Morgan, E. A. Howland, chairman; Reeve, A. T. Reeve; Washington, Milo Ross; Ingham, W. H. Hoxie; Oakland, J. I. Popejoy; Osceola, Philip Salsberry; Geneva, Allen Andrews; Clinton, Lyman Hunt; West Fork, Isaac Patterson.

1870—West Fork, T. E. B. Hudson; Ingham, W. H. Hoxie; Washington, C. J. Mott; Geneva, A. Andrews; Osceola, Philip Salsberry; Reeve, E. L. Clock; Clinton, R. L. Kenyon; Oakland, J. I. Popejoy; Morgan, R. E. Train.

This was the last meeting of the county board of supervisors made up of one member from each township. The first board which convened, under the new law met during the first week in January, 1871, the three members being: C. J. Mott, chairman; E. L. Clock, John I. Popejoy.

1872—C. J. Mott, chairman; E. L. Clock, B. K. Jackson.

- 1873—C. J. Mott, chairman; D. W. Elliott, B. K. Jackson.  
 1874—B. K. Jackson, chairman; D. W. Elliott, L. D. Lane.  
 1875—D. W. Elliott, chairman; L. D. Lane, David Church.  
 1876—David Church, chairman; W. A. Alexander, J. I. Popejoy.  
 1877—David Church, chairman; John I. Popejoy, W. A. Alexander.  
 1878—John I. Popejoy, chairman; W. A. Alexander, David Church.  
 1879—W. A. Alexander, chairman; David Church, J. I. Popejoy.  
 1880—David Church, chairman; J. I. Popejoy, W. A. Alexander.  
 1881—J. I. Popejoy, chairman; W. A. Alexander, William Barry.  
 1882—W. A. Alexander, chairman; William Barry, A. D. St. Clair.  
 1883—A. D. St. Clair, chairman; W. H. McMillen, G. W. Hansell.  
 1884—W. H. McMillen, chairman; A. D. St. Clair, Robert Mullen.  
 1885—Robert Mullen, chairman; A. D. St. Clair, W. H. McMillen.  
 1886—A. D. St. Clair, chairman; R. Mullen, C. L. Clock.  
 1887—C. L. Clock, chairman; A. D. St. Clair, William Savidge.  
 1888—William Savidge, chairman; C. L. Clock, H. S. Eddy.  
 1889—H. S. Eddy, chairman; William Savidge, James Thompson.  
 1890—James Thompson, chairman; William Savidge, H. S. Eddy.  
 1891—William Savidge, chairman; James Thompson, H. S. Eddy.  
 1892—William Savidge, chairman; James Thompson, H. S. Eddy.  
 1893—James Thompson, chairman; R. E. Train, William Boots.  
 1894—James Thompson, chairman; William Boots, R. E. Train.  
 1895—R. E. Train, chairman; William Boots, Butler Throssel.  
 1896—R. E. Train, chairman; Butler Throssel, O. L. Minert.  
 1897—Butler Throssel, chairman; O. L. Minert, R. E. Train.  
 1898—O. L. Minert, chairman; R. E. Train, Butler Throssel.  
 1899—R. E. Train, chairman; Butler Throssel, O. L. Minert.  
 1900—Butler Throssel, chairman; O. L. Minert, J. E. Carr.  
 1901—O. L. Minert, chairman; Butler Throssel, J. E. Carr.  
 1902—J. E. Carr, chairman; Butler Throssel, O. E. Benson.  
 1903—Butler Throssel, chairman; J. E. Carr, O. E. Benson.

1904—O. E. Benson, chairman; J. E. Carr, D. B. Henderson.

1905—J. E. Carr, chairman; D. B. Henderson, John McGrath.

1906—D. B. Henderson, chairman; John McGrath, J. E. Carr.

1907—John McGrath, chairman; D. B. Henderson, Stewart Stockdale.

1908—Stewart Stockdale, chairman; D. B. Henderson, F. S. Whitney.

1909—D. B. Henderson, chairman; Stewart Stockdale, F. S. Whitney.

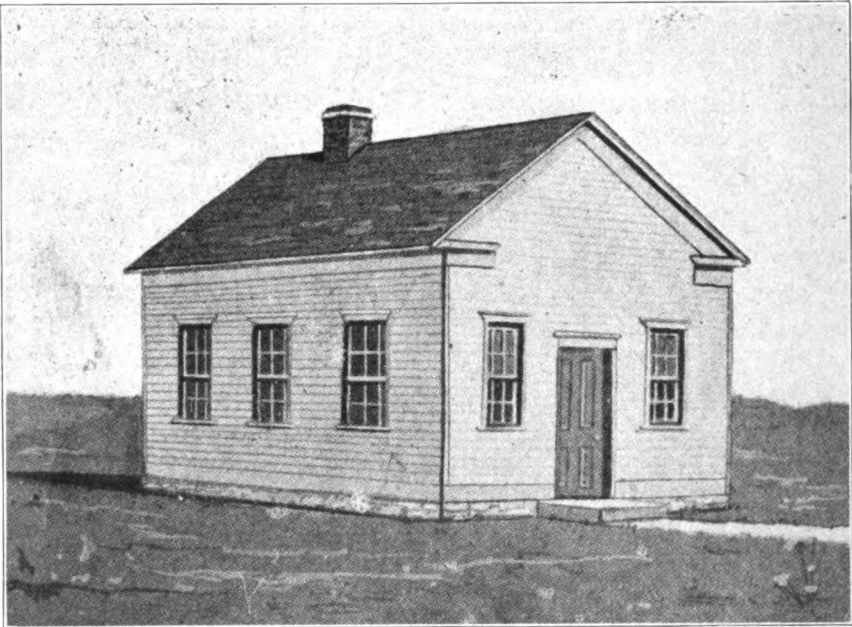
1910—F. S. Whitney, chairman; Stewart Stockdale, Casper Wolf.

1911—Stewart Stockdale, chairman; F. S. Whitney, Casper Wolf.

1912—F. S. Whitney, chairman; Stewart Stockdale, David Vought.

1913—F. S. Whitney, chairman; Stewart Stockdale, G. C. Patton.





FIRST COURT HOUSE  
Built in 1856

## CHAPTER VIII

PUBLIC BUILDINGS OF THE COUNTY—COURTHOUSES—THE JAIL—  
COUNTY FARM—FIRST AND LAST TAX LEVY—POPULATION—FRANK-  
LIN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The first courthouse in Hampton was a one-story frame building 18x30 feet and had but one room, in the corners of which the county officials had their desks and there maintained the county offices. The building was erected on the southeast corner of Court House Square in the summer of 1857, by F. A. Denton. On July 4th of that year this first Franklin county temple of justice was formally dedicated. A program was arranged for the occasion and when the great day came, the town was full of settlers, who made their way to the county seat afoot, horseback and in wagons drawn by ox-teams. A gala time was had by all, which was made up of patriotic speeches by Lawyer W. R. Jamison, of Union Ridge, S. H. Vankirk, the pioneer farmer, schoolmaster and surveyor, and others. Of course, the Declaration of Independence was read, Hail Columbia sung and a substantial feast of good home-cooked edibles discussed.

The old courthouse was the meeting place for judge, jury, lawyer, disputant, disappointed husband or wife and criminal; the love-sick swain seeking a license to wed his Joan. Here also were held religious meetings, political meetings, entertainments and—it seems hardly credible—dances. But, in the year 1866, the old landmark was condemned to take a back seat and give away to a successor. It was removed to a lot on Main street, the purchasers intending to convert the building into a Methodist meeting house. But the plan for consecrating the temple of justice as a temple of worship was abandoned and it was remodeled into a dwelling house and as such was used until 1879, when once again its poor old frame was ordered removed, this time to a lot belonging to Peter Chance, at the south end of Reeve street where, after at last finding a resting place, it was ignobly converted into a stable.

While preparing for and building another courthouse the county



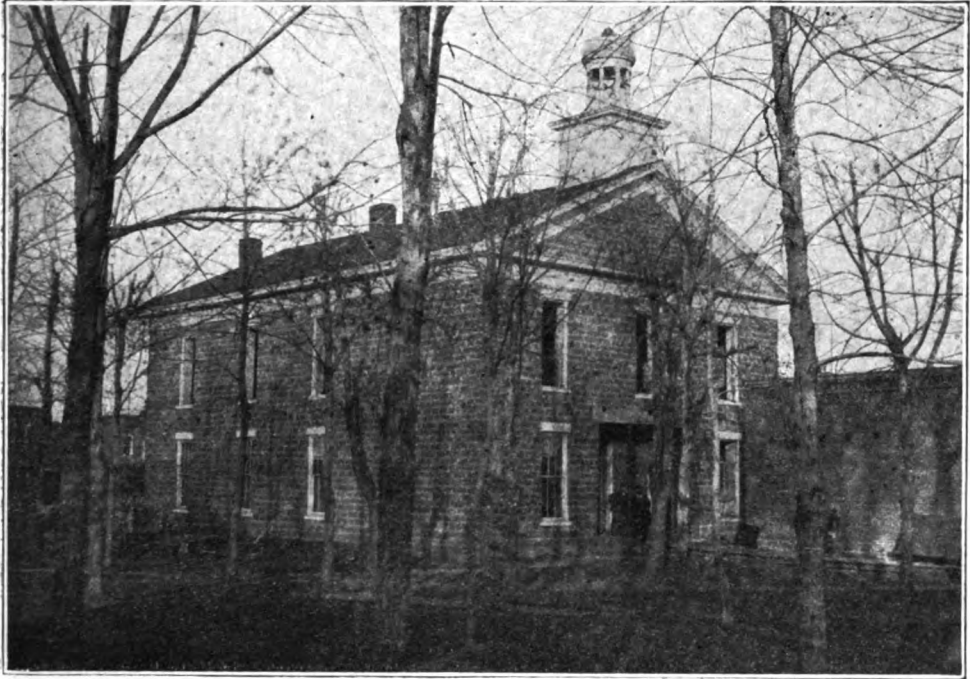
officials removed with their records to rooms in the school building on south Reeve street. A new building was erected in 1866, by U. Weeks, who had taken the contract at the sum of \$12,500, but the cost was something in excess of that amount. The building was constructed of stone, having ground dimensions of 48x70 feet and was two stories in height. The structure was an imposing one for its day and was used until 1889, when by reason of decrepitude and indications of falling down, it was condemned and sentenced to the junk pile.

The third building to be erected by Franklin county for public use is now standing in Court House Square, majestically showing its harmonious proportions, pleasing architectural lines and substantial construction. Building operations began in the spring of 1890 and early in the succeeding year the great pile of brick, stone and mortar was completed at a cost of approximately \$60,000. T. D. Allen, of Minneapolis, was the architect; G. H. King, of Brooklyn, contractor; and C. W. Boutin, superintendent of construction for the board of supervisors.

The dimensions of the Franklin county courthouse are 76x102 feet on the ground and 133 feet high from the top of an imposing dome to the basement floor. The material is pressed brick, with cut and carved stone trimmings; the latter are particularly heavy and artistic at the entrances, of which there are three, one on Reeve, Fourth and Fifth streets.

In each of the four corners of the main floor is an office with its records; the recorder's, treasurer's, clerk of the courts' and the auditor's. On the second floor is a handsome and commodious court room, jury rooms, retiring room for the judge, the superintendent of schools' office and the county engineer's office. In the basement the sheriff has his office with entrance on Reeve street; and here also, in the northwest corner, is a woman's rest room. Storage rooms and all the apparatus for heating the building are in the basement.

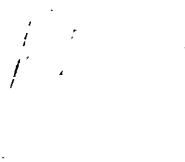
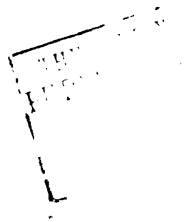
Franklin county secured a splendid piece of work in her courthouse and the contractor attached to himself a "white elephant." To meet the specifications, he was called upon to furnish material and labor, which consumed the contract price of \$42,000 and several thousand dollars beside, much to his loss and discomfiture. But the county made a good bargain, for which her taxpayers may well congratulate themselves. In public enterprises of this kind the good bargains usually go to the other fellow.



**OLD COURT HOUSE**  
Erected in 1866--Torn Down in 1899



**PRESENT COURT HOUSE**



In 1892, a committee of citizens composed of E. S. Patterson, Henry Proctor, E. M. Funk, Frank Kratochvil and Dr. W. A. Rohlf, raised funds and purchased a 1600-pound bell and a clock for the courthouse tower. The names of this committee are inscribed on the bell.

#### THE FRANKLIN COUNTY JAIL

For many years after the organization of Franklin county, there was no such an institution within her limits as a county jail. When a culprit got into the clutches of the law he was incarcerated in the bastille at Waterloo or in Butler county and when settling-up day arrived, Franklin paid the bill to her neighbors on the east of her. This way of caring for prisoners obtained in this county until 1880, when a county jail—the first and only one in the county—was built, D. W. Dow being the contractor. The structure is of brick, a neat and substantial building, having a residence-like appearance, and cost \$6,000, not considering the \$4,000 expended for fitting up steel cells.

This building stands on Fifth street, just off Main, on a lot that cost the county \$625. The residence part is 33x32 feet and two stories in height; to the rear and attached to the main part is the jail proper, 20x27 feet and of one high story.

#### THE COUNTY FARM

Franklin county has not been called upon to meet the necessities of the helpless poor and indigent to any great extent. But "the poor ye have with you always" and this county has been no exception to the rule. For years this class of people were "farmed" out by the authorities, but the system became unsatisfactory and in 1886 a change was made for the better. June 8, 1886, a tract of land was purchased of H. C. Clock, containing 233 acres and situated on section 30, Geneva township. A substantial and commodious two-story frame building was erected, barns were built and the few infirm and helplessly poor dependent on the public were given a permanent home. Other buildings have been put up in recent years, a hot-air heating system, waterworks system and gas plant installed so that the inmates have all the comforts they might well expect under their circumstances.

The Franklin county farm cost \$5,828.50. At the time of its purchase much of the land was untillable, by reason of the many low, wet spots scattered here and there. By a system of drainage the land has all been reclaimed and today it is worth three times at least what it cost. While the farm is not self-sustaining, enough is produced from its fertile soil to bring the expenses down to a comparatively small sum. In 1912, the sale of cattle raised on the place brought in \$765; hogs, \$1,801.51; seed corn, \$3.50; premiums, \$17.10 or a total of \$2,587.11. The expense account footed up \$3,068.23, leaving the small balance against the county of \$303.12. The farm and improvements are valued at \$32,000, and with the stock, feed, implements and other chattels, the amount reaches \$40,049.

#### FIRST TAX LEVY AND THE LAST

The first levy of taxes in Franklin county was made at the August term of the county court in 1856, by Judge J. B. Reeve. The entry of the court's order is in the following words: "At a regular session of the county court, held on the fourth Monday of August, A. D., 1856, for the levying of taxes upon the assessed value of taxable property in Franklin county. It is ordered for state, one and a quarter mills on the dollar; for county, five mills; for schools, one and one-half mills; roads, two mills; and fifty cents for county revenue on each poll, and one dollar for road revenue on each poll."

What the receipts from taxes were in 1857 does not clearly appear from the record, but the reader can fairly determine that the county officials found little left in the treasury at the end of the year 1856. The record shows that the county judge got nothing for his valuable services during the last quarter; the treasurer fared better and had in his possession \$38.40; the clerk had seventy cents. The moneys in the hands of the treasurer and clerk were divided between the three officials mentioned, which gave to each of them \$13.03.

In the year 1858 the total valuation of all property in the county was \$1,114,401; of which \$48,692 was personalty. The total taxes collected for the year was \$10,812.96. Compare these figures with the tabulated article below, and at the same time multiply the figures at the bottom of the third column by four, to get the real wealth of Franklin county.

VALUATION AND TAXES FOR 1912

Districts	Real Est.	Personal	Total less Exemptions	Total tax
Ackley .....	\$ 16,241	\$ 15,283	\$ 31,201	\$ 1,751.14
Osceola .....	299,713	71,111	370,524	12,727.63
Grant .....	287,588	68,991	356,579	11,868.24
Lee .....	262,972	50,639	313,211	13,464.36
Oakland .....	229,542	60,305	288,947	11,080.50
Popejoy .....	18,536	16,167	34,703	1,788.43
Prairie Hill .....	52,817	5,398	58,215	2,266.48
Valley .....	33,131	3,522	36,653	1,152.90
Highland Grove..	28,631	9,084	37,715	1,231.65
Geneva, O. C. ....	58,470	27,259	85,429	3,935.38
Four Mile Grove.	59,895	6,516	66,411	2,262.21
Spring Vale .....	40,816	4,791	45,607	1,531.07
Geneva Inc. ....	20,802	17,595	37,613	2,241.46
Mount Pleasant...	32,041	21,831	53,272	1,772.30
McKenzie .....	35,710	10,655	46,365	1,872.73
Glass .....	34,446	13,033	47,479	1,437.13
Franklin .....	30,079	13,598	43,077	1,529.52
Central .....	29,486	4,699	34,185	1,487.39
Reeve .....	28,348	4,608	32,656	1,288.86
Union .....	31,044	3,721	34,765	1,339.56
Maysville .....	29,196	4,928	34,124	1,319.87
Upper Maynes Grove .....	24,802	14,096	38,898	1,433.21
Ind. Hamilton ...	74,980	11,626	86,606	3,857.32
S. T. Hamilton...	157,117	22,211	178,728	9,022.27
Dows Inc. ....	13,853	7,604	21,457	1,699.78
Dows, O. C. ....	10,761	3,621	14,382	964.39
Morgan .....	245,805	37,883	283,324	11,672.47
Allen's Grove....	28,537	2,151	30,688	1,063.26
Pleasant Ridge...	32,015	4,257	36,272	1,347.42
North West.....	33,230	3,389	36,619	1,337.94
Clark .....	31,031	12,594	43,625	1,541.75
Ingham Center...	32,303	5,372	37,675	1,446.41
Union Ridge....	32,840	7,507	40,347	1,305.15
Hartgraves .....	28,206	9,063	37,269	1,198.34
Hansell .....	33,071	20,352	53,423	2,127.32
Fairview .....	30,337	6,036	36,373	878.59

Pleasant Hill . . . .	34,695	5,120	39,515	1,321.96
Otter Creek . . . . .	34,706	17,527	52,233	1,648.44
Pleasant Valley . . .	33,828	13,881	47,709	1,644.87
Greenwood . . . . .	38,308	14,309	52,617	1,700.25
Maple Grove . . . .	34,882	17,073	51,955	1,556.86
Washington Valley	33,116	4,078	36,894	1,287.09
Badger . . . . .	34,032	14,790	48,522	1,675.61
Hampton, (Mott)	14,497	11,141	25,638	1,403.46
Hampton, (Washington) . . . . .	397,874	187,155	564,211	46,471.58
Marion . . . . .	199,734	67,165	266,518	9,243.03
Latimer, O. C.				
Mar. . . . .	17,949	4,278	22,227	1,009.32
Latimer, I. C. . . . .	45,512	26,104	71,240	4,004.14
Latimer, O. C.				
Scott . . . . .	10,368	3,076	13,444	3,860.64
Alexander . . . . .	46,420	22,425	68,021	12,093.78
Scott . . . . .	211,173	63,914	275,087	668.83
Coulter Inc. . . . .	43,711	21,748	65,459	4,058.74
West Fork . . . . .	239,368	38,704	277,956	10,854.26
Chapin . . . . .	48,329	35,328	83,381	8,346.62
Ross . . . . .	195,286	47,203	242,489	3,290.57
Sheffield . . . . .	110,439	50,280	158,358	10,228.63
Richland . . . . .	263,413	42,138	305,551	10,855.23
Wisner . . . . .	226,722	26,671	253,393	777.15
Meservey . . . . .	8,387	3,706	12,093	11,348.08
Totals . . . . .	\$4,759,618	\$1,339,310	\$6,098,928	\$269,573.57

## GROWTH OF FRANKLIN'S POPULATION

Before the expiration of the year 1856, Franklin county had a population of 800. A census taken in 1859 showed an increase of inhabitants to 1,159. Settlers continued to come in and in 1865 the population reached a total of 1,899. This was increased to 4,738 in 1870 and in 1880 the figures were 6,558. Below is given by townships the census of the county for the decades 1890, 1900 and 1910:

	1910	1900	1890
Clinton township, coextensive with Sheffield town . . . . .	824	688	610

# HISTORY OF FRANKLIN COUNTY

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Geneva township, including Geneva town..	775	783	733
Geneva town .....	199	...	...
Grant township .....	612	699	694
Hamilton township, including part of Coulter town .....	588	615	591
Coulter town (part of) .....	3	...	...
Total for Coulter town in Hamilton and Marion townships .....	198	...	...
Ingham township .....	665	676	671
Lee township .....	562	660	586
Marion township, including Latimer town and part of Coulter town.....	1,176	920	612
Coulter town (part of) .....	195	...	...
Latimer town .....	378	...	...
Morgan township, including part of Dows town .....	1,076	1,139	820
Dows town (part of) .....	207	192	...
Total for Dows town in Morgan township, Franklin county, and Blaine township, Wright county .....	892	818	...
Mott township .....	534	547	499
Oakland township, including Popejoy town..	827	840	711
Popejoy town .....	200	...	...
Osceola township .....	748	779	859
Reeve township .....	626	659	704
Richland township .....	596	613	551
Ross township .....	694	687	685
Scott township, including Alexander town..	803	770	515
Alexander town .....	262	...	...
Washington township, coextensive with Hampton city .....	2,617	2,727	2,067
Hampton city:			
Ward 1 .....	539	...	...
Ward 2 .....	681	...	...
Ward 3 .....	712	...	...
Ward 4.....	685	...	...
West Fork township .....	532	650	653
Wisner township .....	525	544	310
Total number of inhabitants in county.....	14,780	14,996	12,871



As long ago as 1859 farmers of Franklin county held a fair at Hampton. The exhibition was held on the public square, and the courthouse was used as the fine arts gallery. There was a good display of everything and the meet was well attended. No admission was charged and the premiums consisted almost wholly of certificates and ribbons. The officers of this improvised fair were: J. M. Soper, president; J. T. McCormick, secretary. Among others who assisted very materially in making the fair a success should be mentioned George W. Hansell, David Church and Chauncey Gillett.

In October, 1860, the Franklin County Agricultural Society was organized. Samuel Carbaugh was elected president; Chauncey Gillett, secretary, and Lewis H. Morgan, treasurer. The directors were E. H. Wing, Clinton township; J. R. Hartgrave, Ingham township; J. M. Soper, Reeve township; W. Ward, Geneva township; W. Richardson, Osceola township; E. A. Howland, Morgan township; A. Gillett, Washington township.

This society had many ups and downs; had its fat years and its lean years, and more than one reorganization has taken place.

In 1894, a reorganization took place. That year a big fair was held and \$2,600 was dispensed in purses. The association has held regular annual fairs for many years past, in commodious grounds located in the western part of the city.

## CHAPTER IX

CIVIL WAR—PRESIDENT LINCOLN CALLS FOR SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND MEN TO PUT DOWN REBELLION—FRANKLIN COUNTY PATRIOTIC AND SENDS MANY OF HER SONS TO BATTLE—NAMES OF THE HEROES—PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES—SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL TEMPLE—SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

John Brown, who declared and honestly believed himself chosen of the Lord to strike the shackles from the Southern slave, was hanged on the gallows at Charlestown, near Harper's Ferry, Virginia, on the 2d day of December, 1859, as a penalty for his misguided attempt to cause an uprising of the blacks in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry, where he and his small band of followers had forcibly taken possession of the United States arsenal. This event caused a furore of excitement in the South, and events that made for internecine strife and the bloodiest civil war on record were hastened at a furious speed toward Fort Sumter, where the shot was fired that echoed its baleful significance throughout the hills and vales of Christendom. The walls of Fort Sumter were battered by the rebel guns at Charleston, South Carolina, by the would-be assassins of the Union on the morning of April 12, 1861, and in twenty-four hours thereafter news of the world's momentous action had reached every accessible corner of the United States. In the South the portentous message was generally received with boisterous demonstrations of joy and the belief on the part of the masses that the day would soon come for their deliverance from the "Northern yoke" and that their "peculiar institution" was to be perpetuated under the constitution and laws of a new confederacy of states. In the North a different feeling possessed the people. The firing on Fort Sumter was looked upon with anger and sadness, and the determination was at once formed to uphold the integrity of the Union and the perpetuity of its institutions. It was then that Abraham Lincoln began his great work of preserving the Union.

## THE CALL FOR TROOPS

On the 16th of April, four days following the assault on Fort Sumter, Gov. Samuel J. Kirkwood, of Iowa, received the following telegram from Simon Cameron, Secretary of War:

“Call made on you by tonight’s mail for one regiment of militia for immediate service.”

That very day the Governor proclaimed to the people of Iowa that the nation was imperiled and invoked the aid of every loyal citizen in the state. The telegram above alluded to was received at Davenport. The Governor was then residing at Iowa City but there was no telegraphic communication in those days between the two cities.

It was important that the dispatch should reach the eyes of the Governor at once, and General Vandever, then a civilian, volunteered to take the message to Iowa City. The Governor was found on his farm outside the city by the self-appointed messenger, dressed in homespun and working in the field. Reading the dispatch, Governor Kirkwood expressed extreme surprise and exclaimed: “Why, the President wants a whole regiment of men! Do you suppose I can raise so many as that, Mr. Vandever?” When ten Iowa regiments were offered a few days later the question was answered.

## THE PRESIDENT’S PROCLAMATION

President Lincoln announced, April 15, 1861, that the execution of the laws of the Union had been obstructed in South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas by “combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, or by the powers vested in the marshals by law.” He called out the militia to the number of 75,000. Seeing that the insurgents had not dispersed in the states named and that the inhabitants of Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina and Tennessee had joined them, he issued this proclamation, August 16, 1861:

“Whereas, on the 15th day of April, 1861, the President of the United States, in view of an insurrection against laws, Constitution and Government of the United States, which has broken out within the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, and in pursuance of the provisions of the act entitled, ‘An act to provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel

invasions, and to repeal the act now in force for that purpose,' approved February 28, 1795, did call forth the militia to suppress said insurrection and cause the laws of the Union to be duly executed and the insurgents having failed to disperse by the time directed by the President; and whereas, such insurrection has since broken out and yet exists within the States of Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Arkansas; and whereas, the insurgents in all the said states claim to act under the authority thereof, and such claim is not disclaimed or repudiated by the persons exercising the functions of government in such state or states, or in the part or parts thereof in which combinations exist, nor has any such insurrection been suppressed by said states:

"Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, in pursuance of an Act of Congress approved July 13, 1861, do hereby declare that the inhabitants of the said States of Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Mississippi and Florida (except the inhabitants of that part of Virginia lying west of the Allegheny Mountains, and of such other parts of that state and the other states hereinbefore named as may maintain a loyal adherence to the Union and Constitution or may be from time to time occupied and controlled by the forces of the United States engaged in the dispersion of said insurgents), are in a state of insurrection against the United States; and that all commercial intercourse between the same and the inhabitants thereof, with the exceptions aforesaid, and the citizens of other states and other parts of the United States, is unlawful, and will remain unlawful until such insurrection shall cease or has been suppressed; that all goods and chattels, wares and merchandise, coming from any of said states with the exception aforesaid, into other parts of the United States, without the special license and permission of the President, through the Secretary of the Treasury, or proceeding to any said states, with the exceptions aforesaid, by land or water, together with the vessel or vehicle conveying the same or conveying persons to or from said states, with said exceptions, will be forfeited to the United States; and that from and after fifteen days from the issuing of this proclamation, all ships and vessels belonging in whole or in part to any citizen or inhabitant of any of said states with said exceptions found at sea or in any port of the United States will be forfeited to the United States, and I hereby enjoin upon all district attorneys, marshals and officers of the revenue and of the military and naval forces of the United States to be vigi-

lant in the execution of said act, and in the enforcement of the penalties and forfeitures imposed or declared by it; leaving any party who may think himself aggrieved thereby to his application to the Secretary of the Treasury for the remission of any penalty of forfeiture, which the said secretary is authorized by law to grant if, in his judgment, the special circumstances in any case shall require such remission.

“In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

“Done at the city of Washington, this sixteenth day of August in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and of the independence of the United States of America the eighty-sixth year.

“ABRAHAM LINCOLN.”

#### IOWA RALLIES TO THE COLORS

“Whether in the promptitude of her responses to the calls made on her by the general government, in the courage and constancy of her soldiery in the field,” said Col. A. P. Wood, of Dubuque, upon one occasion, “or in the wisdom and efficiency with which her civil administration was conducted during the trying period covered by the War of the Rebellion, Iowa proved herself the peer of any loyal state. The proclamation of her Governor, Samuel J. Kirkwood, responsive to that of the President calling for volunteers to compose her first regiment, was issued on the fourth day after the fall of Sumter. At the end of only a single week men enough were reported to be in quarters (mostly in the vicinity of their own homes) to fill the regiment. These, however, were hardly more than a tithe of the number who had been offered by company commanders for acceptance under the President’s call. So urgent were these offers that the Governor requested on the 24th of April permission to organize an additional regiment. While awaiting the answer to this request he conditionally accepted a sufficient number of companies to compose two additional regiments. In a short time he was notified that both of these would be accepted. Soon after the completion of the second and third regiments, which was near the close of May, the Adjutant-General of the state reported that upward of one hundred and seventy companies had been tendered to the Governor to serve against the enemies of the Union.

“Much difficulty and considerable delay occurred in fitting these regiments for the field. For the First Infantry a complete outfit—not uniform—of clothing was extemporized, principally by the volunteered labor of loyal women in the different towns, from material of various colors and qualities obtained within the limits of the state. The same was done in part for the Second Infantry. Meantime, an extra session of the General Assembly had been called by the Governor to convene on May 15th. With but little delay that body authorized a loan of \$800,000 to meet the extraordinary expenses incurred and to be incurred by the executive department in consequence of the new emergency. A wealthy merchant of the state—ex-Governor Merrill, then a resident of McGregor—immediately took from the Governor a contract to supply a complete outfit of clothing for the three regiments organized, agreeing to receive, should the Governor so elect, his pay therefor in state bonds at par. This contract he executed to the letter, and a portion of the clothing which was manufactured in Boston to his order was delivered at Keokuk, the place at which the troops had rendezvoused, in exactly one month from the day on which the contract had been entered into. The remainder arrived only a few days later. This clothing was delivered to the regiments but was subsequently condemned by the Government for the reason that its color was gray, and blue had been adopted as the color to be worn by national troops.

#### IOWA'S BORDERS THREATENED

“The state, while engaged in efforts to discharge her duty in connection with the common emergency, was compelled to make separate and large provision for the security of her own borders. On the south she was threatened with invasion by the secessionists of Missouri, while on the west and northwest there was danger of incursions by bands of hostile Indians now freed from the usual restraint imposed by garrisons of regular troops at the frontier posts. For border defense the Governor was authorized to raise two regiments of infantry, a squadron—not less than five companies—of cavalry, and a battalion—not less than three companies—of artillery. Only mounted troops were enlisted, however, for this service; but in times of special danger, or when calls were made by the Unionists of Northern Missouri against their disloyal enemies, large numbers of militia on foot turned out (often) and remained in the field until the necessity for their services had passed.

"The first order for the Iowa volunteers to move to the field was received June 13th. It was issued by General Lyon, then commanding the United States forces in Missouri. The First and Second Infantry immediately embarked in steamboats and moved to Hannibal. Some two weeks later the Third Infantry was ordered to the same point. These three, together with many others of the earlier organized Iowa regiments, rendered their first field service in Missouri. The First Infantry formed a part of the little army with which General Lyon moved on Springfield and fought the bloody battle of Wilson's Creek. It received unqualified praise for its gallant bearing on the field. In the following month (September) the Third Iowa with very slight support fought with honor the sanguinary engagement of Blue Mills Landing; and in November the Seventh Iowa, as a part of a force commanded by General Grant, greatly distinguished itself in the battle of Belmont, where it poured out its blood like water, losing more than half of the men it took into action. The initial operations in which the battles referred to took place, were followed by the more important movements led by General Curtis of this state and other commanders, which resulted in defeating the armies defending the chief strategic lines held by the Confederates in Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee and Arkansas, and compelling their withdrawal from much of the territory previously controlled by them in those states. In these and many other movements down to the grand culminating campaign by which Vicksburg was captured and the Confederacy permanently severed on the line of the Mississippi river, Iowa troops took a part in steadily increasing numbers. In the investment and siege of Vicksburg the state was represented by thirty regiments and two batteries, in addition to which eight regiments and one battery were employed on the outposts of the besieging army. The brilliancy of their exploits on the many fields where they served won for them the highest meed of praise both in military and civil circles. Multiplied were the terms in which expression was given to this sentiment but these words of one of the journals of a neighboring state—"The Iowa troops have been heroes among heroes"—embodies the spirit of all.

#### IOWA TROOPS REENLISTED

"In the veteran reenlistments that distinguished the closing months of 1863 above all other periods of reenlistments for the national armies, the Iowa three years' men who were relatively more

numerous than those of any other state, were prompt to set the example of volunteering for another of equal length thereby adding many thousands to the great army of those who gave this renewed and practical assurance that the cause of the Union should not be left without defenders. In all the important movements of 1864 and 1865 by which the Confederacy was penetrated in every quarter and its military power finally overthrown, the Iowa troops took part. Their drumbeat was heard on the banks of every great river of the South, from the Potomac to the Rio Grande, and everywhere they rendered the same faithful and devoted service, maintaining on all occasions their wonted reputation for valor in the field and endurance on the march.

“Two Iowa three-year cavalry regiments were employed during their whole term of service in the operations that were in progress from 1863 to 1866 against the hostile Indians of the Western plains. A portion of these men were among the last of the volunteer troops mustered out of service. The state also supplied a considerable number of men to the navy who took part in most of the naval operations prosecuted against the Confederate power on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts and the rivers of the West.

“The people of Iowa were early and constant workers in the sanitary field, and by their liberal gifts and personal efforts for the benefit of the soldiery placed their state in the front rank of those who became distinguished for their exhibitions of patriotic benevolence during the period covered by the war. Agents appointed by the Governor were stationed at points convenient for rendering assistance to the sick and needy soldiers of the state, while others were employed in visiting from time to time hospitals, camps and armies in the field, and doing whatever the circumstances rendered possible for the health and comfort of such of the Iowa soldiery as might be found there.

“At the beginning of the war the population of Iowa included about 150,000 men, presumably liable to military service. The state raised for general service thirty-nine regiments of infantry, nine regiments of cavalry and four companies of artillery, composed of three years' men, one regiment of infantry composed of one hundred days' men. The original enlistments in these various organizations, including 1,727 men raised by draft, numbered a little more than 69,000. The reenlistments, including upward of 7,000 veterans, numbered very nearly 8,000. The enlistments in the regular army and navy, and organizations of other states will, if added, raise



the total to upward of 80,000. The number of men who under special enlistments and as militia took part at different times in the operations on the exposed borders of the state was probably as many as 5,000.

#### IOWA PAID NO BOUNTY

“Iowa paid no bounty on account of the men she placed in the field. In some instances toward the close of the war, bounty to a comparatively small amount was paid by cities and towns. On only one occasion, that of the call of July 18, 1864, was a draft made in Iowa. This did not occur on account of her proper liability, as established by previous ruling of the War Department to supply men under that call, but grew out of the great necessity that there existed for raising men. The Government insisted on temporarily setting aside in part the former rule of settlements and enforcing a draft in all cases where sub-districts in any of the states should be found deficient in their supply of men. In no instance was Iowa, as a whole, found to be indebted to the general government for men on a settlement of her quota account.”

#### FRANKLIN EAGER FOR THE FRAY

When the people of Hampton got word of the insult to the national flag at Charleston, South Carolina, and realized that it meant war, an almost unanimous expression of condemnation was made manifest on the part of her citizens, and the many who came in from the farms and outlying districts to hear the news. Sympathizers with the South were scarce, although there were a few. They were so hopelessly in the minority, however, that any word or action on their part of a hostile nature was not disclosed to the patriotic men and women, who were firm in their resolves to stand by the Union.

Hampton had at this time about 300 inhabitants; there were not over 1,200 in the county. The Record had been established by Stephen Jones, but the appearance of the paper was at long and uncertain intervals. Consequently, the historian has no local newspaper files of that epoch-making period to assist in bringing before his readers all the mass meetings held and the many patriotic addresses that were called forth by the momentous occasion. Certain it is, taking one thing with another, there were meetings of the citi-

zens, who gave vent to their feelings in gesture and harangue. Fathers, sons and sweethearts were fired with zeal and enthusiasm and many enlisted as soon as their services could be accepted. The first of the patriots went into the Sixth Iowa Infantry, the next were assigned to the Fourteenth and two of the Reeve boys went into the Ninth. Then others joined the army as "the spirit moved" them, but when "Father Abraham" called for 300,000 men in 1862, the war fever took on an impetuous force and on a Saturday night an immense meeting was held at Maysville and on the following Monday night the citizens from far and near assembled at Hampton, to hear a deep-toned Union man from Iowa Falls speak for the cause. Judge Reeve and three other speakers held forth on this occasion and carried their audience with them in their verbal castigation of secession and rebellion, and in their efforts to persuade all eligible persons to answer the call of the President in person on the battlefield. Judge Reeve was then a man in his forty-fifth year, strong, vigorous and an ardent lover of home and country. In his speech he told his auditors that he had abstracted a promise from the board of supervisors by which the county obligated itself to give every man who enlisted a bounty of \$50; each man's wife \$4 a month and each child under thirteen, \$2 a month.

This statement, coming from so reliable a source, was all that was necessary; right there and then enough men enlisted to form a company and Judge Reeve was unanimously chosen its captain. With his men Captain Reeve was assigned to the Thirty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and took the letter H. The organization saw much service and with the regiment went through the Red River campaign, was at Nashville where Hood was confronted and served its country until Lee surrendered in April, 1865. The gallant captain of Company H, Judge J. B. Reeve, succumbed to congestive fever while at Fort Pillow, Tennessee, and died there January 24, 1863.

In this connection has been compiled from the Adjutant-General's report, the name of every soldier from Franklin county. If any are omitted it is not intentional, for great care has been exercised in the compilation, and none have more veneration for the brave soldier than the author of this volume. So far as it could be done, mistakes in spelling names have been corrected.

Franklin county was first represented in the Sixth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. The following is the record:

## HISTORY OF FRANKLIN COUNTY

## THIRD INFANTRY

Company G—Private, Orlando A. Lesh.

Company E—William E. Conway.

## SIXTH INFANTRY

Company C—Lieutenant, Hezekiah C. Clock; sergeants, Russell T. Knight, Curtis R. Boyles; corporals, James Carrn, Daniel J. Boyles; privates, John K. Addes, J. W. Brown, Charles F. Roberts, M. H. Ross, G. F. Scott, W. W. Scott, C. C. Shobe.

## NINTH INFANTRY

Company I—Sergeant, E. H. Sporling; corporal, John G. Mitchell; privates, Amos H. Halstead, M. B. Jones, Herman C. Liggett, H. H. Mead, E. A. Miller, Fernando T. Reeve, Theodore H. Reeve, James H. Riddle.

## TENTH INFANTRY

Company D—Corporal, James M. Paige.

## TWELFTH INFANTRY

Company E—Privates, Hiram F. Coon, David Creighton, P. N. Hart, John C. Jones, Elias Moon.

## SIXTEENTH INFANTRY

Company I—Private, George W. Soules.

## THIRTY-SECOND INFANTRY

Company H—Captains, James B. Reeve, Rufus S. Benson; first lieutenant, Orlando A. Lesh; second lieutenant, Rufus S. Benson (captain after January 24, 1863); sergeants, J. B. Nelson, Bartley Mechan, William Wood, John S. Love, B. H. Pound; corporals, John Nichols, Cyrus Wyatt, Alpheus Jones, G. S. Merriss, Joseph Ward, E. B. Criley, John B. Woodward, L. P. Berry, H. A. Clock, George W. Ross, W. S. Hausberry; musicians, Miles Birkett, L.

M. Stoddard, Elijah Jones; wagoner, Daniel E. Greeley; privates, D. C. Allen, C. M. Armstrong, John C. Avery, John D. Baker, Samuel Baker, William Ball, Washington Ballou, Cyrus Boyles, John H. Bradshaw, A. H. Bridgeman, Jacob Brooks, Hiram Brotherton, H. A. Brotherton, Charles Bullis, German Bullis, J. G. Bushyager, E. Caldwell, S. K. Capron, Oliver Clinesmith, Daniel W. Cole, Loren Collins, Henry Creighton, S. Creighton, E. W. Crosby, Levi Culver, George W. Fry, Isaac Grandon, D. L. Hartgrave, S. W. Hartwell, T. I. Herman, B. F. Horner, Jesse Horner, W. C. Horner, — Hubbert, G. L. Hunt, J. S. Hurd, W. N. Ingraham, Alexander Jones, Alpheus Jones, Isaac Justus, Warren Kittell, R. A. Lord, Harrison McCord, Ira McCord, Reuben McVey, William Manifold, William May, John Mechan, Arba A. Merriss, W. R. C. Mitchell, Thomas Morris, J. C. Mulkins, Willard Mulkins, John Murphy, J. G. Neff, Daniel M. North, J. W. North, Newton Penney, A. E. Phinney, C. F. Roberts, Solomon Robinson, George W. Ross, Clark Shobe, Morgan Shobe, Edmund Silence, Charles Smith, H. W. Smith, O. H. Tilghman, James Walker, John Whitesell, J. B. Woodward.

#### THIRTY-SECOND INFANTRY

The companies forming the Thirty-second Infantry, Iowa Volunteers, were recruited in the counties composing the sixth congressional district, during the latter part of the summer and early fall of 1862. They rendezvoused at Camp Franklin, near Dubuque. Here, on October 6th, they were sworn into the service of the United States for three years. John Scott, of Story county, was colonel; E. H. Mix, of Butler county, lieutenant-colonel; G. A. Eberhart, of Black Hawk county, major; and Charles Aldrich, of Hamilton county, adjutant. Here it remained under drill and discipline until about the middle of the following month. The barracks at Camp Franklin were uncomfortable in cold weather, of which, unhappily, there was much about this time. Measles of a malignant type broke out in camp, the exposed condition of which, the unfavorable weather and the want of sufficient clothing conspiring to make the disease unusually fatal.

From the 14th to the 18th of November, the regiment, numbering about 920, embarked by detachments for St. Louis, reporting there on the 21st, and going into quarters at Benton Barracks. Here it remained a few days, when, under orders from Major-General

Curtis, six companies under Colonel Scott proceeded to New Madrid, Missouri, and the remaining four companies, under Major Eberhart, went no further down the river than Cape Girardeau. The separation of the regiment thus effected on the last day of the autumn of 1862, continued until the spring of 1864. It was a prolific cause of annoyance and extraordinary labor. The details required of a regiment were frequently demanded from each of these commands. Stores sent to the regiment would sometimes go to the detachment, sometimes to headquarters, when they should have gone just the other way. The mails were in an interminable tangle. The companies at headquarters were B, C, E, H, I and K. The companies under Major Eberhart were A, D, F and G.

The history of the regiment during this long period of separation must necessarily be twofold. It will not be improper to write first, an account of the detachment under the command of Major Eberhart.

In obedience to the order of General Curtis, they proceeded to Cape Girardeau and the major assumed command of that post on the 1st of December, 1862. The garrison consisted of these companies and one company of the Second Missouri Heavy Artillery. Here they remained during the winter, performing provost and garrison duties. On the 10th of March the garrison was reinforced by the First Nebraska Volunteers, and preparations commenced for a march into the interior. On March 14th Major Eberhart marched his detachment to Bloomfield, accompanying a regiment of Wisconsin Cavalry and a battery of Missouri Artillery, where they remained till the 21st of April, when they moved to Dallas, forty-six miles northward. The march was by a circuitous route, requiring sixty miles travel.

The rebel, General Marmaduke, now threatened Cape Girardeau with a considerable army. He himself was at Fredericktown, northwest of Dallas, while another army was coming up the Bloomfield road. General McNeil, commanding the Union forces, marched at once to Cape Girardeau, by Jackson. The detachment of the Thirty-second guarding the train, marched from Dallas to Jackson, a distance of twenty-two miles, in less than six hours, and reached Cape Girardeau on the evening of the 24th. The next day, Marmaduke, with a force of 8,000 men, invested the place. At ten o'clock at night he sent in a flag of truce, with a demand of unconditional surrender, giving the Union commander thirty minutes for decision. General McNeil, by Colonel Strachan, who received the truce, sent

back a flat refusal in one minute and politely requested a credit of twenty-nine minutes by General Marmaduke. The attack, however, was not commenced until Sunday morning, the 26th, at ten o'clock, when the rebels retired with considerable loss, just as General Vandever came down the river with reinforcements for the garrison. In this combat, Major Eberhart's command was posted on the right, in support of a section of Melfly's. Its loss was but one man, captured on picket. On the 28th, the detachment of the Thirty-second was ordered to Bloomfield. Leaving Cape Girardeau at five o'clock in the afternoon, it marched fifty miles by dark the next evening and went into camp near Castor river. Completing the bridge over this stream, it returned to the Cape, reaching that post on the 5th of May. Here it remained on garrison duty till the 11th of July, when it again marched for Bloomfield. Having remained there a few days at work on the fortifications, it was attached to the Reserve Brigade, First Cavalry Division, Department of the Missouri, and on the 19th started on the memorable march which ended with the capture of Little Rock, Arkansas.

The command reached Clarendon on the 8th of August. Early on the morning of the 13th the detachment started up White river. The expedition lasted three days and was quite a brilliant success. The fleet went up the White river to the mouth of the Little Red river and then proceeded up that stream to the town of Searcy, where two steamers were captured and a pontoon bridge destroyed. When ten miles below Searcy on the return, the fleet was attacked by 300 rebels, who directed their principal fire on the prize "Kaskaskia," which was manned by half of Company D, under Lieut. William D. Templin. The steamer was near the shore from which the attack was directed, but made a gallant defense. The rebels were driven off with a loss of more than twenty killed. The loss in Company D was one killed and five wounded. Before reaching White river, the fleet was again attacked, but the assailants were quickly driven off, with loss, and without any casualty on board. Large quantities of public property were destroyed and a number of prisoners captured during the expedition. In the heavy skirmish at Bayou Metaire, on the 27th, the detachment was engaged, losing one killed and two wounded.

The day the command reached Dead Man's lake, the scorching heat of that day, the parched ground marched over, the air at times filled with the flying dust, is one not easily to be forgotten. The stagnant pond bearing that name was covered with green scum, yet

the men, burning with thirst, plunged in and drank greedily of the filthy water.

The two trips from Duval's Bluffs to Brownsville, as guard to the cavalry train, were trips of hard marching in hot weather and of suffering for water for man and beast, and from heat and dust. The sick on this march certainly received no extra care, at first shipped to Helena, and then to Clarendon, on White river.

About the 21st of August, a small steamer, a stern-wheeler, sailed up the White river, loaded with sick and convalescent soldiers. It was one of the hottest of August days in this climate, when she ran from Clarendon to Duval's Bluff, forty-five miles, in four hours. Not a spot on that boat, from the border deck to the hurricane deck, but was covered by a sick man. Sick men were piled away on that hurricane deck in broiling sun, wherever a man could be laid. Is it any wonder on that run of about four hours, twenty-six men died on that boat?—one of them a corporal of Company G—Carter.

On the 26th day of August there was another march of that twenty-six miles across those prairies of Prairie county, Arkansas. About eleven o'clock that night the men filed into the little court-house yard at Brownsville. Just as they filed in, General Davidson stepped to the fence and said: "Boys, lie down quickly and take some rest, for I will need you at an early hour." Then turning to another officer, he said: "These brave boys have marched five hundred miles and kept up with my cavalry." By three o'clock the next morning they were astir; at four o'clock were in line and on the move. A march of nine miles brought them to the rebel outposts, skirmishing three and a half hours to the brow of the hill, and after maneuvering, etc., half a mile to the bank of the Bayou Metaire. The whole movement during the day was only a bushwhacking affair. In the evening they fell back to the top of the hill to support a battery. There dark found them. The battery and all other troops had left. One detachment alone was on the field, with the rebels closing around them, when they withdrew and fell back that night to a corn field near Brownsville; and about one o'clock at night at the word halt, the boys dropped on the ground and lay down between corn rows. No alignment encampment was made. The night was dark, as dense black clouds overspread the sky, and soon the rain came down in torrents, but there the boys lay. What else could they do? About nine o'clock in the morning it broke away, but oh, the mud, mud! We had no rations but soon found a patch of sweet potatoes and had a sweet potato breakfast.

The detachment remained two days in camp in the timber near, and then moved to the old cavalry camp north of town, where the sick boys had been kept in a double log house on the edge of the prairie, and at a little grove of a few scattering oaks, and near a pond of stagnant water.

On the 31st of August, 1863, the day was very hot, and hence the train was ordered to go through to Duval's Bluff in the night. All the detachment was ordered to go as guard. The whole detachment able to go was ordered on the trip. Only forty men could be raised and some twelve or fifteen of them were unable to march, but were ordered to go, as they could be piled on the wagons and could use their guns in case of an attack. This was a serious camp ground to the detachment. A few days and not a well man was in that camp, and not many men able to care for the sick. It had been used as a cavalry camp until the very ground was crawling with filth. Every nook and corner of the old house, every spot on the floor, porch and hall, was covered with a sick man. Everything that could be done under the circumstances was done for the sick by those who could do. But they were in advance of the main army and supplies. No sanitary or sutler supplies had reached them, and much of the ordinary soldier's fare was unfit for use. Much of the hard-tack had *too much life*.

On the 6th of October occurred the first death. Then William A. Spurlin, one of the brightest and best of young men, was laid in a humble soldier's grave. On the 8th he was followed by Henry Cantonwine. On that day the regiment moved to another camp south of town, in a nice little grove. One day's rest there, and the command was ordered to Little Rock. The sick were brought and laid down on the sand in the hot sun before the old log tavern hospital. That very sand was crawling with graybacks. As the command moved away, George Macy lay on a cot under a little tree, dying, and soon another of the young men of the Thirty-second, Wilson Bond, was added to that group of humble graves. There four young men of this company were laid, side by side.

Every spot in that old log tavern that could be occupied was covered by a sick man. How many of those brave boys were buried in that little graveyard was never known.

On the removal of the detachment to Little Rock, it was relieved for a time from all guard or other duty, except the care of its own sick, by order of General Davidson, adding that the care of its own sick in camp was all that it was able to do. But death had then



fastened its cold icy hand upon a number of boys. Calvin M. Sayre, John L. Sayre, Jesse Shultz, Nathan R. Austin and Ira G. Christian were soon numbered with the dead. Little Rock proved to be a very healthy place, and while there the company, considering its reduced condition, improved very rapidly. It may not be generally known that that Arkansas expedition of General Steele's was one of the most destructive of life of any campaign of the war. Steele started with 1,200 men; he received reinforcements of at least three brigades, making at least 15,000 effective men. One hundred men would cover all his loss in killed and wounded, and yet by the time he had possession of Little Rock and was settled down to his *gambling* and *horse racing*, he had barely 5,100 effective men fit for duty. Of General Steele it can be said that he had no sympathy in common with the Union soldiers, save his opposition to the abstract idea of secession.

General McPherson, medical director, afterwards at Vicksburg, said that the sending of the four companies through on that campaign to keep up with the cavalry was a burning shame, one of the outrages of the war, and no wonder that the men were used up. They remained at Little Rock until the middle of October, when the regiment moved to Benton, twenty-five miles distant. It returned to Little Rock, where it remained until January, 1864, and then started for Memphis, which place it reached on the 5th of February. Here it was ordered to report to Brig.-Gen. A. J. Smith, at Vicksburg. It reached Vicksburg on the 9th and remained there till the 27th, when it marched out to Black river to await the army on its return from the interior.

Meanwhile, Colonel Scott established his headquarters at New Madrid and assumed command of the post. On the 17th of December, 1862, he sent out a detachment of one hundred men, under Captain Peebles, who went as far as the St. Francis river, bringing back several prisoners, much public property and valuable information.

On the 28th of December, Colonel Scott destroyed the public property and evacuated New Madrid, by order of General Davies, after which he proceeded to Fort Pillow, reaching that place on the 29th. They remained at Fort Pillow for nearly six months, in the performance of garrison duty. The command embarked for Columbus, Kentucky, on the 17th and 18th of June, 1863, in detachments, and went into camp there on the 19th, and there the regimental headquarters remained for more than seven months, Colonel Scott being most of the time in command of the post.

On July 10th, Union City, in Tennessee, was captured by the rebels. The command hastened to that place but arrived too late to find the enemy, but buried the dead and cared for the wounded and returned. The command was soon afterward again divided into fractions. Companies B and I, under command of Captain Miller, alone remained at regimental headquarters; Company C was attached to the Fourth Missouri Cavalry; Company E was placed at Fort Quinby, not far from Columbus, while Companies H and K, Captain Benson commanding, proceeded down the river to Island No. 10. From this time forth, until January, 1864, the history of each of these detachments, except that of Company C, is devoid of remarkable events. This detachment was most actively employed during most of this period and the labors of officers and men were arduous in the extreme. They scouted a wide extent of country infested by guerrillas, marched often a considerable distance from Columbus, going out in all kinds of weather, by night as often as by day. They braved many perils and endured many hardships.

In the month of January, 1864, these six companies were brought together, and soon embarked for Vicksburg, where they were assigned to the Second Brigade. Perhaps there was not a single organization in the whole army under Major General Sherman that so gladly commenced that singular campaign as the command under Colonel Scott. If the battalion left Vicksburg joyfully, its return was still more joyful, for here were found Major Eberhart and his four companies, and the whole regiment was together for the first time since November, 1862. The reunion brought great satisfaction to officers and men. Shortly after the reunion of the regiment it was ordered to the department of the gulf, and there accompanied the disastrous Red River expedition.

In this expedition the Thirty-second Iowa suffered more severely perhaps than any other regiment in the expedition. It formed a part of Gen. A. J. Smith's command, consisting of 10,000 infantry and three batteries of artillery, which left Vicksburg on March 9th, on transports, accompanied by gunboats. At the mouth of Red river this fleet was joined by Admiral D. D. Porter, with a large fleet, including several ironclads. Some miles from where the Red river enters into the Mississippi it separates into two streams, which come together again very near the mouth. From the southern one of these two streams flows Achafalaya river. The fleet entered Red river by the southern stream and passed thence into Achafalaya, proceeding as far as Semmesport, where the troops disembarked on the

night of the 13th, and immediately commenced a march on Fort De Russey. The halt was not ordered till the army had marched some seven miles. It was twenty-eight miles from here to Fort De Russey. Nevertheless, the army marched that distance the next day, constantly harassed by rebel cavalry. It was delayed once for two hours at a stream over which a bridge had to be made; attacked the fort and carried it by storm before sundown, and before the gunboats arrived. In this assault, the Thirty-second was on the right, and "the men on the right took the fort," said the prisoners. Colonel Shaw, commanding brigade, speaks in unqualified praise of all the officers and men in his command. The loss was slight on either side. Of the Thirty-second, one man was killed and two were wounded.

At Fort De Russey, it reëmbarked and proceeded to Alexandria, where the troops again disembarked and remained nearly two weeks. At this point the column under General Smith formed a junction with the column which had marched from New Orleans. The boats could not be taken over the rapids while laden, so the troops marched to Cotile Landing, some twenty-five miles up the river. Here the regiment had its first battalion drill, with all the companies in line, since leaving Dubuque, in November, 1862. On April 3d, the command again embarked and reached Grand 'Ecore on the next evening, where it remained till the morning of the 7th, when it marched to the front of the battle of Pleasant Hill, where the brigade to which the Thirty-second belonged, commanded by Colonel Shaw of the Fourteenth Iowa, stood the brunt of the fight, being the first in the battle, fighting longer than any other, in the hardest of the contest, the last to leave the field, and losing three times as many officers and men as any brigade engaged.

"Of Col. John Scott, Thirty-second Iowa," says the brigade commander, "it is sufficient to say that he showed himself worthy to command the Thirty-second Iowa Infantry—a regiment which, after having been entirely surrounded and cut off from the rest of the command, with nearly one-half of its number killed or wounded, among them many of the best and prominent officers, forced its way through the enemy's lines, and was again in line, ready and anxious to meet the foe in less than thirty minutes." It is certain no regiment ever fought with a sublimer courage than did the Thirty-second on the battlefield of Pleasant Hill. Its heroism and its sacrifices were worthy of a better fate than a retreat from the scene of its splendid daring and its glory. The fame of its gallant conduct spread

all over Iowa, as it would have spread over the whole country had the commanding general accepted the victory which the troops had given him. But sad losses befell the regiment. Lieutenant Colonel Mix was slain on the field, also many of the officers were either slain or wounded. The regiment lost, in all, 210 officers and men, killed, wounded and missing. Most of the missing were also wounded—any so reported, no doubt slain. Iowa gloried in the fame of her honored sons, and wept for their dead comrades who fell on the stricken field.

Colonel Shaw's Brigade covered the retreat of the army to Grand 'Ecore, when the Thirty-second Regiment, after a movement up Red river to aid the fleet in escaping from imminent peril, went into encampment. It joined in the retreat down the Red river on the 21st, and frequently met light bodies of the enemy in skirmish. The retreat from Alexandria to the Mississippi was harassed by the enemy, and considerable skirmishing took place at Bayou La Morge, Marks-ville and Bayou de Glaize, in both of which the regiment took part. Colonel Shaw in his report of the latter battle said:

“To Colonel Gilbert, Twenty-seventh Iowa, Major Eberhart of the Thirty-second Iowa, Captain Crane of the Fourteenth Iowa, and their commands, is due the safety of the army. Had they failed to move into the position assigned them (although a difficult one, that of changing from under fire) with less celerity, or failed to hold it steadily after taking it, our left and rear would have been enveloped by overwhelming numbers, and nothing could have saved us—not even the fighting qualities of the Sixteenth Army Corps.”

The regiment reached Memphis on the 10th of June; from there the command moved to Moscow, and thence to La Grange in the latter part of June. From this point it marched with General Smith's forces on the Tupelo campaign. It returned to Memphis and having encamped there about ten days, joined in the Oxford expedition. The next active campaign in which the Thirty-second took part was in Missouri in the pursuit of Price. It was a campaign of severe marching for the infantry, but not of battle. The regiment, not well provided for such a campaign, marched at least six hundred and fifty miles, averaging twenty miles a day. It marched across the state and back again. Halting a few days at St. Louis, it moved to Cairo by steamer, arriving November 27th.

From there it moved to Nashville, which was soon afterwards besieged by the rebel General Hood. In the battle of Nashville, December 15th and 16th, the Thirty-second, fighting in General Gilbert's Brigade, was warmly engaged and won great credit for daring,

efficient behavior. It captured a battery of five guns and many prisoners, and lost about twenty-five killed and wounded. With the pursuit of the defeated rebels closed the campaigning of the regiment for the year 1864, in face of the enemy.

Early in 1865, the regiment marched to Clifton, Tennessee, whence it moved by steamer to Eastport, Mississippi. Its next and last campaign was that of Mobile, under Maj. Gen. E. R. S. Canby. Throughout those laborious and difficult operations, the Thirty-second performed its part faithfully, skilfully and honorably. It remained in Alabama some time after the fall of Mobile and was mustered out at Clinton, Iowa, August 24, 1865. Returning to Iowa, the Thirty-second was in due time disbanded, the officers and men left from the ravages of three years' service, receiving everywhere along the line of their journey the kind greetings and hearty welcome of a grateful people, whose hearts had been with them through all their hardships.

#### FORTY-FOURTH INFANTRY (ONE HUNDRED DAY MEN)

Company G—Second lieutenant, Daniel W. Dow. Privates: J. C. Button; Jesse R. Dodd; D. C. Knapp; Harrison McCord; Matthew McCord; L. S. Sayre; J. W. Yost.

#### FIRST CAVALRY

Company C—Private: Michael Seyb.  
 Company G—Private: George F. Wass.  
 Company M—First lieutenant, E. A. Dunham.

#### SECOND CAVALRY

Company A—Private: A. J. Dalrymple.  
 Company F—Private: Lorenzo Cobb.

#### FOURTH CAVALRY

Company L—Quartermaster sergeant, George W. Thompson; sergeant, Thomas H. Davis; corporal, Thomas G. Warren. Privates: C. A. Bald; James H. Beed; Richard Davenport; Thomas H. Davis; A. Gillett; Charles Gillett; Richard Miller; Emile Myers; A. P.

Peabody; John Shill; James Staley; Orin A. Thatcher; D. O. Waters.

## SIXTH CAVALRY

Privates: Jesse R. Dodd; L. R. Foby.

## EIGHTH CAVALRY

Company G—Second sergeant, John W. Miller. Privates: Riley Miller; Orson G. Reeve.

## NINTH CAVALRY

Company G—Fourth sergeant, William B. Johnson; Hiram F. Coon, M. V. Johnson.

## THIRD BATTERY IOWA LIGHT ARTILLERY

Privates: William Murphy, John H. Scott, G. W. Soper, John Swanagan.

## NORTHERN BORDER BRIGADE

Company C—Privates: Samuel N. Guilliams; Franklin Osborn.

## ROLL OF HONOR

The following comprises a list of those gallant soldiers who left their homes and took up the musket for the defense of their country's honor, never to return, who laid down their lives in defense of the Union. "It is sweet and honorable to die for one's country," should be engraved over the grave of each, in characters that will remain throughout all coming time and proclaim to all the future generations their noble sacrifice:

Capt. James B. Reeve, died of congestive fever, at Fort Pillow, Tennessee, January 24, 1863.

Sergt. Russell T. Knight, died December 22, 1862, at Yackona Creek, Mississippi, of inflammation of the bowels.

Corp. Daniel J. Boyles, died October 9, 1863, at Memphis, Tennessee, of wounds.

John W. Brown, died at Griswoldville, Georgia, November 22, 1864, of wounds.

William W. Scott, died of phthisis pulmonalis, at Tipton, Missouri, February 8, 1862.

George F. Scott was killed in action, May 27, 1864, at Resaca, Georgia.

Sergt. Edwin H. Sporling, died of fever, at Bathville, Arkansas, June 2, 1862.

Corp. John G. Mitchell, died April 2, 1863, at St. Louis, Missouri, of diarrhoea.

Fernando T. Reeve, died at Andersonville, Georgia, September 21, 1864, of dibilitas.

James H. Riddle, died of wounds, at Vicksburg, Mississippi, June 3, 1863.

Corp. James M. Paige, died May 17, 1863, at Champion Hills, Mississippi, of wounds.

Elias Moon, died June 14, 1862, at Atlanta, Georgia, of starvation while a prisoner of war.

Sergt. Benjamin H. Pound, died at Fish River, Alabama, March 23, 1865, of dropsy of the heart.

John B. Woodward, died of wounds, April 12, 1864, at Pleasant Hill, Louisiana.

Joseph Ward was killed in action at Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, April 9, 1864.

George W. Ross was killed in the battle of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, April 9, 1864.

John D. Baker was killed by guerrillas at Island No. 10, October 22, 1863.

Hiram Brotherton died at Dubuque, November 4, 1862, of pneumonia.

William Ball, died of disease, at Columbus, Kentucky, February 2, 1863.

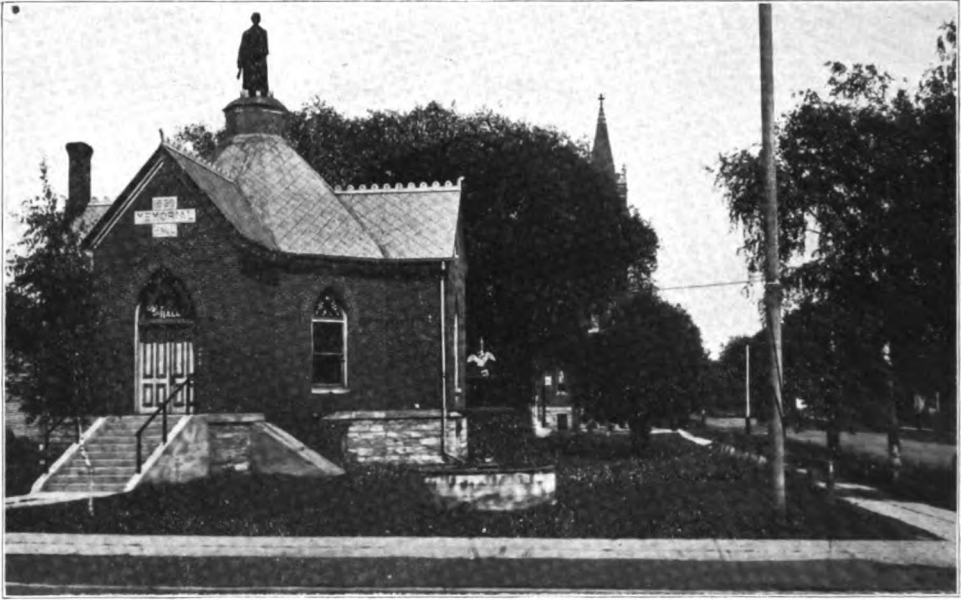
Cyrus Boyles, died April 1, 1863, at Fort Pillow, Tennessee, of typhoid fever.

Seth K. Capron, died March 5, 1865, at Memphis, Tennessee, of disease.

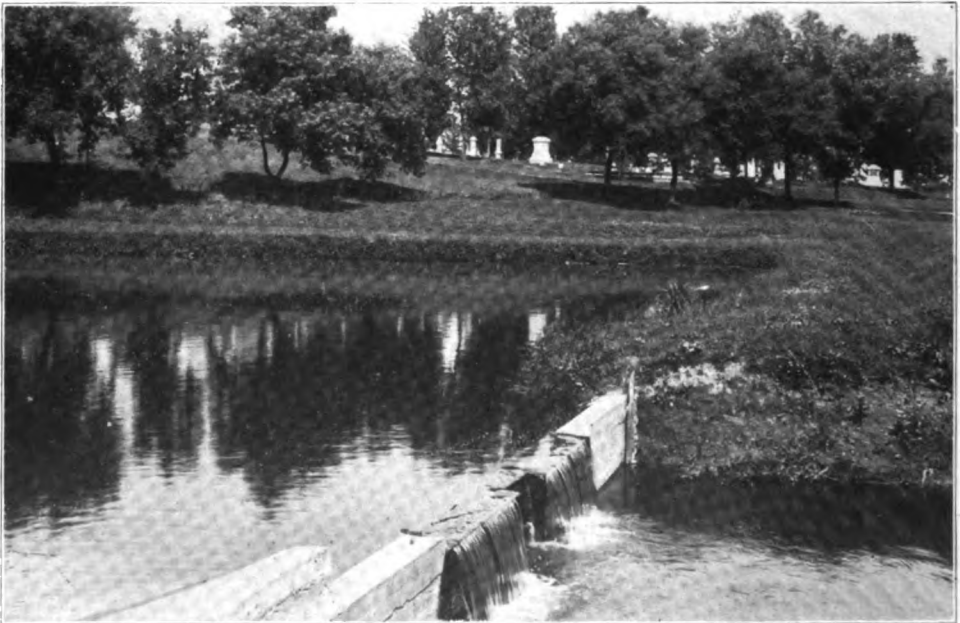
Daniel W. Cole was killed in battle, April 9, 1864, at Pleasant Hill, Louisiana.







MEMORIAL HALL, HAMPTON



CEMETERY, HAMPTON

Oliver Clinesmith, died of disease, at Fort Pillow, Tennessee, April 29, 1863.

Loren Collins, died May 4, 1864, at Mound City, Illinois, of disease.

Henry Creighton, died at Memphis, Tennessee, May 17, 1864.

Elemuel W. Crosby, killed in battle at Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, April 9, 1864.

George W. Fry, killed in battle at Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, April 9, 1864.

Jesse Horner, killed April 9, 1864, at Pleasant Hill, Louisiana.

David L. Hartgrave, died of disease, July 29, 1864, at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri.

Thomas I. Herman, died May 28, 1864, in Franklin county, Iowa.

Warren Kittell, died of disease, July 17, 1864, at Memphis, Tennessee.

Ralph A. Lord, died February 15, 1865, at Memphis, Tennessee.

Ira McCord, killed in action at Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, April 9, 1864.

William C. Manifold, died of measles, March 13, 1863, at Memphis, Tennessee.

Willard Mulkins, died of disease, at Memphis, Tennessee, July 24, 1864.

Isaac C. Mulkins, died April 9, 1864, at Fort De Russey, Louisiana, of typhoid fever.

Arba A. Merriss, killed in battle at Lake Chicot, Arkansas, June 6, 1864.

W. R. C. Mitchell, died April 30, 1865, at Fort Gaines, Alabama, of wounds.

David Perry, died of disease, July 26, 1864, at Memphis, Tennessee.

Richard Penney, died at Memphis, Tennessee, March 16, 1864, of disease.

Henry W. Smith, died at Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, April 23, 1864, of wounds.

Charles Gillett, died at Clear Creek, Mississippi, June 21, 1863, of congestive chills.

Martin V. Johnson, died September 12, 1864, at Duval's Bluff, Arkansas, of chronic diarrhoea.

William Murphy, died of disease, August 14, 1863, at Memphis, Tennessee.

## J. W. MCKENZIE POST, G. A. R., NO. 81

The first post of the Grand Army of the Republic was organized at Decatur, Illinois, April 6, 1866, by Benjamin F. Stephenson, originator of the order, its first commander in chief and first commander department of Illinois. The charter members of the premier post were Col. J. C. Pugh, M. F. Kanan, G. R. Steele, George H. Dunning, J. H. Nale, J. T. Bishop, Christian Riebsame, J. W. Routh, B. F. Sibley, J. N. Coltron, Joseph Prior and A. Tolana. The last of this guard, Christian Riebsame, bivouacked with the dead, at Bloomington, Illinois, in 1912.

Soon after the order of the Grand Army of the Republic had been instituted, or in 1867, a post was organized in Hampton. But its members, like those of other posts throughout the country, permitted politics to creep into and interfere with their fraternal deliberations. This fatal error created dissensions, bitterness of feeling between comrades and opposition to the order on the part of veterans who held aloof from the society. As a consequence, the local post and many others surrendered their charters, but most of them were eventually reorganized under more stringent rules.

J. W. McKenzie Post, No. 81, came into existence in June, 1881, adopting its name in honor of J. W. McKenzie, who served in the signal corps during the Civil war and was a resident of Hampton at the time of his death, which took place in 1881. Capt. Rufus Benson, the first commander and one of the charter members, served from 1882 till 1885. His successors were the following named comrades: Col. C. W. Boutin, who served in 1885 and 1886. The others all served one year each. L. B. Raymond, Louis Elsefer, M. H. Ross, L. J. Kron, B. F. Ferris, J. W. Bailey, A. C. Boals, T. E. B. Hudson, W. L. Burres, J. C. Ferris, William Savidge, J. C. Magee, E. J. Stonebrake, R. E. McCrillis, D. W. Dow, J. R. Fowler, John Foughty, J. M. Myers, T. I. Wade, J. H. Hutchins, John M. Watt, D. B. Henderson, D. H. Sanford, N. B. Claypool, Levi L. Conner, Henry D. Brown and D. B. Henderson, the present incumbent. The post now has fifty-one members.

## MCKENZIE RELIEF CORPS, NO. 81

The woman's auxiliary to the Grand Army post, McKenzie Relief Corps, was organized October 23, 1886, with nineteen charter members. The first officers were: President, Miss Effie Reeve;

senior vice president, Mrs. Rachel North; junior vice president, Miss Inez Myers; conductor, Mrs. Eliza Ross; secretary, Miss Etta Reeve; treasurer, Mrs. Mary L. Raymond; chaplain, Mrs. I. W. Myers; guard, Mrs. Avis Ward; assistant guard, Mrs. Mattie French. Names of the successors to the first president follow: Mrs. Effie Reeve Mallory, Mrs. Mary McCardell, Mrs. L. M. McKenzie, Mrs. Mary L. Raymond, Mrs. Mattie French, Mrs. Mary L. Raymond, Mrs. Mattie French, Mrs. Emma L. Whitcombe, Mrs. Sarah J. Luke, two years, Mrs. Mary L. Raymond, Mrs. Helen M. Sweet, two years, Mrs. Mattie French, Mrs. Alice F. Myers, two years, Mrs. Hannah Bender, Mrs. Clara Phelps, Mrs. Eliza Fowler, Mrs. Alice F. Myers, Mrs. Clara Watt, Mrs. Fannie F. Wade, Mrs. Alice F. Myers, Mrs. Marion S. Johnston, Mrs. Ella Roberts, two years, Mrs. Fannie Wade, two years, and the present incumbent. The tenure of office is one year. The corps has a membership of thirty-five.

For some years the post had headquarters in a hall on Reeve street, but in January, 1889, permanent headquarters were occupied in Memorial Hall, which had been secured for the veterans by and through the generosity of Franklin county and the town of Hampton.

In 1884 a law was passed by the General Assembly of Iowa, authorizing counties at their discretion to vote a tax not exceeding \$3,000 for the erection of a soldiers' monument, upon which should be engraved the names of all deceased soldiers in the county, or those who should die thereafter. In the session of the General Assembly of 1886, primarily through the labors of Capt. R. S. Benson, then the Representative from Franklin county, the law was so amended as to allow the erection of a hall instead of a monument, so that at the annual spring election of 1887, in accordance with a petition signed by nearly every member of the Grand Army in Franklin county, the board of supervisors submitted the question of voting a tax of one mill for the purpose of erecting a monument or hall, which was carried by a large majority. The funds, however, were not available until after the expiration of a year.

At a mass meeting held in Hampton, in December, 1888, the decision was then and there arrived at to erect a hall, and the tax collected to be applied toward meeting the expense thereof. Three trustees were appointed to take charge of the work and consisted of Louis Elsefer, George R. Miner and B. F. Ferris. This board of trustees was assisted by an advisory board. It transpired that no suitable building could be erected for less than the tax collected. The post had not the means to secure a site, so that the project at

the time bid fair to meet complete failure. While in this dilemma, the council of Hampton came to the rescue and donated the beautiful site on the corner of Main and Fifth streets. Here a substantial brick structure was erected, on the top and in the center of which stands on guard a heroic effigy of a soldier of the Civil war. The building was completed by the contractor, E. C. Keifer, in January, 1890, and soon thereafter occupied, but the dedicatory services did not take place until August 27, 1890, when a number of visiting posts took a prominent part. It might be well here to state that at the time of its erection, the Hampton Memorial Hall was the first one built in the State of Iowa.

#### SOLDIERS' MONUMENT

On Memorial day, May 30, 1907, a granite monument was unveiled by the Woman's Relief Corps in Hampton cemetery. This work of the sculptor's art and skill was secured through the untiring and patriotic efforts of the members of the Woman's Relief Corps, and the eleven hundred dollars paid for the loving gift was raised in the various ways peculiar to the energetic and never-failing efforts of the so-called weaker sex in every community of this home-and-country loving land. The monument will endure as a memorial to the unknown heroes who laid down their lives on the battlefields of the Civil war. It should also be a reminder of the many heart sorrows, trials and indefatigable helpfulness of womankind, during that great struggle and ever since the white dove of peace hovered over the land.

#### COMPANY D, SIXTH REGIMENT IOWA NATIONAL GUARDS

This company was organized August 6, 1877, and assigned to the First Regiment and lettered H, which it retained until 1889, when it was changed to D.

The territory which the Sixth Regiment occupied comprised the twenty-seven northwest counties of the state, being bounded on the north by the Minnesota line, and extending eastward so as to include Mitchell county, those on the east and south boundary of that county, those south of the line between Gerro Gordo and Floyd, Franklin and Butler counties; those west between Franklin and Hardin counties; south between Hardin and Hamilton counties; and those west to the Missouri river to the boundary line between Woodbury and

Monona counties; and those north along the west boundary of the state. Its headquarters were at Hampton.

Both its colonel, C. W. Boutin, and lieutenant colonel, L. B. Raymond, were residents of Hampton.

A few years before his death, Mr. Raymond was elected state commander of Iowa, of the Grand Army of the Republic. A number of years ago the headquarters of the Sixth Regiment were removed from Hampton, and Company D has no longer a place in local history.



## CHAPTER X

REMINISCENT—LEANDER REEVE HARKS BACK TO THE EARLY DAYS—  
AMONG MANY THINGS TELLS OF HUNTING BUFFALO—JOB GARNER  
PREACHES FOR A FARM—TRIALS AND TRIUMPHS.

Mention already has been made of Leander C. Reeve, a brother of the pioneer. He came to the county in the spring of 1853 and joined the James B. Reeve family, later making a claim on the tract of land which S. H. Carter subsequently secured and on which he lived for many years. Here Mr. Reeve remained until a certain period in the year 1857, when he returned with his family to Ashtabula county, Ohio, whence he came. When the Civil war broke out, Mr. Reeve enlisted and attained the rank of captain in the One Hundred and Seventy-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry. After the cessation of hostilities between the states he returned to his Ohio home and through industry and great probity of character became prosperous and influential. His neighbors' estimation of his character and abilities assumed concrete form when they placed him in positions of trust and importance, sending him to the State Legislature in 1890-4 and returning him to local offices for which he was admirably fitted. For many years Mr. Reeve held the office of justice of the peace and was wont to prevail on all disputants to settle their differences out of court whenever possible.

In the fall of 1907 the Old Settlers' Association of Franklin County held its twenty-second annual reunion and Leander C. Reeve was one of the honored guests of the function. He was down on the program for a paper on "Recollections of a Pioneer" and to the edification and intense interest of a large assemblage of people read the following carefully prepared account of the early settlements in this county:

In the fall of 1852, James B. Reeve, with Mr. Phelps, his wife and two girls about seven and nine years old, started from Trumbull, Ashtabula county, Ohio, with his team and spring wagon to find a home in Iowa. They knew very little of what part of the state they



might locate in. From Cedar Falls west there was no track further than Dr. Rockwell's, six miles from the Falls. In due time they came to Franklin county and came to the grove afterwards called Main's (Mayne's) Grove. They drove into the grove and halted at a spring by which Benjamin Butterfield located and built his log house, locating his farm on the prairie north of the grove. Soon after stopping at the spring one of the men shot a raccoon and the report of the rifle brought to them John Main and his wife Martha, with their three-year-old girl, Julia. They had been in the grove three or four weeks hunting and trapping. They had their wagon and two yoke of oxen and were about to leave for the settlements down the Iowa river to spend the winter, expecting to return in the spring and take a claim. The land was not then in the market. They held a consultation and decided that it would not be safe to leave it until spring, as hunters might discover the grove and locate a first choice of claims before spring. As a result, they decided to remain over the winter. They then drove down the stream to the lower or east side of a large bottom prairie which was surrounded with timber, except on the north side. There they built a cabin on the bank of the creek 10x12 feet and moved in and set up housekeeping. John Main being the first man in, had the first choice of claims. He chose the south side of the grove and secured some of the best timber in the grove. Reeve chose his on the east end of the grove and Mr. Phelps took his joining Mr. Reeve on the south. When winter came on, Mr. Main took his oxen down to the settlement on the Iowa river and had them wintered. Mr. Phelps commenced building a cabin on his claim one-half mile south of where James B. Reeve afterward built his log house. He got the body of his house up, building it long and narrow, calculating for a single roof.

During that time the three had spent considerable time hunting and had killed twelve buffaloes, besides much other small game. Some time in the winter Mrs. Phelps, whose maiden name was Chilson and was of a family far above this rough frontier life, tired of that way of living (I knew the family well and the little girls had been to school to me). Mr. and Mrs. Main were very kind-hearted people, but John Main was one of the most profane men in his language that I have ever known, and to be shut in that little cabin with such surroundings was more than her delicate character could endure and Mr. Phelps abandoned his claim and took Reeve's team and started for civilization, intending to go to Waverly, in Bremer county, where they had acquaintances. Some days after Mr. Phelps

had gone, Mr. Reeve became concerned about his team, as well as about the family.

There had been a heavy snow on the ground, which had become crusted, and then there came a heavy snow storm with extremely cold weather, and as soon as the snow was over he resolved to go to see what had become of his team and the family. The snow had then become three feet deep, with a crust about one foot below the surface of the snow. He expected to start in the morning and when morning came, Mr. Main persuaded him to remain and make a pair of snow shoes before starting, saying that it would be impossible for him to travel without. He consequently set about making the necessary snow shoes, which took both of them until noon. After dinner he started, intending to reach Boylan's Grove by night, which is two miles west of the town of Bristow, although there was no Bristow there then. Two of the Boylans lived at the grove. After traveling a few miles, the snow crust had cut the whangs of the raw elk skin so that they gave out and he had to abandon the snow shoes. He still made his way as best he could until his strength failed and night came on. He then trod down the snow for a little space and broke brush from the bushes which had been killed by fire, and prepared to camp for the night. Having but one match in his pocket, he took the precaution to tear off a shirt sleeve to make sure of catching his fire. He stamped around his little fire, breaking brush, for he had not even a jack-knife with him, until at last he could move no longer, and sank down by the embers to await the coming of daylight. At daylight his feet were so frozen that he could not walk. Then he started on his hands and knees and covered the three miles to Boylan's in that manner. Arriving at Boylan's he found his team left by Phelps, who had met an opportunity to ride with another man the rest of his journey. There being no way of treating his frozen feet there, he drove to Janesville and stayed with John Barrick, who cared for him until he was able to return to Franklin county. While my brother was stopping at Janesville, he wrote me a good description of the country, particularly Franklin county, upon which I decided to join him and started in March, 1853, arriving at Main's Grove early in April, finding my brother yet with very sore feet. He had said nothing of his hardships or frozen feet in his letters. He said he would not have mother know it.

Mr. Main and my brother had gone down stream trapping for beaver and otter, when I arrived. I found Mrs. Main and her little girl, Julia, alone in the cabin, and the next day I went in search of

the trappers and found with them Mr. Townsend, who lived on the Iowa river, in Hardin county. I bought the traps and good will of Mr. Townsend for \$24 in gold and became a member of the firm, and he went home. I was appointed cook of the company and provided regular meals of corn bread and roasted beaver tails. We continued trapping six weeks and during the last week my brother went to Cedar Falls for supplies and brought up forty-eight pounds of bacon and two pounds of sole leather. Then we broke camp and returned to the grove, and found Martha and Julia well and happy. Then Main went down to the settlement after his oxen and plow, while James and I commenced splitting rails to fence the field.

On the return of Main we found our provisions again short and it was decided to go to Cedar Falls for supplies. James and Main were to go with two yoke of oxen and wagon, and I was to remain and continue splitting rails. We took an invoice of our stock of provisions and decided that it would be sufficient for a week, and they said they could make the trip in that time. Toward the last of the week the shoulder of bacon grew short until only the rind was left, and the sack of meal was getting low. We put ourselves on short rations and peered through the timber to catch a glimpse of the returning party. At the end of the week they had not returned and our meal was gone. Mrs. Main reluctantly and with many expressions of regret, opened the little sack of beans—about a pint—which had been procured for seed, and put a small handful in the kettle with the rind of bacon and made a dish of soup. She repeated this, boiling the same rind and adding less beans from day to day until, when the provisions arrived, the beans were gone and the rind was well bleached out. They had been some days over the week in making the trip. The oxen, having been cheaply wintered, had not strength to make the trip in the time they expected they could. We commenced breaking along the north line of James Reeve's claim, a strip eighty rods in length. When we had plowed there one week, Main and I went on to his claim on the south of the grove, and plowed a week for him, and James went to the Cedar river to get, if possible, another yoke of oxen, as our team was not strong enough for the work. During his absence one day, after eating our dinner on the prairie where we were plowing, I took my usual look over the country and away to the southeast I saw objects moving. Calling Mr. Main, I asked him what it was. He looked and decided it was a party of elk. "Yes," he said, "I can see the gray on the rumps and I am sure I can see young elk there." Immediately it was decided to make an

effort to capture some of the young elk. Main directed me to go to the cabin for the dog and gun, while he peeled some basswood bark to secure the young elk with. This being done, we went forth with high anticipations of capturing some fine young elk. As we neared our game, we would see plainer from the top of each roll of the prairie that it was elk and that we were not mistaken. At last we had passed a long stretch of prairie and rose again to high ground; we were within eighty rods of our game and all had changed. Where we had seen the old elk with brown backs and young elk with red coats, we now beheld five emigrant wagons with men, children and dogs in the procession. We met them and piloted them to the grove with more pleasure and satisfaction than we could have felt with as many young elk. The party consisted of George Sturm, wife and two boys, Solomon Staley, one boy and two girls, James Fairchild, mother and two children, Bob Stevens (do not remember his family), Henry Garner and wife. These families all took claims, west, north and south of the cabin, and each set about building.

On the return of James Reeve with his oxen, he was accompanied by Job Garner, who settled at the east end of Four Mile grove by a big spring. He soon sold his claim to Martin Boots and took another claim where your beautiful city of Hampton now stands. He built his cabin by a spring near where James VanNuys now lives. In June the land here was to be in market and we started for Des Moines for the land office to make our preemptions. In the party were James B. Reeve, John Main, Job Garner, George Sturm, Solomon Staley, James Fairchild, Robert Stevens, Henry Garner and Leander C. Reeve. This party comprised all the men that I know of as living in Franklin county at that time. We camped the first night at Hayden's mill, where Hardin City is now located. Mr. Hayden, who had put up a sawmill on the river, was the only inhabitant of the place. On reaching the land office, we learned that the lands had to be offered at public sale for three days before it was subject to private entry. The whole party could hardly afford to spend three days at Des Moines, so they deputized James Fairchild and Leander C. Reeve to stay and make the preemptions for the party.

James Fairchild had his house covered sooner than any others of this party. The first religious meetings were held in his house. Mr. Fairchild was a man of good breeding and gentle manners; but he made a very serious mistake by giving a speculator the numbers of John Main's claim. The result was that Main lost his claim. As soon as this was ascertained, James Reeve called a meeting of all

the men in the settlement and held a court under the "unwritten law." The unanimous verdict of this jury was that James Fairchild should leave the county within twenty-four hours or be shot. He preferred to leave and James Reeve waited on him to Cedar Falls, where I saw him the next winter and had a talk with him about the affair.

The first sermon preached in the county was by Job Garner. I had been holding a claim for a friend who had promised to come out from Ohio and take it. It was north of Judge Reeve's where Sam Garner settled. Job had been several times asking me to let him have it for his son Sam, and at last, thinking I could not hold it much longer for my friend, I told Mr. Garner that I had held it now until the claim was valuable and I should want something for it. He asked me what I thought it worth and I priced it at \$300. He thought it too high and I told him I would make the payments so that he could meet them easily. "How is that?" he asked. "I understand that you are a preacher," said I. "Yes," he said, "I preached back in Indiana." "Well, if you want this claim for \$300, I will take it all in preaching." The contract was closed and he was to preach his first sermon in the James Fairchild house as soon as the roof was on. The next Sunday the house was covered and word had been given out of the meeting, and every man, woman and child in the settlement was there to attend church. If I get no other mention in the history of the early settlement of your county, I desire the distinction of having been liberal in sustaining the gospel. Job Garner was a Campbellite preacher and held meetings regularly until the Methodists became strong enough to sustain a church of that denomination.

As it is not my purpose to talk to you of things that you have already recorded in the history of your county, perhaps you will pardon me if I relate an incident of the difficulties of travel in those early days. About the first day of May, 1855, I had occasion to go to Des Moines to the land office. I went on horseback and crossed the Iowa river in a skiff, leading my horse behind, crossing the river at Marietta, the county seat, six miles above the present city of Marshalltown, stayed over night at Marietta and the next day reached Cory's tavern at Iowa Center. From there I started by sunrise and soon came to Indian creek, which I found very high from the spring freshet. The ford showed plainly and I rode in thinking of no danger as "Bill," my horse, was an experienced swimmer. A few steps brought us where "Bill" had to swim and I sat up to my waist

in water. In order to make the ford we must turn to the right which would bring us against the current, which I could not persuade "Bill" to do. He would go straight across the stream and if I should pull him upstream it would turn him on his side and that would not do. So as he was making square across the stream, I planned to leap from the saddle on to the grassy bank which was two feet above the water and lead him up the stream to the ford. My bridle had a double rein, one rein through the martingale and the other through the gag-runners and coming together at the hand piece, consequently, I could not carry the rein over his head as I left the saddle but thought I could take him by the bit and lead him up to the ford. The instant I left the saddle he turned and I missed his bit and he started to swim back across the stream which was then double its usual width. Becoming exhausted, he let himself float in the middle of the stream. I walked along the bank abreast of him, thinking he might drift to shore, but soon further down I saw a drift of trees, which had been undermined by the freshet, washed down and lodged, and the water was sucking under this drift like a maelstrom. Then I thought "Bill" was lost, but the noise of the water startled him and he lifted his head above the logs and struck his breast. Then he was so frightened that he tried to swim out but his stirrup was caught in the drift. Then he realized his undone condition and gave me a look that plainly asked for assistance. I did not dare to venture out on the drift with my clothes on and \$800 in gold in my undershirt pocket. I quickly laid down my clothes and the weight that "does so easily beset us" and made my way to the middle of the stream on the logs and limbs, many of them sinking when I put my weight on them, and I had to step quickly to another, and by reaching down into the water I unfastened the stirrup and "Bill" swam squarely against the current until he was beyond any danger from the drift and then went out on the east bank, leaving the flood between us. On examination I found that the drift reached the other shore several rods below. I got back to where my clothes were and bundled them up with the gold in the middle, wondering whether the clothes would float the gold in case I should lose them, then by cautiously picking my way I reached the other shore a sad, but happy, boy. Going back to Cory's, I borrowed a suit of clothes and dried mine, and after dinner rode seven miles up the river to Nevada and crossed on a bridge.

On the return from Fort Des Moines, I thought the river would have gone down so that I could ford it all right, but it had not, and

"Bill" would not go into the water by any possible persuasion and I got a man and boy to assist me, and after taking off his saddle we shoved him off the bank and he swam to the other shore; then they sent me over in a skiff. In the winter of 1855 settlers had come in and many of them with little or no means for their support through the long winter before us. Judge Reeve, foreseeing the suffering that must arise from these conditions, proposed that we go down to where we could find some wheat and prepare to supply these people and prevent suffering. We drove about eighty-five miles east before we found wheat that we could buy. We bought two loads of wheat and took it to the gristmill at Quasqueton, on the Wapsipinicon river, and found that we would have to wait a week for our grist, so we bought each a load of flour and returned. The last day of the return trip we started from William Peck's, where now the town of New Hartford stands. Thinking that four tons of flour which our four loads would make, would be more than would be needed in our settlement, I took my load to Hardin City and sold it. This caused us to make different roads that morning. About the middle of the afternoon we met a fearful blizzard. This storm was so terrible that it was nearly impossible to drive against it. I reached a house four miles from Hardin City, where I stayed until morning. My brother's course took him over a long stretch of open prairie and when the storm struck him it was nearly impossible to keep on his course; when darkness came on he lost his bearings. He still drove on, not having any way of guiding his course, until at last he came to Quin Jordan's rail fence at Four Mile grove. Following the fence, he found the house and secured shelter for himself and team. This was at the Rufus Benson place. In all probability he would have perished in that storm before morning if he had not struck the fence. The next week we made the second trip to Quasqueton for the balance of our flour. There were three tons of flour that we dealt out to the people of Main's Grove that winter, and in the spring it was all gone. The flour was stored in the chamber of my log house and whoever came for it had it, regardless of whether they had money or not. But I believe every sack was paid for sooner or later. Those early settlers were honest and true men. In the early summer of 1855, Mr. Carbaugh came in and settled on the north side of Main's creek, about four miles below the grove. He had a family of children and in the winter he hired my brother, Col. Arthur T. Reeve, to keep school in his family. I believe that Miss Octava Smith, afterwards

Mrs. Hial Mitchell, was the first teacher in the county, having taught in the Phelps house after Judge Reeve had moved out of it. In the early summer of 1854 there was also a Miss Scott who was a teacher. She stayed at Henry Smith's, but I have no recollection whether she taught any place in the winter of 1855 or not. In the summer of 1856 we built a log schoolhouse near the burying ground at Main's Grove, and Octava Smith taught there through the summer and a Mr. Boyle taught in the winter. Mr. Carbaugh brought in a horse gristmill, with which he ground corn and buckwheat.

The winter of 1855-6 was terribly severe and the gristmill standing on the prairie would be packed full of snow every morning, and his customers would dig the snow out of the mill and also the horse-power before it could start, which usually took until noon. Then after dinner Mr. Carbaugh would harness up his twelve horses and grind out the grist. The next morning the same operation would have to be repeated, as the snow packed in through the night, but we were glad to get our grinding even under these difficulties.





## CHAPTER XI

WHAT THE YEARS HAVE SHOWN—WILD LAND CHANGED INTO VALUABLE FARMS—GOOD ROADS, SPLENDID COUNTRY HOMES, ABUNDANT CROPS—BEAUTIFUL STREAMS AND GROVES.

Many changes have presented themselves to the people of Franklin county since the first white man staked his tent in this fair land and began the erection of a crude log cabin to secure a habitation for himself and family, while he felled timber, split rails, cleared the ground of underbrush and plowed the rich soil between the stumps, making ready for the seed, that sprung up in good season and gave him gratifying returns for his labors. Other hardy men and courageous women became the pioneer's neighbors; all of them, however, could not secure land for cultivation along the streams, where the timber abounded, much as they desired this consummation, for it was then the common opinion that the open prairie was hardly fit for cultivation. But "needs must when the devil drives" was an aphorism that confronted the homeseekers at this period and with hope and courage in their hearts the newcomers put oxen and plow to the tough but fertile furrow of the virgin open soil and were happily surprised and amply rewarded for their temerity and the intense toil expended.

With but little to do with, coming from comfortable homes in thickly settled regions of the Eastern states; confronting new conditions, hardship and dangers, the men and women of the local primitive days knew no fear and scoffed at fatigue. Their purpose was to make for themselves and their posterity homes, schools, churches; highly cultivated and improved farms, towns and cities; in short to bring order out of chaos and emulate the performances and successes of the builders of prosperous communities in their home states. They met and surpassed all anticipations. They have contributed toward the bringing of Iowa into the front rank of producing states of the Union. The reader of a careful and analytical mind should keep ever before him the remarkable growth and advance-

ment of Franklin county's people. The farms upon which a majority of them live have been metamorphosed from wild timbered and virgin prairie lands into broad acres so fruitful in production as to send their marketable value up in the scale, until today many Franklin county farms are held at \$200 per acre and more. One farm was sold in the fall of 1913 at \$208 an acre and is worth the money.

The improvements in this county have been going along steadily from the beginning to the present; and judging from the past, the future has much of all that is good in store for this thrifty people. Towns—splendid little trading points—are dotted here and there in the county and Hampton has grown steadily, substantially and beautifully the while.

But the meanderings over the county in 1904 by a keen observer and lucidly descriptive writer, in the person of R. G. Miller, was the means of bringing before the public a concrete view, in a general way, of Franklin's fine farms, beautiful rural homes, substantial, commodious barns and other outbuildings, good fences, well-kept roads, telephone conveniences; daily free rural mail deliveries; labor-saving machinery, fine graded stock and the automobile, now a common conveyance of the farmer. Mr. Miller made it an object to see these things and tell of them. See what he had to say:

If one wishes a day of real enjoyment, an opportunity to see the face of the country at its best, and some of the things which make the name of Iowa famous throughout the length and breadth of this land, he should take a drive as I did last Monday and just drink in the beauties that are always and everywhere spread out before him. It was an ideal summer day and the August sun was doing its great office work, bringing the crops further on to maturity, and bringing pasturage out of the moist earth as fresh and bountiful as it was in June.

If anyone has any doubt as to whether this county will have good harvests this year, he may have it dispelled, so far as the east part of the county is concerned, by a little half-day's drive out that way. The high wind of a couple of weeks ago did bad work for the oats in some places. I noticed a field on J. C. Peck's farm ten days ago where the grain lay perfectly flat, but Monday it was in the shock and appeared to be in fine condition.

This same is true of most of the Iowa grain. By the way, the quarter upon which Mr. Peck has his home, is, I think, as good a quarter section as can be picked out in Franklin county. There does

not appear to be a single foot of it either too high or too low for good crops in any sort of season. And what a splendid home he has there, good buildings, groves and orchards! I thought it would be a good idea to give farm homes of that rank a special name. Fairfield farm, or Plainfield place would suit it well, and in time it might go by the name throughout the county.

On William Seeger's farm I saw the first stacking and the oats seemed good for forty bushels at least.

If one wants a forcible example of what a little plant will do, he should see John Blum's farm buildings four miles southeast of Hampton. He has a fine farm home. The lawns were well kept, fences neat, trees trimmed, and everything as neat and orderly as the average town home. And doesn't it pay? To say nothing of the satisfaction it must be to his family to have such pleasant surroundings, it compels those who see it to place a higher estimate upon the value of the place.

All the foregoing might be said of the J. E. Marty place, just east of Blum's. And as for location, I do not think a nicer one could be found for a building site in the county. He has a splendid view of the country clear down around Geneva, five or six miles, and north beyond Hansell; and to say the country is beautiful, with its splendid fields and groves and farm homes, does not express it.

William Savidge has a very fine farm out that way. His new barn of late design, stockyards and windbreaks, and the house lately remodeled, make a fine place. Why doesn't he give it a name?

A. M. Mott's farm makes a pretty picture, viewed from the west. He has a large field of oats that seem to be the heaviest I saw, and beyond were herds of cattle feeding over a level pasture. That bottom land over east has crops of hay, oats and corn that would be very hard to beat any year. The best corn I saw was there. One 80-acre field is earing out and if I said how high it is some folks wouldn't believe me.

And there's a schoolhouse over there, not half a mile from native groves, with not a tree—not even a switch that promises to make a tree—growing on the grounds. They say they have excellent schools there, so perhaps it has been found necessary to keep the limbs trimmed off so close that the trunks perished. But there's one good feature to it. When consolidated schools are the order, the ground can be plowed.

Two of the nicest improved farms in this section are those of Will Arthur and W. C. Tucker. That second bottom land will pro-

duce anything, and the appearance of these farms shows it. How easy it is to pick out the rented farms. Somehow they will run down. And what wonder? Every renter is looking forward, straining every nerve, and hoping for the day when he can buy a farm, and, to do that, he must put in every lick where it will make for the most profit; so the fence, yards, groves and buildings are more or less neglected.

Riding any distance one notices some things go in streaks. For a time you will notice all the lanes and fence rows mowed and raked clean, then perhaps for awhile you will see the sides of the road grown to rank weeds and the fences hidden by vines and bushes. The time is coming in this fair county when the country lanes will be parked and kept in order, when thoughtless road-makers will cease to dig deep holes here and there to mar the beauty of the country street, but some reforms come slowly and we may not live to see that time.

All around Hansell is the finest of land. It is well drained and yet it is not too broken. Charles and W. H. Harrison each own a fine farm north of town and have splendid improvements. W. H. last year finished a modern house that would be considered a good city residence. There's a lot of fine farms over there. Sam McDowell owns two, N. B. Claypool, J. W. Boots, G. W. Hooker, J. E. Gibson, Frank Barry and G. Linde, each one, and all have splendid improvements.

Hansell is still on the map, although with the drug store and S. E. Preston's general store closed, it narrows down the business somewhat. R. M. Harrison, H. O. Horner, G. N. Hartgraves and O. B. Berry, however, keep things alive there and seem to be prospering.

The road from Hansell to Hampton, passing the Wolf and Messelheiser farms, leads one still through a country of fine farms and rich fields. I thought though if that sand and some of the sticky black soil north and west and south of town had been a little more judiciously mixed in the making, it might have been better for both sections.

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I left Hampton by the east road, and, while I was charmed with the beauty and elegance of the suburban homes of George Artley, George Pease, Ben White and K. H. Kaus, I need not enter into a

description of them for they are almost as well known as are the best homes in town. If you are out that way though, just take a look at those thoroughbred hogs of Mr. White's. Judging by the appearance of things around the place, there is nothing too good for Mr. White.

Upon turning the first corner, one gets a fine view of some splendid farm land and the Dirst place in the distance. One cannot help noticing the vast quantities of hay in the stack this year. This county has seldom had so valuable a tame hay crop, for while it may have been heavier, say last year, the weather was not so favorable for harvesting it, and the quality was inferior. One noticeable thing about the hay and small grain fields this year is their freedom from weeds. Some things seem to come and go, and this must be dogfennel year. I never saw such rank crops as those grown in some pasture lots and feed yards, and a viler weed can scarcely be found anywhere.

Speaking of weeds, a good farmer who had read my letter of last week, accosted me on the street Saturday and told me to touch up the town fellows on the subject of weeds. He averred that there were burdocks and sweet clover within the city limits of Hampton as high as an elephant's back, I think it was. And now, whoever owns those weeds, will please consider himself touched up.

I noticed at Orson Reeve's place, great new straw stacks, and, upon inquiry, learned that his oats went 41 bushels, machine measure, and his barley 40. Quite a number have threshed down in there and I saw three threshing outfits at work within a mile. And how they do up that threshing business nowadays! When a lad on the farm twenty years ago, I was an artist at cutting bands, and have swallowed many a bushel of dust and chaff at the "tail end" of the machine, but it's different now. Should I climb up to cut bands, I would do well to count the sheaves as they rush in, much less to cut every band with a separate slash of a knife; and if I got at the "tail end" I should probably be blown clear over into the next field by that powerful cyclone stacker. And we don't see ten horses tugging and sweating to furnish the power, but a busy little steam engine snorting away and having the best kind of a time. Yes, it's different—quite different.

What interesting stories one can read as he rides along, if he is observant. The fences, for instance; why, one might write a very interesting article upon the subject "The Evolution of the Fence in Franklin County." In one place I noticed upon the one hand an Osage hedge fence—there's a story in the rise and fall of the hedge

fence—and upon the other side, the old posts of a post and rail fence, the posts with three oblong holes cut through in which to fix the ends of the rails cut to fit. I compared in my mind the labor required to make that kind of a fence, absolutely without iron, with the modern method of nailing or stapling up wire to cedar posts.

There are a great many posts of that kind yet to be seen in this county, and none of them, I suppose, are much less than thirty years old. Some one should preserve a lot of them, for, like the men who made them, they are getting old, and within a few years will be a thing of the past. It seems almost a sacrilege to nail the modern steel barbed or electrically welded steel stock fence to those posts and leave the great gaping holes staring at the passerby in his stuttering automobile. But, like their makers, they are of the oak and are seasoned to hardships.

I had a short visit with W. H. Thompson, who lives on his farm near the creek, north of Geneva. He still (1904) owns and lives upon the quarter section which he took as government land and for which he holds a government patent signed by Franklin Pierce. There are cottonwood trees there which he set out, that are three feet in diameter. He is one of the old settlers and can tell many interesting things of the early days in the county.\*

I went down through the live town of Geneva and was surprised at the life and the business I saw there. Geneva has entered upon a new era of prosperity and with the sort of business men she has and the fine country surrounding, is sure to keep pace with the best towns of her class. They were getting ready for their Bean Day festival and are preparing to take care of a big crowd that day. The crops in Mayne's creek valley north of town were very promising. That soil is warm.

From Geneva I went west through Maysville, and by the way, here's another place to let your fancy loose. I understand that at one time Maysville rivaled Hampton in importance. There are old shops and dwellings going to decay. Many of them were built of logs. We can imagine a time when the shops and stores were new, when the merchandise sold there to the settlers was all hauled, perhaps by ox team, from some town on a railroad many miles away. Why does not some one gather all that interesting history before it is everlastingly too late? It is history too full of interest to let perish, and those who can relate it are not going to remain many years to

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\*Mr. Thompson died since this was written.

recite it. It should be written and much of it would be the oft repeated story of how the railroads have made and unmade towns.

I had dinner at the home of a rich farmer over in Grant township. They were stacking and there were four men there. One of them was inclined to complain of the bad crops of the past few years and the poor prospects for a crop this year. He certainly seemed to have just cause for complaint, but it was good to hear one, yes three of the others. They said they had lived all right and that now we have a good crop of oats, a good crop of potatoes and apples, truck, etc., and that we might yet have lots of corn. They reminded me of that youngster I got mixed up with when I was a boy at country school. I thought I was showing him a mighty hot time, but he kept coming back, grinning all the time. I kept wondering what he saw so all-fired funny about it, but after about four minutes discovered that it was because he was going to lick me. You can't down a fellow who does his best and keeps grinning.

I hope the farmers will not think I am urging any one to go out and get it, but there is a great crop of wild fruit in sight. Wild grapes, cherries, plums and crab apples are to be seen in abundance along fences and upon trees in the woods.

The north part of Grant has some good farms. Nate and Will Mulford each have a good farm. Oscar Webber and Ed Kratz have good ones and the Lyman and Merriss farms are other good ones in that locality. That is about ten miles from Hampton and Iowa Falls, yet they are connected by telephone so they can do business at those places and get their mail every day.

I came up through the old village of Reeve, and like Maysville, as a village it is no more. The rural mail delivery and the telephone have put it out of business.

Between there and Hampton are some good farms. Fred Alert owns the old Fults farm, then the line up is L. J. Kron, the Robinson farm where John Lowe lives, George Underkofler, Robert Wallace, W. T. Kline, E. A. Beemer, the two Carter and Slee farms with George Bird and George Selix, Joe Robert's Hill Crest Farm, John Shearer; then up farther, Mart Gokey and Gene Mallory, then Jim Sheets' and the Hoxie town farms and the Chris Shafer fine stock farm. It is certainly delightful to look over a country of rich farms at this season of the year and I expect to go out again.

Leaving Hampton by the east north road, one sees the prettiest grounds in the vicinity of Hampton. The natural groves on the Harriman and LeFever farms, with the mill creek and road wind-



ing through, and with the hills and open glades, make a landscape that would be hard to improve for simple beauty.

I noticed that Fred Harriman has had constructed a convenient stone watering trough at the spring by the roadside there, which adds to the interest of that locality. Who has not noticed and admired the magnificent grove of evergreens on this place, and especially the rows on the north line? And what splendid farms in a group out there! The Chris Fink, John Dyer, George Hemm, Walter Beed and Silvius farms, and farther on another group, the Marble, Vought, Grabbe and Patton farms. With a new schoolhouse of modern design, and such farm homes as those of Dick Penaluna, August Shafer and the Patton places surrounding, there is a corner that will shine with the best of them.

Going on to Chapin, one passes the comfortable farm homes of William Hemm, Wes Rhutasel, Ernest Banker and N. J. Rhutasel. The Chapin merchants were not rushed with business, for between the fine weather for farm work and the picnic at Dougherty, not many were in to trade. The lumber and grain offices, however, and Green & Roberts, Van Nest's and Fred Gressler's stores were making sales right along.

From here I went west past the Thomas Doige, G. A. Mayer, W. B. Barney Home Farm and N. B. McClintock Sunny Side Farm. I was pleased to notice that Mr. McClintock has the name of his place in plain letters painted on his barn. By the way, here is a case where a man by right methods is getting rich on an eighty-acre farm, and a beautiful home it is, too.

I drove out to see W. D. F. Randolph and found him at home. Mr. Randolph thinks he enjoys the distinction of having lived in one home longer than any other man in the county. He has occupied the house in which he now resides, forty-one years. It is a neat frame structure, made of lumber sawed at a mill not far from there, and seems as good as new. Right here I saw two kinds of fence, or the posts of them, not mentioned before. One was where small holes were bored in the posts through which to pass the old smooth wire, before the day of the barbed wire, and the other was where four large holes were bored in which to fix one end of the rail, the other being nailed to the next post. Mr. Randolph informed me that the fence was made the year the Iowa Central was put through—1870—so those posts are thirty-four years old.

I went on out past the historic Ross, Avery and Grinnell places. And those Avery and Grinnell elms! Where in the county can their

equal be found? Magnificent things they are, standing up as monuments to the men who planted them years ago, their nether branches sweeping out and drooping nearly to the ground, the upper ones flung out to the sky and they have defied the storms of years and still are only in their prime. May they remain for many long years, as they will if unmolested, to perpetuate the names of the men who planted them.

From Old Chapin, I went north on the Richland and Ross township line and saw some of the prettiest prairie country and finest farms I think that can be found in Iowa. The two Rust farms especially struck my fancy. The home place of H. A. Rust is on upper Otter creek, which runs close to his barns. It is a delightful place, cool and clean and shady. I wanted to name the place Stony Brook Farm. Right around here in a nest are the splendid farms of H. F. Froning, M. W. Hollingsworth, J. H. Froning, and a little farther north, the 480-acre farm of Albert Engebretson. These are up-to-date farmers and their farms bear the same character. Of the \$20,000,000 worth of Franklin county farms, these would foot up their part.

As you approach Sheffield from the west, you have a fine view of one of Iowa's typical small wooded streams.

We think of this county as a prairie country, and yet I surmise that one who has taken no note of the matter would be surprised to know the actual wooded area of the county. Of course it is all second growth and is small, but there is a lot of it, and what a beautiful thing it is to see a fringe of native groves stretch across the landscape; somehow there is a charm about it that cannot be found in groves set out in regular order and of trees the same age.

Sheffield is looking well. As a town, she is up to date, as the farms around her, which indeed is saying a great deal. Her people were assisting Dougherty to keep Harvest Home day in proper style and the streets and stores reminded one of those of Hampton the Fourth of July last, when everybody went away celebrating.

I found a greater number of farmers at home, that is, about the house, than upon any of my former trips and it was really amusing how some of them received me as I turned to drive in. In some cases I think they took me for a candidate for office and instinctively felt for a match as they thought of the fragrant "two-fers" those fellows usually carry; and others, I fancied, thought I was an agent and sent the boy to the house for a gun, but when I told them I was a "friendly," that I wanted neither "support" nor money, but that I

was just out for my health and to see and enjoy and learn something if I could, they were very friendly and willing to waste a few minutes "gassing" with me.

Driving south two miles and west a mile, one passes other good farms, Fred Hall occupying the Arthur Bradshaw farm; Tom Williams on the Peter Williams place; H. T. Long on one of Hans Petersen's farms, then Hans himself, is the way they run. Hans has two fine farms out there and is good for \$20,000.

Going on south of Chapin quarry on this road, I venture to say you will find the hilliest two miles of road in the county, but you get some good views out of it.

At the Nelson Doyle schoolhouse I turned west and passed the Ed Knoll farm—a fine old place—and noticing an especially neat farm home, with well kept grounds, and an inviting driveway, I turned in and got acquainted with Uncle John Fredericks. He has an "eighty," with native groves, fine, well arranged buildings and fences and a desirable place in every way. In our conversation he told me he began without a cent, has his place and stock, has raised a family of nine children, and as they were married one by one, to the number of six, he gave each \$500 in cash; and all upon eighty acres of Franklin county land.

On my way home from there, I saw some of the finest farms of my trip. I passed the Menning farms, the William Heineking and Fred Paullus places, and they are homes fit for a king.

Back by way of the mill I passed the well known Harriman, Schmidt, Fox, Green, Rowe and Hembd homes, and with a strong belief that I had seen some as fine farms and farm property as Iowa affords.

## CHAPTER XII

THE FIRST PHYSICIANS ENDURED HARDSHIPS AND WERE POORLY PAID—PILLS AND QUININE COMPOSED THE PIONEER DOCTOR'S PHARMACOEPIA—PLACED GREAT RELIANCE ON THE LANCET AND BLED HIS PATIENT WITH OR WITHOUT PROVOCATION—SOME OF THE PIONEER AND LATER PHYSICIANS OF THE COUNTY.

The pioneers of the healing art in Franklin county were the guardians of a widely dispersed population. Aside from their professional duties, they contributed their full share to the material development of a newly opened country. Some were men of culture, who had gained their medical education in college. Others were of limited educational attainments, whose professional knowledge had been acquired in the offices of established practitioners of more or less ability in the sections from which they emigrated. Of either class almost without exception, they were practical men of great force of character who gave cheerful and efficacious assistance to the suffering, daily journeying on horseback scores of miles, over a country almost destitute of roads and encountering swollen, unbridged streams, without waterproof garments or other now common protection against the elements. Out of necessity the pioneer physician developed rare quickness of perception and self-reliance. A specialist was then unknown, and the physician was called upon to treat every phase of bodily ailment, serving as physician, surgeon, oculist and dentist. His books were few and there were no practitioners of more ability than himself with whom he might consult. His medicines were simple and carried on his person and every preparation of pill or solution was the work of his own hands.

During the summer and autumn of 1837 cases of bilious remitting fever occurred, which readily yielded to treatment. The winter following several cases of bilious pneumonia demanded prompt attendance and special vigilance in the observance of changes indicative of greater danger. These were the diseases and the prin-

cial ones which called for medical help up to the year 1849. Since that year, or from that period, the summer and autumnal fevers ceased to be epidemical and pneumonia became less frequent. It may be well to mention here that the fevers of 1849 after the third or fourth day assumed a typhoid character, the remission hardly observable, and the nervous depression occasioning great anxiety.

It was probably Dr. Rush of Philadelphia—a great name up to about 1825—who said the lancet was a “sheet anchor” in all inflammatory diseases, so it might have been said of quinine, as used in remittent and intermittent fevers, in both the Mississippi and Missouri valleys from 1830 up to 1850. During that period 120,000 square miles west of the Mississippi and north of St. Louis became populated and all of it more or less malarious. In some of these years the demand for quinine was so great that the supply in the American market became exhausted. “Sappington’s pills” were indirectly the power which worked steamboats up the river from 1835 to 1843. They were verily, the “sheet anchor,” not only aboard boats but in many households. Dr. Sappington was a regular allopathic physician of considerable ability residing up the Missouri river, who thought it would be a benefaction to the new civilization of the west to prepare quinine ready to be taken in the form of pills. Boxes of his pills contained four dozen each and the pellets two grains each. The direction on the box was to take from two to twenty as the urgency of the case seemed to require, without reference to the stage of the paroxysms.

The History of Franklin County, published in 1883, gives to “Dr.” L. H. Arledge the distinction of being the first physician to practice medicine in Franklin county. To this Orson G. Reeve takes exception. He says Arledge attended the sick and met with a fair measure of success in relieving his patients of many ailments, but the impression always prevailed that Arledge was not a graduate of any school of medicine. He had but a common-school education and his knowledge of the principles of medicine were as limited as his skill in the recognized practices of the “regular” physician.

“Dr.” Arledge, as he shall be here designated, located at Maysville, then the principal trading point in Franklin county, in 1854, coming from Indiana. He was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church and probably was the first one to preach a regularly prepared sermon in the county. At the time of his arrival, Dr. Arledge bought a farm of John Mayne in Reeve township, which he afterwards sold to J. M. Soper. He then removed with his

family to Minnesota, remaining there a few years and then returning to Franklin. Finally the doctor went to Nebraska and lost his life by being crushed to death under the wheels of a wagon loaded with logs.

The first "regular" practitioner in Franklin county was Dr. S. R. Mitchell, who located in Maysville in 1855. He was the first person in the county to hold the office of clerk of the courts. As a physician Dr. Mitchell was held in high esteem. He was popular and had a large practice, in which he was often compelled to make many long rides to reach his patients.

The next physician to locate for the practice of his profession in Franklin county was Dr. Addis. He came in 1863 and located near Maysville. After several years' residence here he removed to Ponca, Nebraska, where he passed away.

In so far as the records go, it appears that a Dr. Guthrie was the first physician to locate in Hampton. He came in 1856 and besides following his profession, kept a little hotel in a building which stood on the northeast corner of Reeve and Fourth streets. In 1858 he removed to Hartford, in Butler county.

The next physician of note to settle in the early '50s was Dr. T. H. Baker. He located in Reeve township and started the first store in the county. The cabin in which he kept his goods was located south of the J. M. Soper place and was built by Henry Garner when he took up the claim upon which it stood.

Of Dr. Baker, O. G. Reeve tells the following story: "It happened that a man named Duke Whitmore was engaged in the '50s by Dr. Baker to break up some prairie for him. When the time came for a settlement, a dispute arose, which engendered bad feelings between the two men. Whitmore had been engaged to haul a load of goods in the spring from Independence for Clock & Wheeler, who ran a store in Maysville. But Dr. Baker, who was also a lawyer, came to the Reeve house with a deputy sheriff to levy on Whitmore's team—which consisted of three yoke of oxen—before he could start for Independence. Baker and the officer stopped a little north of the Reeve house and seeing them, my father told me to unhitch the oxen and run the wagon into the timber. I followed his directions and hid it in some tall hazel brush, and then under his directions, went to Sturms' to play with his boys. Father told me to say nothing about this matter. While I was gone, Baker, the officer and Whitmore went into the house and arranged a settlement of some kind, which evidently was not to Whitmore's liking. He thereupon made

up his mind to take satisfaction out of Dr. Baker's hide. Whitmore secured a shellbark hickory stock, one and three-fourths inches at the butt end and nine feet, eight inches in length, and meeting Baker in the road gave him a terrible lashing. For this Whitmore was fined one dollar and considered that he had more than gotten his money's worth."

Dr. J. S. Hurd practiced in Hampton in early days for a number of years and then removed to Chapin.

Dr. C. F. West was an allopath, who came to Hampton in 1863 and remained two years. He then took up his residence for the resumption of the practice at Indianola, in Warren county.

Dr. O. B. Harriman came to Hampton in the spring of 1865 and almost immediately entered upon an extensive practice that continued as long as his health would permit. In his profession he held high rank. He was a native of New Hampshire and attended high school in the town of his nativity, and also was a student in the Hopkinton and Bosawen academies. Young Harriman began the study of medicine in 1857, attending three courses of lectures at Dartmouth Medical College and Bellevue Hospital Medical College. He also took post-graduate studies in New York and at the Chicago Polyclinic. For several months the rising young physician was employed in the government hospital service at Keokuk and later practiced at Rockford and Marble Rock. In 1876, Dr. Harriman was chosen president of the Franklin County Medical Society and was a member of the Austin Flint Medical Society, of the Iowa State Medical Society, the Iowa State Association of Railway Surgeons, as well as of the national association of the same. He was selected in 1895 as one of the board of medical examiners of the state. In short, he was always recognized as one of the leaders among the medical fraternity. The death of Dr. Harriman occurred July 8, 1905.

Dr. James A. Norton was practicing in Hampton in 1869. About the year 1872 he returned to his native place—Bettsville, in Seneca county—and resumed the practice there. The doctor was small in stature, of quick, nervous temperament, a ready, fluent talker and a politician. Shortly after his return to Ohio, he was sent to the state Legislature, where he was Speaker pro tem. In the '90s he represented his district in the national halls of Congress two terms. While a resident of Franklin county, he married a Miss Heming, a native of Ohio. Dr. Norton died at his home in Tiffin, Ohio, in 1911.

Dr. J. B. Galer was a native of Pennsylvania, a son of George and Mary (Orr) Galer, and located at Hampton, June 1, 1870, where he began the practice of medicine. He was a graduate of Rush Medical College, assistant surgeon in the Thirty-first Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers and a member of the County Medical Association.

Dr. J. J. Leas, of St. Louis, was considered a good physician and practiced in Hampton from 1871 until 1881. He then removed to Nebraska.

Another physician who remained here but a short time was Doctor Lincoln, who came from Ohio in 1871 and remained but one year.

Dr. J. H. Hutchins became a citizen of Hampton in 1873 and assiduously devoted his time to the practice of medicine in this vicinity. He was for a number of years senior member of the drug firm of Hutchins & Funk. Dr. Hutchins was a man well fortified by education and research for the duties attending the profession of his choice. He began reading medicine when twenty years of age and graduated from Rush Medical College in February, 1871. The year of his graduation he was appointed United States examining surgeon but resigned immediately prior to his removal to Hampton. Here he was reappointed to the position, which he held for a long period of years. For some time Doctor Hutchins was coroner of the county. He was a skilful and successful physician. His death occurred June 23, 1912.

Probably the first person to establish himself in the homeopathic school of medics was Doctor Chappell, who hung out his shingle in Hampton in 1874. He remained until 1879 and then went to Oregon, Illinois.

Dr. C. E. Booth came to Hampton from Leroy, Wisconsin, in May, 1876, and entered into partnership with Dr. J. H. Hutchins. He remained but six months, however, when he returned to his old home.

Dr. O. P. Thompson opened an office in Hampton, his birthplace, in 1877. He only remained in practice here, however, about six months, when he sought another location.

Doctor Humphrey, a graduate of the Pennsylvania State Medical College, at Philadelphia, located in Hampton in 1879. In 1881 he returned to Cedarville, Illinois, his old home.

Dr. J. Z. E. Funk was a graduate of Rush Medical College. He located in Hampton in 1880. He was a man of ability and thor-



oughly conversant with the mysteries of his profession but did not remain long, soon removing to Spirit Lake, Iowa.

Dr. H. R. Floyd, of Johnson county, Iowa, hung out his shingle in Hampton in the summer of 1881. After a trial of his luck for about six months he chose Sheffield as a more useful and lucrative field of professional endeavor.

Dr. H. P. Roberts was a graduate of Jefferson Medical College, at Philadelphia, and also of the Western Reserve Medical College, of Cleveland, Ohio. He came from Morrison, Illinois, to Hampton in the spring of 1882 and opened an office.

Other physicians who have practiced in the smaller towns of Franklin county may be mentioned.

The first physician to locate in Sheffield was Dr. Mosley Canfield, who came from Marshalltown in the winter of 1873-4. He belonged to the homeopathic school and was thoroughly conversant with the principles of his profession. He had a large practice, which continued up to a short time before his death in July, 1880.

Dr. J. M. Potter was of the eclectic school of medicine and came from Faribault, Minnesota, to Sheffield, in 1875. He built up a fair practice and among the members of his profession was held in high esteem. Removing from Sheffield in 1881, Doctor Potter located at Xenia, Ohio.

Dr. C. H. Tidd began the practice of his profession in Geneva in 1871 and became very successful. He was a graduate of the Ohio Medical College in 1872 and then became an interne in the Good Samaritan Hospital at Cincinnati.

Dr. W. F. Cooper was practicing his profession in Chapin in the year 1881. He was a native of Ohio, attended the public schools, read medicine several years and began his professional career in his native state. He was a gentleman of fine appearance, easy address, rare educational attainments, and with these qualifications naturally found his way to the front rank of the medical fraternity of Franklin county.

Dr. J. S. Hurd was also practicing in Chapin about this time and Doctor Thom was at Latimer.

Dr. F. E. Cornish located at Dows in 1880. He was educated at Bennett Medical College in Chicago and practiced there four years before coming to Franklin county. About a year later Dr. J. A. Mulnix commenced the practice of medicine in Dows. He was a graduate of the Keokuk Medical College and became very successful in practice.

## FRANKLIN COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

The first medical society of Franklin county, of which there is any record, was organized at a meeting held at Hampton by representatives of the profession, February 15, 1876. Those present on this occasion were: Drs. J. B. Galer, O. B. Harriman, J. I. Leas, J. H. Hutchins, C. H. Tidd and J. S. Hurd. The officers selected were: O. B. Harriman, president; C. H. Tidd, vice president; J. H. Hutchins, secretary; J. B. Galer, treasurer. This consummated the organization of the society.

The object of the society was to be the advancement of medical knowledge, the uniformity of medical ethics, the promotion of harmony and fraternity in the medical profession, protection in the interests of its members, promotion of all methods adapted to the relief of the suffering and to improve the health and protect the lives of the community.

For a number of years the society held regular meetings. Then interest began to wane, and finally the organization practically went out of existence. In January, 1907, the Franklin County Medical Society was reorganized. The officials elected at that time were as follows: President, F. L. Siberts; vice president, A. J. Hobson; secretary-treasurer, F. E. E. St. Clair; censors, J. H. Hutchins, J. C. Powers, W. D. Leach. Members: W. K. Long, F. E. E. St. Clair, J. C. Powers, A. J. Hobson, C. L. Hobson, L. E. Haecker, C. F. Osborne and W. R. Arthur, Hampton; F. L. Siberts, Geneva; J. L. Collins and F. Schwab, Sheffield; M. C. Rockwood, Alexander, and J. F. Martin, of Latimer.

The present officials are: President, F. E. E. St. Clair; vice president, J. L. Collins; secretary-treasurer, J. C. Powers; censors, C. F. Osborne, F. E. E. St. Clair and J. C. Powers.

Other physicians practicing in Hampton are G. A. Corning, E. S. Manatt, osteopath; H. K. Phelps and Ed. Scantlebury.

While this article was in preparation, Dr. C. L. Hobson, son of Dr. A. J. Hobson, died November 14, 1913. He was a young man of fine qualities of mind and heart and his abilities presaged a great success in the profession.



## CHAPTER XIII

HONORABLE PROFESSION OF THE LAW—MEMBERS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY BAR MEN OF ABILITY—JUDGES WHO HAVE PRESIDED IN HAMPTON—PREMIER JURIES—SKETCHES OF THE EARLY LAWYERS.

Perhaps no body of men, not excepting the clergy, may exercise a greater influence for good in a community than those who follow the profession of the law, and it must be admitted that to no other body, not even to the so-called criminal classes, are committed greater possibilities for an influence for evil. What that influence shall be depends upon the character of the men who constitute the bar of the community—not merely on their ability or learning but on their character. If the standard of morality among the members of the bar is high, the whole community learns to look at questions of right and wrong from a higher plane. If the bar, consciously or unconsciously, adopts a low standard of morality, it almost inevitably contaminates the conscience of the community. And this is true not only in the practice of the profession itself, not only because of the influence of members of the bar as men rather than lawyers, but in the effects upon other professions and occupations to which the bar acts as a feeder. The members of the Legislature are recruited largely from the legal profession. How can legislation, designed solely for the welfare of the public, be expected from one whose honor as a lawyer has not been above suspicion? And since lawyers, outside of the Legislature, have a great influence in shaping the law, how can the people expect that influence to be exerted in their behalf when the bar itself is unworthy? Still more does the character of the bar affect the judiciary, which is supplied from its ranks. It is not always, perhaps not generally, the case that members of the bench are chosen from those lawyers who have attained the highest rank in their profession. If a judge be industrious and honest but not of great ability, or if he be able and honest, though lacking industry, the rights of the litigants are not likely to suffer seriously at his hands. But there have been instances where judicial office

was bestowed solely as a reward for political service; and while it is sometimes realized that one who has been a strenuous and not too scrupulous politician up to the moment of his elevation to the bench, has thereafter forgotten that there was such a trade as politics and has administered justice without fear or favor, the experiment is a dangerous one. No one need be surprised if in such a case the old maxim holds true: "He who buys the office of judge, must of necessity sell justice." Let our judges be men who are subject to other influences than those of the facts submitted to them and the law applicable to those facts, let them lack that independence which is an imperative requisite to one who holds the scales of justice, let a well-founded suspicion arise that their decisions are dictated by something outside of their own minds and consciences, and the confidence of the people in the maintenance of their rights through the agency of the courts is destroyed.

It has been the good fortune of the city of Hampton and the county of Franklin that the members of the bar here have been, for the most part, men of high character as well as of ability and learning, so that its bar has won a high and honorable reputation throughout the rest of the state, and because of the high character of the bar it has followed that those of its members who have been elevated to the bench have enjoyed the confidence and respect of the public and have been honored not only in their own locality but in many cases, throughout the state and in other states.

Yet the preparation of a history of the bar, so far at least as that part of it which lies back of one's own generation is concerned, is attended with considerable difficulty. Probably few men who in their time play important parts in the community or even in the state or nation, leave so transient a reputation as lawyers do. A writer on this subject, who took for his text, "The Lawyers of Fifty Years Ago," said: "In thinking over the names of these distinguished men of whom I have been speaking, the thought has come to me how evanescent and limited is the lawyer's reputation, both in time and space. I doubt very much if a lawyer, whatever his standing, is much known to the profession outside of his own state." Those who attain high rank in the profession must realize that with rare exceptions, their names are "writ in water." One may turn over the leaves of old reports and find repeated again and again as counsel in different cases the name of some lawyer who must have been in his time a power in the courts, only to wonder if he has ever seen that name outside of the covers of the dusty reports in which it ap-

pears. Hamilton, in the conventions, in the Federalist and in the Treasury, and Webster, in the Senate and in public orations, have perpetuated and increased the fame of Lawyers Hamilton and Webster; but were it not for their services outside the strict limits of their profession, one might come upon their names at this date with much the same lack of recognition as that with which one finds in a reported case the names of some counsel, great perhaps in his own time, but long since forgotten.

And there is another difficulty in preparing such a history as this, brief, and therefore necessarily limited to a few names, and that is that some may be omitted who are quite as worthy of mention as those whose names appear. It is not often that any one man stands as a lawyer head and shoulders above the other members of the profession; and the same may be said of any half dozen men. In many cases the most careful measurement would fail to disclose a difference of more than a fraction of an inch, if any. Lives of eminent men who have at some period been practicing lawyers, have contained the assertion that while they were engaged in the practice of their profession they were the "leaders of the bar," but there is almost always room for doubt as to whether the title is not a brevet bestowed by the biographer alone. Therefore the mention in this article of certain lawyers must not be taken as any disparagement of those who are not mentioned, and finally, it is to be observed that this article, so far as the bar is concerned, will treat not only of those who are past and gone, but will make mention of some of those now in the flesh.

At the time of the organization of the county the powers of the present board of supervisors were vested in the county court. The judge had entire jurisdiction in all matters which could not be properly brought before the district court, and he was to a certain extent supreme ruler in local matters. The office was the most important one in the gift of the people of the county. The records of the county commence with the first session of this court, convened in Hampton, March 3, 1856, Judge J. B. Reeve presiding.

Prior to the organization of Franklin county, the territory now comprising it was made a part of the fifth judicial district. Cave J. McFarland, of Polk county, was judge of this district, but as the county was not organized he never held here a term of court. However, he issued many official orders affecting Franklin county, one of which was the appointment of commissioners to locate the county seat.

In March, 1857, the thirteenth judicial district was created, composed of the counties of Franklin, Butler, Grundy, Hamilton, Hardin, Marshall, Story and Wright. Webster county was added in 1858. The records show the first district court held in Franklin county was at Hampton in March, 1857, Judge J. D. Thompson presiding. This was, as a matter of course, a busy term, for the reason that many matters for adjudication had been accumulating and made for a large docket. S. C. Brazzelton was clerk of the court and Solomon Staley, sheriff. There was no district attorney, but the duties of the office were performed by R. F. Piatt, who acted as prosecuting attorney for the county. The local attorneys were W. N. Davidson, T. H. Baker and A. H. Bridgeman, residents of Maysville. There were other attorneys who attended this court, among them being E. W. Eastman and H. L. Huff, of Eldora; G. G. and R. G. Reniger, of Charles City; A. F. Brown, of Cedar Falls; and J. W. Wood, nicknamed "Old Timber" by Judge McFarland.

The first grand jurors were Samuel Carbaugh, David G. Carbaugh, William W. Ward, W. H. Thompson, Benjamin Jones, Henry W. Smith, W. B. Freeborn, Robert Darrah, James Van Horn, Chauncey Gillett, Jacob Schidler, Lemon Armstrong, Joseph Riddle. John O. Crapser, S. L. Utley, R. St. Clair, J. F. Robbins, L. H. Morgan, H. P. Allen, J. A. Simpler, I. White, D. C. Jones and Obadiah Smith. Herman P. Allen was foreman, and Henry White and G. W. Thompson, bailiffs.

The jury met at the Hampton House, then owned by Dr. A. J. Guthrie. The first petit jury impaneled comprised in part L. H. Arledge, J. E. Boyles, G. W. Eckley, James Hogan, William May, J. Heller and R. F. Quivy.

There were no cases of any great importance before this court but quite a number of contentions at issue which called for a jury to settle them. For example, the first jury trial was in the matter of Trumond Stoddard against Thomas H. Baker, tried March 1, 1858. A verdict was rendered of \$20 damages for the plaintiff, and an execution was issued therefor. The first entry upon the judgment docket was dated January 19, 1858. The title of the case was William A. Jamison against J. R. Stover, civil action, and the amount of judgment, \$12.12½. The sheriff's return was: "Execution returned for want of a sufficient bid, April 8, 1856."

By an act of the General Assembly passed and approved April 3, 1868, circuit courts were established in this state and each judicial district was divided into two circuits, in each of which at the general

election in November, 1868, and every four years thereafter a circuit judge should be elected. Four terms of court were provided for each year in each county in the circuits. By this act the office of county judge was abolished and all business pertaining to that office was transferred to the circuit court, which was also to have concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in all civil actions and exclusive jurisdiction in all appeals and writs of error from justice courts, higher courts and all other inferior tribunals either in civil or criminal cases. Franklin county, together with the counties of Hardin, Hamilton, Webster, Wright, Marshall, Story and Boone, was made the second circuit of the eleventh judicial district.

James D. Thompson, the first judge of the thirteenth judicial district, was a native of New York. He was raised on a farm, attended the common schools, spent a short time in the academy at Fredonia, New York, and then went to Niagara county, where he taught school. Returning to Fredonia to resume his studies at the academy, in his leisure hours he read law and taught school the following winter, and then finished his reading in the office of Hon. O. W. Johnson, of Fredonia. He was admitted to the bar and came to Iowa in the spring of 1854, locating at Eldora, where he opened an office and later was elected county prosecuting attorney. In 1855, Mr. Thompson was elected county judge to fill a vacancy. He was elevated to the district court bench in the spring of 1857, and shortly thereafter removed to Hampton, where he resided a portion of the time while on the bench. Later he returned to Eldora and entered into partnership with Hon. H. L. Huff.

The successor to Judge Thompson was John Porter, a native of Pennsylvania, who received a common-school education, taught school and was admitted to the bar at Warren, Ohio. In 1856 Judge Porter removed to Cerro Gordo county, Iowa, and in 1858, was elected judge of the newly organized district, which position he occupied until his resignation in 1866. Judge Porter was full of energy and was possessed of a quick and good judgment, which earned him the approbation of the bar and people of the district.

Samuel L. Rose, of Hamilton county, was the first circuit judge to preside over this court. He was elected in the fall of 1868. Judge Rose was a native of New York, and spent his boyhood time in the common schools and Augusta Academy. At the age of sixteen he taught school in Chester county, Pennsylvania, and among his pupils was Bayard Taylor, the poet and minister to England. Mr. Rose began the study of medicine before leaving the academy but at nine-



teen abandoned it for the study of law, reading at first with Judge Beardsley, of Utica, New York. In 1850, he removed to Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, and there rose to eminence as a lawyer. In 1862 he located at Rose Grove, Hamilton county. As a jurist, Judge Rose gave eminent satisfaction to the bar and public. He served the full term of four years.

Of the later judges who have held court in Hampton, reliance has been placed on the memory and superior discernment and judgment of the present nestor of the bar, John D. Hemingway, who came to Hampton in the spring of 1874 and studied law in the office of J. W. McKenzie during that summer. In the fall he went to Iowa City, and there entered the law school of the State University, graduating the next spring. On the 1st day of July, 1875, he entered into partnership with J. W. McKenzie. From that time on Mr. Hemingway became familiar with the judges who have presided over the courts in this county and of course gained some information as to some of the prior judges. He says:

"When I commenced the practice, John H. Bradley, of Marshall county, was judge of the circuit court, and Daniel D. Chase, of Webster City, was judge of the district court. Judge Chase was a very dignified presiding judge and quite advanced in years. He was always extremely courteous, especially to the younger members of the bar. His term expired in about 1874, when he retired from the bench, and not long afterwards died at his home in Webster City.

"Judge Bradley went on the bench in 1873 and continued on the circuit bench until 1880. He was considerably younger than Judge Chase. He was a general favorite with the bar and proved a fairly satisfactory judge, though he was not considered as one of the great judges of Iowa. After leaving the bench, he entered the practice at Marshalltown for a few years and then moved to Chicago, and so far as I know, is still in the practice in that city.

"D. D. Miracle, of Webster City, succeeded Judge Bradley as judge of the circuit court, which office he held from 1881 to 1886, at which time the circuit court was abolished. Judge Miracle was probably at that time about thirty-five years of age, a dark complexioned man and somewhat troubled with dyspepsia. As I recall him, he was a graduate of the law school of Michigan University, having graduated from that institution about 1868. Judge Miracle was a man of decided views, of brilliant mind, and had it not been that his health was not of the best, he probably would have proved to be one of the great jurists of Iowa. After the circuit court was abol-

ished he became judge of the district court, which position he held during the years 1887 and 1888. After leaving the bench, he retired to practice in his home town, Webster City, but did not live many years. He was considered one of the good judges of this district.

"Isaac J. Mitchell, whose term lasted from 1873 to 1878, succeeded Judge Chase to the district bench. He was a resident of Boone. Judge Mitchell was a very mild-mannered man and rather retiring in his disposition. He retired in 1878. We all considered him a very good man but not a man of more than ordinary ability in legal attainments.

"J. W. McKenzie, of Hampton, Iowa, succeeded Judge Mitchell in 1879 and held the office until his death in 1881. McKenzie made a very popular judge, being an especially likable man, but unfortunately was cut off early in his career by tuberculosis.

"McKenzie was succeeded by Judge H. C. Henderson, of Marshalltown. Judge Henderson was a man of very brilliant mind. He had been for years a Methodist preacher before he took up the study of law. He held the office of judge from 1881 to 1886, when he left the bench and engaged in practice for a while at Marshalltown, Iowa; then went west. Just where he located I am not able to say.

"Up to about 1886 the district was supplied with a circuit and district court, with one judge for each. In 1886 the circuit court was abolished or merged in the district court, and Judge Miracle, who had been on the circuit bench, was transferred to the district court. We were thereafter provided with two district judges. In 1887 the judges elected were Hon. S. M. Weaver, of Iowa Falls, and the Hon. J. L. Stevens, now of Boone, at that time of Nevada, Story county. Judge Stevens held office until 1892, when he resigned. Judge Stevens had been district attorney for some years before he was elected judge and was a man above the ordinary ability. Since his resignation from the bench, he has been a prominent attorney in Boone, Iowa, and during the last election became prominent as progressive candidate for Governor of Iowa.

"Judge Weaver held the office of judge until 1900 or 1901. He was probably as brilliant and versatile as any judge we ever had on the bench. He was subsequently elected to the supreme bench of the State of Iowa and is now a member of the supreme bench. Judge Stevens resigned during the time when Iowa was led by a democratic Governor, Horace Boise, of Waterloo, who appointed to the position a democrat—the Hon. N. B. Hyatt, of Webster City. Hyatt

only held the office to the end of the term, when he was succeeded in 1893 by the Hon. Benjamin P. Birdsall, of Clarion. Judge Birdsall held the office until 1900. He was a brilliant lawyer before his election to the bench and proved to be a remarkably good judge. In 1888 the law provided for a third judge in the district and D. R. Hindman, of Boone, was elected. He held the office from 1888 to 1898. Judge Hindman was a man different from the ordinary lawyer. He always seemed to be seeking for some method by which he could help out both the litigants. He always wanted everybody to feel good and hated to see anybody punished as the result of a suit. His decisions, however, ranked fairly well with the decisions given by the other judges. He was a man well liked by everybody practicing in his court, although they were not always satisfied with the result of his decisions.

"Hindman was succeeded by J. R. Whitaker, of Boone, who held the office from 1899 to 1906. Whitaker was one of the finest looking men that ever filled the office of judge in this district. He had been prior to his election a successful lawyer. We always felt, whether he decided for us or against us, that he was our friend. But when he once had taken a stand in a case it was very difficult to convince him that he was wrong, although the ultimate decisions often so indicated.

"After Judge Weaver came William S. Kenyon, of Fort Dodge, who was about the youngest person who ever held the office of judge in Iowa. After about one year's experience on the bench he resigned and is now our well known United States Senator. Kenyon was a very brilliant man as a lawyer and was exceedingly satisfactory as a judge.

"After Kenyon's resignation, George W. Dyer, of Nevada, was appointed to fill out the term. He held the office only a portion of the year and was succeeded by the Hon. W. D. Evans, of Hampton, Iowa. Judge Evans had enjoyed prior to his election to the bench a fine practice and was considered one of the best lawyers of Iowa. As does not frequently happen in such cases, however, he proved to be a very successful judge, having the confidence of litigants and lawyers. He held the office until 1908, when he was elected to the supreme bench of Iowa.

"Succeeding Judge Evans was Charles E. Albrook, of Eldora, who took the office in 1908 and is one of the present judges. Judge Birdsall, whose term expired in 1900, afterward became a member of Congress, which position he held for two terms. He was suc-

ceeded by Judge J. H. Richard, of Webster City, who presided as one of the judges from 1901 to 1906. Judge Richard had been prior to his advent into the law a schoolmaster and county superintendent of schools. Barring the fact that he brought some of the peculiarities of his former occupation with him on the bench, he made a very acceptable judge. He was certainly a good reasoner and if an argument was made to him he was always able to comprehend the drift of it, which cannot be said of all judges. He was always ready and willing to correct his rulings if he was convinced that they were wrong.

“Following Judge Richard the Hon. R. M. Wright, of Fort Dodge, was elected. His term began in 1907 and he is now one of the three presiding judges. At the expiration of Judge Whitaker’s term in 1906, he was succeeded by Judge Chaucer G. Lee, of Ames, who is still one of the presiding judges, the three present judges consisting of Albrook, Wright and Lee, each of whom is an able and efficient judge, and prior to their election to the bench, attorneys of recognized ability and successful in their profession.

“When I came to Hampton, court was held in the old stone courthouse, which was located where the present courthouse stands. There were here practicing at that time, as leading lawyers, in 1874, W. N. Davidson, J. W. McKenzie and D. W. Dow. Davidson only remained a year or two. He was, however, a very bright lawyer. Although of no great oratorical ability, he was a very convincing speaker and very logical in his arguments. Before he left he had taken into partnership John H. King. King was a very energetic and hard working, enthusiastic lawyer and business man. He always had great visions of what he was going to do. He was not a very good lawyer but was an exceedingly good talker. He drifted into politics, became a member of the Legislature, and in a few years, with three or four other Hampton men, organized the city of Chamberlain, South Dakota. He moved to that town in the '80s and became prominent in Dakota politics and at one time was financially embarrassed, as most people were who went to Dakota when he did; but fortunately, he invested with the assistance of others, in Dakota land when it was at its lowest and died three or four years ago, worth probably \$100,000.

“Davidson resides in Luverne, Minnesota, at the present time. Mr. McKenzie became a judge as hereinbefore related, and died in 1881 or 1882. D. W. Dow was one of the old time lawyers. He came to this town at about the time of its birth, and in an early day

it was thought necessary that Mr. Dow must be in a case either on one side or the other. He was an energetic talker and was able to terrify witnesses by his method of examination. Dow was always ready to see the comical side of any aspect that turned up in the case. He used in those early days to tell us of the funny things that happened in the early history of the court in this county.

"One of the early judges who presided in the district court was Judge McFarland, of Boone. At that time the attorneys from Eldora and Marshalltown used to follow the judges around, picking up cases. One of these attorneys was ex-Governor Eastman, of Eldora. It is reported that McFarland used to drink and one of Dow's stories of the early times is that McFarland was one day listening to an argument by Governor Eastman. McFarland was little worse for liquor and considerably drowsy and was apparently asleep, but Governor Eastman was haranguing in his loud and vigorous tone, which he always used, when somebody's mule, which was hitched to the courthouse fence, commenced to bray. McFarland opened his eyes, looked at the Governor, and said: 'Hold on Governor, hold on, one at a time.'

"Mr. Dow continued actively in the practice for a great many years. His activity, however, practically terminated with his election to the Legislature in the Thirtieth General Assembly in 1902.

"Judge McKenzie was a graduate of Michigan University. He located in Hampton in 1868 or 1869. McKenzie was a lawyer in whom everybody had confidence. In addressing a jury it seemed that they would always place implicit confidence in what he said. He was a very successful jury lawyer, although he never attempted flights of eloquence. He was a man whom everybody liked and everybody in the county knew. It was a great loss to the county that he should have been cut off in his early manhood.

"Another attorney of some force at the bar in an early day was M. A. Leahy, who was an Ann Arbor student and a man of literary tastes. He was here in 1874 when I came but did not continue in practice over four or five years, when he removed to Wisconsin and engaged in the lumber business.

"D. W. Henley, also in Hampton about 1875 or 1876, was prominent as an attorney here until about 1888, when he removed to Spokane, Washington. Since his removal to that country he has been engaged somewhat in speculating in mining property and has been twice rich.

"J. W. Gilger located here in the '70s and although a very fine lawyer, did not succeed in building up a lucrative practice. After

staying here a very few years, he moved to Minneapolis, where he made a very fine success in his business.

"Another of the lawyers who came about the '80s was John W. Luke. He was a good lawyer, diligent, but slow in action. He was soon elected to the Legislature, where he took a very prominent part in legislation, and after his term of office expired was appointed railroad commissioner, which place he held until his death, which occurred in the early '90s.

"Taylor & Evans (T. B. Taylor and W. D. Evans) commenced the practice of law here in the early '80s. The firm proved to be a very successful one, Judge Evans proving to be one of the leading lawyers of the state. His partner, Mr. Taylor, was devoted mainly to office work. We have before referred to Judge Evans as being at that time one of the supreme judges.

"David Evans, of Pipestone, a brother of Judge W. D. Evans, located in Hampton in 1892. He at once took a front rank as a lawyer and continued as one of the leading members of the bar until his death, which occurred in 1913.

"Those not practicing long in the county were: J. Y. Luke, a son of J. W. Luke, now of Ames; Frank Marble, J. H. Bland, Walter Church, F. A. Harriman and W. F. Harriman."

Most probably no one of any consequence has been omitted in this above review of the bench and bar by Mr. Hemingway. He has simply given his recollections and impressions of the men who "wore the ermine and carried the green bag;" men of the profession who came under his notice within the past four decades. And now, something should be said of the earlier lawyers of the Franklin county bar, those who were here in the practice soon after the county was organized and was given a court of record of its own.

Credit is given Robert F. Piatt as being the first lawyer to locate in Franklin county. He was admitted to the bar at Williamsport, Pennsylvania, and in 1855 came to Franklin county, having cousins here in the persons of Herman and Charles Allen. The county had just been organized and he was the first lawyer to make his appearance in the bailiwick. Piatt took up his residence at the home of Judge Reeve and as soon as the county seat was located at Hampton he removed there. Sometime thereafter Piatt became restless and eager to escape trouble arising over money matters and went further west.

Q. A. Jordan was the first (acting) prosecuting attorney of

Franklin county. It was suspected at the time he was here that he had not been admitted to the bar.

About the time that Job Garner platted the town of Hampton came one Samuel B. Jackson. He stayed but a short time.

P. H. Baker located at Maysville, then the leading town of the county, in 1856. He hung out his shingle as a lawyer and after a few years took up the practice of medicine.

A. H. Bridgeman, a native of New York, was here as early as 1856, taking his place as a lawyer of scholarly attainments, being a graduate from Harvard and the Albany law school. At the outbreak of the Civil war, Bridgeman enlisted in the Thirty-second Iowa Infantry and after his discharge located in Buchanan county.

J. J. Layman was a native of New York, who located in Hampton for the practice of law in 1858. He remained but a short time.

Daniel W. Dow, now in his seventy-eighth year, came to Hampton in July, 1859. He was a native of Washtenaw county, Michigan, but moved with his parents to Whiteside county, Illinois. After a few years' attendance at the district schools, young Dow taught the three Rs and at nineteen took up the study of law. He was admitted to the bar in 1859 and then came to Hampton, where he has ever since made his home. Mr. Dow became quite successful in his chosen profession and has always been active in the things furthering Franklin county's interests. Mr. Dow has a good Civil war record. Among other offices he has held is that of Representative in the State Legislature.

N. B. Chapman came to Hampton in 1859. He had been admitted at Peekskill, New York. Mr. Chapman was a trained lawyer and soon acquired the best practice in Franklin county. From 1861 to 1865 he filled acceptably the office of county superintendent of schools and in 1870 moved to Grinnell.

John T. Stearns, a native of New York, came here from Cedar Falls in the fall of 1856. He was a lawyer but devoted most of his time to mercantile affairs.

Arthur T. Reeve, brother of the first settler, Judge J. B. Reeve, became one of the leading men of Franklin county. He located at Maysville in 1854, where he followed farming in the summer and teaching school in the winter. Serving bravely in the Civil war and rising to the rank of colonel, he returned to Franklin county, read law and was admitted to the bar. He then engaged in the practice of his profession. Mr. Reeve was elected or appointed to several offices of trust and responsibility.

A. J. Kellam was a native of the state of New York. Coming West, he located at Delavan, Wisconsin, whence he removed to Hampton in 1871 and with J. F. Latimer opened the Franklin County Bank. Ten years thereafter, having read law in the meantime, he was practicing at this bar and for some time was associated as a partner with John H. King and D. W. Henley. Mr. Kellam was regarded in his profession as one of the ablest lawyers in the Northwest. He was a brilliant thinker and speaker. In 1882 he removed to Chamberlain, South Dakota, and soon thereafter was elected to the supreme court of that state and served as one of the supreme judges for eight years. Retiring from the bench, he took up the practice of his profession in 1896 at Spokane, Washington, and continued therein with great success until his death, which occurred in June, 1909, having arrived at the age of seventy-one years.

J. D. Giffin located in Hampton for the practice of law in 1873. After a period of nine months he went to Marion, in Linn county, and in 1882 was elevated to the bench in the eighth judicial district.

The following comprise the present bar of Franklin county: Hampton, E. P. Andrews, B. H. Mallory, J. M. Hemingway, H. C. Liggett, Ralph R. Stuart; J. J. Sharpe, the present county attorney; D. W. Dow; Robert L. Saley, E. E. Clock and Sherwood A. Clock, who constitute the firm of Clock, Saley & Clock; Sheffield, C. F. Johnston.





## CHAPTER XIV

### NEWSPAPERS EARLY IN FRANKLIN COUNTY—MANY ABLE MEN CONNECTED WITH THEM—THE RECORDER THE PREMIER—SKETCH OF L. B. RAYMOND.

The press of a community reflects the tone, character and sentiment of its people. It is justly considered among the most important institutions of every city, town and village. The people regard their particular newspaper as of peculiar value, not merely on account of the facts already alluded to, but because the paper is the repository wherein is stored facts and events, the deeds and the sayings that go to make up the local history. One by one these things are gathered and placed in type; one by one the papers are issued; one by one the papers are gathered together and bound, and another volume of local, general and individual history is laid away, imperishable. The volumes thus collected are the sources of research for the historian and are often referred to by the editor himself. The local press, as a rule, reflects the business enterprise of a place, and judging from this standard, the enterprise of the citizens of Franklin county is indeed commendable. Its papers are well filled though not overcrowded, with advertisements of home merchants and of its business affairs. No paper can exist without these advertisements and no community can flourish as it should that does not use the advertising columns of its local papers.

#### FRANKLIN RECORD

Thomas Drummond, of the Vinton Eagle, visited Hampton in the fall of 1858 for the purpose of securing the delinquent tax list for publication, there being no newspaper in the county at that time. The field looked good to him for the establishment of a paper and on his return home mentioned the matter to Stephen M. Jones, who was a "typo" in the Eagle office. Jones became enthused with the idea and persuaded M. S. Bowman, a young Vinton acquaintance,

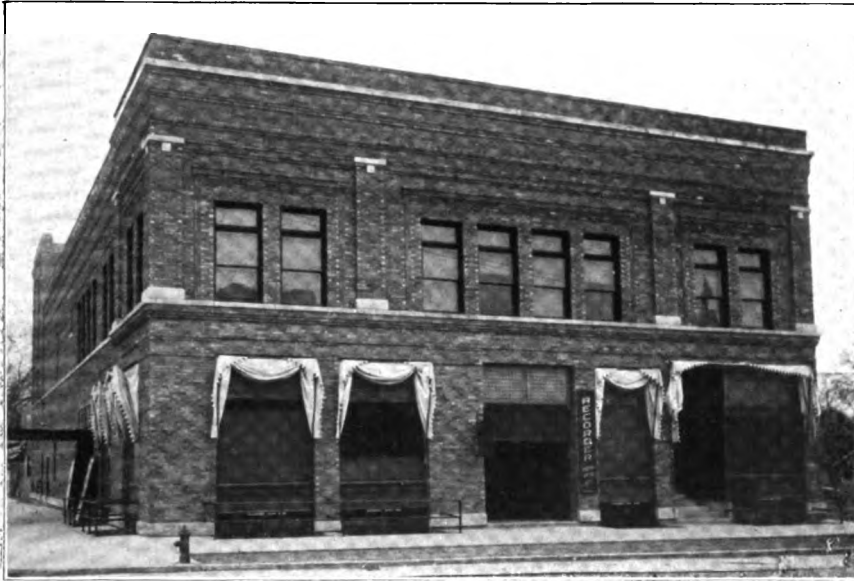
to join him and come to Hampton. Securing the old material of the Eagle, certain of the business men of Hampton were apprised of the new venture and about the middle of February, 1859, George Ryan, Isaac Miller and James Thompson sent teams to Vinton and brought the printing outfit to this place. Jones followed about two weeks later with his family and set up the office of the Franklin Record in a little frame building on a vacant lot that stood on the site of the present Baptist church. On Monday, March 28, 1859, the first issue of the Franklin Record was published. It was a six column folio, all home print, as that was the days before the advent of "ready prints."

The Record compared quite favorably in make-up and general appearance with the neighboring papers of the day. On the editorial page, of course, was the salutatory. Here also were published the few locals obtainable. On the same page appeared a column and a half article on the schools by the county superintendent, W. N. Davidson. There were two columns of reading matter on the third page and a list of advertised letters at Maysville, signed by the postmaster, William C. Boyles. The firm of Thompson & Beed was represented by a column of advertisement and there were quite a number of local notices.

The Franklin Record did not appear regularly, and in 1863 went out of existence. The founder, S. M. Jones, lived for many years in Hampton and was one of its early postmasters. Mr. Jones died in September, 1908, at the age of seventy-one years.

#### FRANKLIN REPORTER

In 1866, J. Cheston Whitney bought the material of the Franklin Record for \$350, and established the Franklin Reporter, the first issue making its appearance May 1, 1866. This paper was a six column folio, all home print, and was mailed to subscribers at \$2 per year. Soon after founding the Reporter, L. B. Raymond joined Mr. Whitney in the editorial work and took full charge of the educational department. He remained in this capacity until 1867, when he was succeeded by N. B. Chapman, county superintendent of schools, and one of the leading attorneys of the place. May 9, 1867, the Reporter was enlarged to a seven column folio and again enlarged in 1872 as a six column quarto, continuing as such until April 3d, when the Hampton Free Press was purchased of L. B. Raymond and



WINDSOR BUILDING ERECTED IN 1913. HOME OF THE RECORDER



PHOENIX HOTEL

Built in early day; dismantled in 1912. Windsor building stands on the site

100

100

merged with the Reporter. The name was then changed to the Franklin Recorder.

#### FRANKLIN RECORDER

The Franklin Recorder was simply the Reporter and Free Press under a new name. It was published under the management of Mr. Whitney until May 29, 1872, when J. C. Harwood, theretofore editor of the Winnebago Press, purchased a half interest in the paper and the firm name became Whitney & Harwood. In August, 1876, Mr. Whitney withdrew and sometime afterward engaged in publishing the Chronicle. Harwood remained as the editor and publisher of the Recorder until the 1st of January, 1878, when he sold the plant to Col. T. E. McCracken and soon thereafter removed to Wright county. Mr. Whitney died at Minneapolis, February 26, 1905.

Immediately after coming into possession of the Recorder, Colonel McCracken made arrangements with L. B. Raymond, then editing the Hampton Leader, whereby the two papers were consolidated under the name of the Franklin County Recorder, the firm name becoming McCracken & Raymond. This made of the Recorder a consolidation of three papers—the Franklin Recorder, the Hampton Free Press and the Hampton Leader—and the policy of the editors was promulgated in an editorial in which it was stated the Recorder should always be republican in its partisan affiliations. The form of the Recorder was changed from a six column quarto to a nine column folio, all home print.

The partnership between T. E. McCracken and L. B. Raymond continued until January 1, 1880, when Mr. Raymond purchased the interest of his partner and assumed full control. Mr. McCracken removed to Webster City. Of Mr. Raymond, a sketch will be found further along in this chapter, written by an admiring hand, that of his associate in business for many years—I. L. Stuart, present editor and proprietor of the Recorder, who also penned the following for publication, at the time of the dissolution of the partnership between Mr. Raymond and himself, which occurred January 7, 1910.

“Thirty years today is a long period for one man to be identified with a newspaper as one of its editors and publishers. This is the record of L. B. Raymond, senior member of the firm of Raymond & Stuart, whose retirement from business we are called upon to chronicle in this week’s issue of the Recorder.

"On January 7, 1880, Mr. Raymond purchased the paper and managed it alone until the fall of 1884, when he formed a partnership with the writer, who for three years previous had been foreman in the office. This partnership continued unbroken for more than twenty-five years, or until last Friday, January 7, 1910, when Mr. Raymond sold his interest in the paper to his partner.

"The reason of Mr. Raymond's retirement is well known to the citizens of Hampton. Nearly two years ago (in 1908) he suffered from a stroke of paralysis, which has disabled him for work. He has become satisfied that there is no reason for him to hope or expect restoration to health at his advanced age, and in response to his wish and desire, the writer has purchased his interest and thereby become sole proprietor of the paper. The severing of this long time partnership that has been mutually enjoyed during all these years was like breaking home ties.

"The readers and patrons of the Recorder may rest assured that the policy of the paper as adhered to in the past will be continued; in politics, always reliably republican. We want peace to prevail within the ranks and while differences may arise we are willing always to remain with the majority, for it is safe to assume that the majority is nearer right than the minority.

"To the hundreds of subscribers who have year in and year out stood by the Recorder we desire at this time to extend our heartfelt thanks. Your friendship and loyalty is duly appreciated and we shall endeavor to conduct the paper in the future in a manner that will merit a continuance of your patronage. What we desire most of all is to give the people a home paper that is clean and our aim will be to make the Recorder better as the years go by.

"We have no differences to perpetuate, nor enemies to punish, and hope that we may regard all as friends. The Recorder will in the future, as in the past, remain loyal to the interests of Hampton and Franklin county and all that we expect or ask in return is fair treatment."

I. L. Stuart has carefully and consistently followed the lines laid down for himself in the foregoing. His endeavor to publish a clean and loyal local newspaper has met full fruition. The plant of the Recorder is one of the best country papers in the state of Iowa, and was installed in a splendid, modern new home in the basement of the Windsor building in May, 1913.

## HAMPTON FREE PRESS

This paper was established at Hampton in 1869, by L. B. Raymond, the first issue making its appearance on October 1st of that year. Mr. Raymond continued the publication with the exception of a few months, when G. H. Brock took charge and remained until April 3, 1872; the office was then purchased by J. C. Whitney and consolidated with the Recorder.

## MAGNET

W. C. Eaton established the Magnet, a six column folio, in 1871. He sold the paper to J. C. Whitney in 1876 and the new proprietor changed the name to that of the Chronicle. Mr. Eaton removed to Northwood, Worth county.

## THE CHRONICLE

The first issue of the Chronicle appeared on the 2d of August, 1876, its editor and founder being J. Cheston Whitney. The Chronicle was a well printed and ably edited six column quarto and was practically a continuation of the Magnet under a new name. Mr. Whitney remained as its editor and proprietor until January 4, 1879, at which time he took into partnership his son, C. E. Whitney, the firm name then becoming J. C. Whitney & Son. The Whitneys edited and published the Chronicle until 1884, when C. S. Guilford purchased the property. Frank P. Morgan, an able and fluent writer, founder of the Sheffield Press, became identified with the Chronicle at this time and the associated force and abilities of himself and Mr. Guilford made of the paper a synonym for cleanliness and thoroughness in journalism that was appreciated by the reading public during the six years of its continuation.

The interest of C. S. Guilford in the Chronicle was disposed of to S. H. Shoemaker, August 7, 1890. After a period of four years Shoemaker sold the paper to T. H. Haecker, who ably and conscientiously filled the editorial chair until December 1, 1897, when T. W. Purcell came into possession. Five years after purchasing the Chronicle Mr. Purcell, with others, organized and incorporated the Purcell Printing Company, himself taking a major portion of the stock. Dr. J. C. Powers was elected president and T. W. Purcell secretary



and manager. The plant is now installed in a handsome new home and is under the personal management of Mr. Purcell.

#### HAMPTON LEADER

L. B. Raymond was founder of the Hampton Leader, the first issue of which appeared December 28, 1877. The Leader was published one year, when the paper was merged with the Franklin County Recorder under the management of McCracken & Raymond. Previous to this time, in 1870, James Thompson established the Real Estate Journal, which only ran for a short time under the management of Mr. Thompson. He disposed of his interest to Davidson & Company and after several months' existence the publication was discontinued.

Once A Month was the title of a magazine published at Hampton in 1878 by Charles Wilcox. Its existence was short and uneventful.

#### HAMPTON GLOBE

A number of leading members of the democratic party of Franklin county put their hands down into their pockets and contributed to a fund for the establishment of a paper that would voice the sentiments of the party and assist the democratic organization in its aims and policies. The paper was named the Hampton Globe and was established in the early '90s, having as its editor-in-chief an able writer by the name of Jones, who remained at its head a short time and then gave way to M. Bilderback, who published for twelve or thirteen years one of Franklin county's best local papers. Mr. Bilderback sold the paper two or three times and as many times resumed editorial charge. In January, 1913, the paper was sold by A. M. Mott estate to Arthur Salsbury, who in a few months moved the plant to Mystic, a mining town in Appanoose county.

#### SHEFFIELD PRESS

In the year 1880, Frank P. Morgan issued the first number of the Sheffield Press, a five column folio. It was a neatly printed, ably edited sheet and at once secured generous support. The founder of this paper began at the bottom in a printer's office in Wisconsin and in 1879 came to Hampton and for a few months worked on the

Recorder. He then started the Dial at Bristow, in Butler county, and on the expiration of three months sold his plant and removed to Sheffield. Mr. Morgan remained as editor of the press until the fall of 1884, when, in company with C. S. Guilford, he purchased the Hampton Chronicle and conducted that paper until 1886, when he sold out and moved to Nebraska. In that state he successively purchased the Lodge Pole Express, the Chappell Register, the Papillion Times and the Ogallala News. Mr. Morgan passed away at Ogallala, November 26, 1913, and now lies at rest in the Hampton cemetery.

After Mr. Morgan's retirement from the Sheffield Press he had a number of successors, among them being L. H. Bowen, John R. Bell, Norman L. Hill, Ernest Gillett, John Walford, George R. Miner, Orace F. Spring, Walter Wait and A. L. Salsbury. March 1, 1913, the present editor and proprietor, Chester Yelland, bought the paper of G. B. Tracey. The Press is a six column quarto.

#### LATIMER STAR

The Latimer Star is a four column quarto and made its first appearance in 1901. Its founder, present editor and proprietor is A. Hanson.

#### LEVI BEARDSLEY RAYMOND

Following an illness that had its beginning in February, 1908, when he suffered his first paralytic stroke, Col. L. B. Raymond, for a long period of years senior editor of the Recorder and without question Franklin county's best known citizen, passed peacefully to the great beyond on Tuesday morning, April 18, 1911, at 8 o'clock, aged seventy-four years, nine months and fifteen days. In his death his family loses a kind father; his friends, a man who was ever loyal; his soldier comrades, a comrade whose big heart beat in sympathy with theirs; the city of Hampton, a citizen who was public spirited and always fighting for the welfare of the town and its people.

Levi Beardsley Raymond was born in Potsdam, St. Lawrence county, New York, July 3, 1836. When a mere youth he moved with his parents to Wisconsin, where they lived on a farm near Beloit, in Rock county. At an early age he partially learned the printer's trade in the office of the Beloit Free Press and was a student

at the college there for several years. In 1861 he was among the first to enlist in the Civil war, serving two years in the Sixth Wisconsin Infantry, one of the regiments comprising the famous Iron Brigade, and after being discharged for injuries received in service, spent a few months in the provost marshal's office at Janesville, Wisconsin.

During the winter of 1863-4 he came to Iowa, settling in Butler county, near Aplington, where he engaged for a time in farming. In the summer of 1865 he came to Hampton and was employed as teacher in a schoolhouse just completed. In 1866 he worked for J. Cheston Whitney as printer and associate editor of the Hampton Record. In the fall of 1867 he was elected county superintendent of schools and the next two years saw him engrossed in the duties of the office into which he entered heart and soul and inaugurated several reforms, the good effects of which are felt to the present day.

In 1869 Mr. Raymond started a second paper here, called the Hampton Free Press, which he sold in 1871 to Mr. Whitney, who consolidated it with the Record, under the name of the Franklin County Recorder. During 1872-3 Mr. Raymond established a string of papers in the northwestern portion of the state, among them being the Cherokee Leader; Lyon County Press, at Doon; Mirror, at Newell; and the Mail, at Sheldon. These properties did not prove profitable and he soon disposed of them and returned to Hampton, where for a year or two he devoted his time to improving some real estate that he owned and doing some surveying. In 1877 he established a third paper here called the Hampton Leader, which two years later was consolidated with the Recorder and published under the firm name of McCracken & Raymond. On January 1, 1880, Mr. Raymond secured sole control of the property and in 1884 sold a half interest in the business to I. L. Stuart, and this partnership continued until January, 1910—a period of twenty-six years—when on account of failing health he disposed of his interest to Mr. Stuart.

Through the columns of the Recorder, Mr. Raymond for years wielded a wide influence for the benefit of Hampton, Franklin county, and the state at large, for his pen was always devoted to reforms, improvement and advancement.

He was a life long republican and took an active part in politics. He has been honored with many positions of public trust. For years he was chairman of the republican county central committee. In 1883 he was appointed special examiner for the United States pension office, which position he held four years, his territory being in Wisconsin and northern Michigan. He served as postmaster here



LEVI BEARDSLEY RAYMOND



from 1889 to 1894; was a member of the state central committee for two years; was chosen a presidential elector several years ago, and has been a delegate to more than forty republican state conventions.

Enthusiastic and active in military affairs, it was but natural that when Mr. Raymond returned from the war to civil life he should retain a fondness for soldiers. He was largely instrumental in organizing a company of Iowa National Guards here and was captain of the same for several years. He was elected lieutenant-colonel of the Sixth Iowa National Guard. He was especially devoted to the Grand Army of the Republic and in 1903 was elected commander of the Department of Iowa in that organization. For several years, under the old trustee system for control of state institutions, he was a member of the board in charge of the soldiers' home at Marshalltown.

For a period of many years Mr. Raymond was secretary of the Soldiers' Relief Commission, and many are the kindly acts and instances of material aid dispensed by him as an official of this commission. He was secretary of the Franklin County Old Settlers' Association from its organization up to the time that failing health prevented him from continuing the duties of that office.

It was largely through Mr. Raymond's efforts that Andrew Carnegie was induced to present the city of Hampton with \$10,000, for the establishment of our public library, and for years he was president of the library board. His interest in everything pertaining to the advancement and upbuilding of Hampton was untiring and it can truthfully be said that L. B. Raymond gave largely of his time and talent to the public good.

Mr. Raymond was married at Clinton, Wisconsin, February 14, 1864, to Mary Leverich, who, with five children, three sons and two daughters, survives him. The children are: Louis Harvey, who resides at Kennewick, Washington; Grace, Mrs. May Rule, and Lucius, all of this city; and Levi B., Jr., of Washington, D. C. He is also survived by one sister, Mrs. J. F. Williams, of Chicago, and one brother, J. S. Raymond, of Boston, Massachusetts.

Mr. Raymond was a member of the Masonic Lodge and of J. W. McKenzie Post, G. A. R.



## CHAPTER XV

D. W. DOW, PIONEER LAWYER, BECOMES REMINISCENT—HIS CAMPAIGN IN 1860—EFFICACY OF "CHEWIN' TERBACKER"—HOW HAMPTON LOOKED IN 1859.

Over a half century ago, or to be explicit, in the summer of 1859, D. W. Dow, a young man just admitted to the practice of law and seeking a location where his abilities would be sought and an ambitious spirit appeased, came to Hampton, the county seat of Franklin, then four years old. He found a little settlement of probably seventy-five people and not over twenty houses all told. The outlook was not very flattering to a young and aspiring lawyer; for clients were scarce, the country was new and sparsely settled; of money there was little. But the intrepid and hopeful new citizen of the growing village made the best of the situation. He remained, became a prominent member of the local bar, was elected to an important office, and before retiring from an active, honorable business career was intrusted with many positions of trust and responsibility. Before laying aside the cares and strifes of the able lawyer and public man, he efficiently and satisfactorily served the county three terms in the State Legislature.

Mr. Dow was born in Washtenaw county, Michigan, in 1836, and the reader can see that this nestor of the bar is now past the biblical allotment to man of years upon earth. But he is still strong mentally, and his memory is almost incredibly keen and accurate. Consenting to an interview, this kindly old gentleman gave the writer the attached details relating to the county, Hampton and certain of the early settlers as he saw them:

"When but a lad I moved with my parents from Washtenaw county, Michigan, to Wisconsin. We located in Prairieville, a town near Milwaukee, and now known as Waukesha, but soon thereafter the family moved to Whiteside county, Illinois, where I was raised. I attended the public schools until sixteen years of age, after which, to obtain means for a more extended education, I worked on farms



in the summer and with the money paid my way at the academy in Lee Center, Lee county, Illinois. While a student in the academy, another young man and myself read law in our room in a farm house where we kept 'bachelor's hall.' Following this, I was taken into the law office of C. J. Johnson, at Morrison, Illinois, and before the required time for reading had expired, I applied for admission to the bar and passed a successful examination before the supreme court of the state. However, I returned to Johnson's law office and read six months longer. In the spring of 1859, with the other law students, I went to DeWitt, in Clinton county, Iowa, and stood an examination under Judge John Dillon.

"On the 5th day of July, 1859, I arrived in Franklin county. I left Illinois, with others, in a wagon with a team of horses, having with me books and other necessaries. On July 4th we traveled from Sumner to Waverly. It started to rain, and there being no houses between the Wapsipinicon river and Waverly, we traveled straight across the prairie. The rain turned to snow, which fell to a depth of all of four inches, but it melted before we got to Waverly. This was a phenomenon I had never seen before nor since, of a snow of that depth in July. The night of the snow we stayed at Shell Rock and the next day reached Hampton.

"When I arrived at Hampton I found a town of perhaps some seventy-five people, men, women and children, and perhaps fifteen or twenty houses. The latter included the Hampton House, then standing on Fourth street between Reeve and Main streets, on the site of the present Rule Hotel. It was a frame building, a story and a half in height. Doctor Guthrie was the boniface. Just west of this building was a general store, in a frame structure, one story high. The proprietors were T. B. and H. H. Carpenter, of Cedar Falls. There was another general store on Main street, where the Carnegie Library now stands. This was kept by W. G. Beed and James Thompson. Still north of that building was a boot and shoe store and cobbler shop. Here Norman Lisk had a stock of boots and shoes. There was a blacksmith shop standing on the corner of Second and Reeve streets, run by George Thompson. Andy Cannam kept the hotel in a log cabin, with a frame addition, on another corner of Second and Reeve.

"I found the Hampton Reporter already established and being edited by S. M. Jones. The office was in a one-story frame building, unplastered and with one room. It stood on the site now occupied by the Baptist church. Stephen M. Jones and M. S. Bowman

were the proprietors and at that time the paper was known as the Franklin Record. During the Civil war there was not a blacksmith shop and no store in the town. There were a few groceries, however, kept by one Nixon.

“Upon my arrival here I stopped at the old Hampton House on Fourth street, established an office, put in books and held out as a lawyer. My first client was quite a liberal fellow. He paid me for my services in watermelons. His was the only case I had until in the winter, and before I had another client I was compelled to go to work at my old trade—carpentering. I had before coming here taught eight terms of school and in the winter of 1859-60 took the Richards district school at Mayne’s Grove. I had two cases that winter, before justices of the peace, one at Allen’s Grove before a Scotch justice, and one at Maysville. At the latter place I defended a fellow accused of stealing some gloves, coats and other things. He was convicted and fined, as he should have been. The other case was one of replevin, where the title to a batch of hogs was in question. It was brought before the Scotchman, referred to above, and the lawyer opposing me was one Jamison, from the grove of that name. Jamison had brought the suit. I had filed my answer to his complaint, when he filed a half dozen motions and demurrers to it. In the trial, which was held in a log house, it got to be along after night, when Jamison became dreadfully abusive; but I had been taught by my preceptors never to permit myself to become angry in the court room, and practiced upon that theory. But when Jamison at last called me some nasty name, I took the statute, banged him over the head with it and knocked him into a corner of the cabin. When he got up, the justice, in his Scotch brogue, said: ‘Hit him again; d—n him, he needs it.’ But it was not necessary to further chastise my opponent. The justice had reached the limit of his patience, and declared, ‘To h—l with your demurrers and your motions; I’m going to try this case,’ and he did try it in his own way; bringing it to a close in about a half hour.

“After this winter term of school closed, I took my wages for teaching and put the money into a stock of goods with W. G. Beed, and carried on the store for the firm one season. There was no law business to amount to anything. The store was located in the block now occupied by the public library.

“In the fall of 1860 I was candidate for clerk of the district court, which office then carried two other offices with it—that of clerk of the county court and clerk of the board of supervisors. I

was elected and held the position six years. At the election there were a little over three hundred votes cast and the campaign was much more exciting than at the present day. I procured a horse and saw every voter in the county, soliciting his support not only once but perhaps twice. In Clinton township I didn't get a vote, while there were some thirty votes cast there. In my home town I got fifteen votes, while my opponent, J. D. Leland, secured forty. He lived at Old Chapin. But when the votes were counted in Geneva township, it was found that all were cast for me with the exception of two; in Reeve, which gave one-third of all the votes cast in the county, I got in the neighborhood of one hundred votes, while Leland only received five. It went along about the same way in the other townships, so that I was elected by a large majority.

"I remember one amusing incident in the campaign. S. H. Van Kirk was one of the first school teachers in the county and a man not only of education, but of ability. He was then county surveyor, which was of some importance at that time. I arrived at his home, a log cabin, while it was raining, and found him digging a cellar, a piece of work that should have been done before building the house. He had taken up the boards that constituted the floor and laid them so the family could have space to move on, and the other part he used as a platform upon which to throw the dirt and then shovel it out of doors. Mr. Van Kirk, as were most of the settlers in that day, was addicted to the use of tobacco. I was admitted into this home and standing at the edge of the dismantled floor looking down into the pit, informed Van Kirk of my errand. He was as cross a looking man as I had ever seen, and his wife seemingly was in no better humor, as she was sitting on the little space of floor remaining, like Tam O'Shanter's wife—sullen and sulky. The first thing the pioneer asked me was, 'Have you got any tobacker?' I had provided myself, although not a user of the weed, with an old fashioned Virginia plug, which was probably a foot long and would weigh in the neighborhood of a pound. It was the best chewing tobacco then in use. I handed him out this plug, which had had none taken off from it and from which I meant for him to take a good chew. He did take a very large chew, biting it off ravenously. He then doubled it up and shoved it down in his pocket. There was 75 cents worth of tobacco which I had started out to use for electioneering purposes, gone. Van Kirk brightened up and informed me that he would not detain me any longer, for he wanted

to get his cellar dug, but that he would vote for me and he kept his promise.

“Speaking of the ludicrous incidents of that campaign, I also remember going over on the Iowa river to a place they called Otisville, now known as Dows. I went to a man by the name of Osborne, whom I found picking corn, taking two rows and allowing his team to go along the row already picked. Upon accosting Mr. Osborne, he merely grunted ‘Good morning,’ and kept right on picking his corn. Becoming immediately conscious of the man’s attitude, I took the opposite row and picked with him until we got down to the end, a distance of probably forty rods. I was a good hand and think perhaps I could have beaten him if I had been on a wager. He was handicapped by his team, which needed attention, and knowing this, I once in a while would take three or four hills on his row. This seemed to madden him at first. Nothing was said until we got out to the end of the row. Then he looked up and exclaimed: ‘Who in h—l are you?’ I then told him I was a candidate for clerk of the district court. He said: ‘You git right on that wagon and come up to the corn crib. You can have anything on my farm. Vote for you?—of course I’ll vote for you. I’ll vote for any man that can beat me pickin’ corn.’ That man could neither read nor write, but at every election that was held for years afterwards he would ask his neighbors if that man Dow was running for office, at the same time declaring he was going to vote for him for he could beat him picking corn.

“There was a public house kept at Otisville, now Dows, by a man named Lewis H. Morgan, for whom Morgan township was named. I rode up to his house along toward night and asked if I could put up with him, and he said: ‘How high do you want to be put up?’ I at once discovered what kind of a man I had to deal with, and knowing he kept a public house, told him to let me know where I could put up my horse and I would take care of it myself. He said: ‘All right go and put up your horse,’ and I did. It was getting late in the fall and the air was quite chilly. Entering the house I found the room quite cheerful and warm, there being a large fire place, in which was a big back log and plenty of front sticks, blazing merrily. We sat down in front of the fire place, my host and I, and we constituted at the time the family circle. Not a word did I get out of him; neither did I undertake to talk to him till the women folks came in from the kitchen and said: ‘Come and eat.’ Morgan got up, uttered not a word but started for the dining room.

I followed him in and was shown a place to sit at the table by one of the women. This table was a long, farmer-like affair, with the bread plate in front of my reticent host. I could hardly have reached it with a fishing pole; therefore, I was compelled to ask him if he would not please pass the bread. He looked up at me and said: 'God! can't you eat once without bread?' I answered: 'If you don't pass that bread, I'll get up and come around and get it myself.' I was helped out of the dilemma by one of the kindly women of the house. This was the character of Morgan's conduct that night but it was only put on for the occasion, as I well knew. The next morning he appeared to me as one of the most congenial fellows I had ever met. He gave to me a great many pointers to assist me in my campaign, and was an intelligent, gentlemanly sort of man. He simply took that way of amusing himself, you might say.

"There was but one term of district court in those days held in the year and that came along in the fore part of June. The first term that I attended was in June, 1860. The night before court I noticed teams coming almost from every direction. There were scarcely any public conveyances at that time but the lawyers from several different adjoining counties arrived here to attend court in Hampton. They mainly traveled on horseback or in buggies, the latter being what we would now call road carts. The judge was one John Porter, who resided at Eldora. The district or prosecuting attorney was William Peters Hepburn, who became one of Iowa's noted men, serving the southern district of the state in Congress for many years and now living at Clarinda, Iowa. They were present when court was called by John Ward. All sat around a table in the courthouse—a building in the shape of an old fashioned schoolhouse. Here all the officials of the county had their offices, which were only distinguished by the corners in which their desks stood. They were all in one room. As a matter of fact, there was only one room in the building. At that court there were present at the opening some of as distinguished lawyers as there were in the state. There was H. E. J. Boardman, of Marshalltown, as good a lawyer as ever came to Iowa. There was John F. Duncombe, of Fort Dodge, father-in-law of United States Senator Kenyon, who afterward became a great corporation lawyer. From Webster City there was D. D. Chase; Judge Bagg, of Waterloo; J. B. Powers, A. F. Brown and William McClure, of Cedar Falls. All of these officials became distinguished men at the bar. Franklin county was repre-

sented by one A. H. Bridgeman, from Maysville. He graduated third in his class at Harvard University and held his certificate to practice law from Albany Law School. There were from Hampton at that time W. N. Davidson, as bright a lawyer as ever was in the county; and N. B. Chapman, who came to Floyd county in 1856 and was admitted to the bar in 1857. Mr. Chapman located in Hampton in 1859 and became one of its leading lawyers. He was elected county superintendent of schools in 1861, appointed to the same position in 1865 to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. C. F. West, and remained in office until 1868. He later removed to Iowa City. Mr. Chapman died at Minneapolis, November 23, 1900. I should also include your poor, humble speaker.

"At the term of court just mentioned the clerk of the courts was attended and 'coached' by Dr. J. S. Hurd, who was a graduate of Amherst College, a graduate of Jefferson Law School and of a surgical college at Boston. He had the strongest intellect of any man I ever knew. He was the son of a Presbyterian minister. Dr. Hurd lived in Hampton and became what is called a 'hard drinker.' For all that, he was a good citizen. He enlisted in Company H, Third Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served his country well. The docket at this term consisted of perhaps thirty cases, which were represented by as many attorneys. These records were engrossed by Dr. Hurd and were the best kept records in the county. It took the court about four days to finish the docket.

"Judge John Porter read law under distinguished men in Ohio and was certainly more than an ordinary lawyer. He came out west alone and settled at Mason City. He was more of a lawyer than an advocate. He ran through his course without particularly distinguishing himself and made his home at Eldora. Of the men who came to this county, not referring particularly to those of the legal profession, many of them were highly educated. I presume there were twenty college educated men who settled on farms.

"At the time now in mind, there was but one hotel in Hampton. The lawyers got their meals there and in the upper story of the building was what generally was called a 'school section' full of beds, and in these, those distinguished lawyers and judges all slept, in that part of the hotel, and it might be added, in one room. Those who could not get in the 'school section' were farmed out among the people who had dwellings in the little town. A great event was this one term of court. All business seemed to be suspended and the attention of men was turned toward the court. There was noth-

ing particularly exciting in the trials. The court got through with the preliminary business, the clerk read the record, it was signed and judge and lawyers went to some other county in the district, which composed nearly all the northwestern portion of Iowa. This was before the war.

"The next term of court I attended was in June, 1861, and the absence of many of the distinguished men of the bar of the different counties around was noticeable. But little business was transacted. The excitement of the war predominated everything else in the county. This one-term system continued until 1864, when two terms were held each year, at one of which we had a case for murder. A young fellow about sixteen years old, Jackson Benham, was the accused. The case raised quite a furor among the people. The boy was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to prison for one year but obtained his liberty in about six months.

"After the year 1865 there was an influx into the county and many a distinguished lawyer settled here. J. W. McKenzie, who had distinguished himself in the signal service, was later elected judge of the district court, in which capacity he died. There was a firm of lawyers, Reeve & Lahey. Col. A. T. Reeve was the senior member and was a good lawyer, as was also his partner, the latter serving in the Legislature from Franklin county two terms. The last term he was chairman of the judiciary committee. Shortly after the war came J. M. Hemingway, a distinguished lawyer of the town and one of the best in the state. The firm of Kellam, King & Henley was composed of good lawyers. Kellam moved to South Dakota and was supreme judge of the state when it came into the Union.

"One of the most exciting cases ever tried in Franklin county was the State of Iowa vs. Dr. J. S. Hurd. He was indicted for the murder of a woman by malpractice at childbirth. He was acquitted more because it was Doctor Hurd than anything else. About 1870 came W. D. Evans, who became a noted practitioner, was county attorney one term, elected to the district bench and from that was elevated to the supreme bench of Iowa. The members of the Franklin county bar, many of them, have held good positions in the state, among whom was John King, of Kellam, King & Henley. He was a member of the lower House of the Legislature three terms. W. F. Harri-man was a member of the lower House of the Legislature two terms and a member of the Senate four terms. I might also add, trusting I shall not be accused of immodesty, that for many years I was always on one side or the other of a case tried in this county and served in the Legislature of the state three terms and an extra session."

## CHAPTER XVI

TRANSPORTATION—BUILDING OF THE CENTRAL RAILWAY OF IOWA—THE FIRST TRAIN INTO HAMPTON AND WHAT IT ENTAILED—BURLINGTON, CEDAR RAPIDS & NORTHERN—CHICAGO GREAT WESTERN—THE DES MOINES, IOWA FALLS & NORTHERN.

### THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL

The first railroad to enter Franklin county was the Dubuque & Sioux City, projected in 1856 as the Dubuque & Pacific. That year the road was completed to Cedar Falls, but the panic of 1857 forced the company to discontinue all construction work and nothing further was done until after the Civil war. The initial company was organized as the Dubuque & Sioux City Railroad Company and in the summer of 1865 placed a large force of men on the road-bed, pushed the work rapidly, which was completed to Ackley in Hardin county, by the middle of October, and early in the year 1866 cars were running to Iowa Falls. Upon reaching the latter point, construction work again ceased, by reason of a lack of funds. Two years of idleness followed, when again a reorganization took place in the management. A new organization was incorporated as the Iowa Falls & Sioux City Railroad Company, and with ample funds at its command was successful in that which its predecessors had failed to accomplish. Subsequently, the road was leased to the Illinois Central Railroad Company and is now a part of the Illinois Central's system of transportation lines.

The Iowa division of the Illinois Central, described above, crosses the extreme southeastern corner of the county, having a station at Ackley, a small portion of which lies in Franklin.

### CENTRAL IOWA RAILWAY

Shortly after the Civil war, the Eldora & Steamboat Rock Coal Company was organized at Eldora, and realizing the necessity of a



railroad to transport the products of its mines, organized the Eldora Railroad & Coal Company, first securing the interests of Platt Smith, a Dubuque capitalist, in the plans. The articles of incorporation were placed on file in the recorder's office at Dubuque. Shortly thereafter, a stockholders' meeting of the company was held and five directors chosen, whose names follow: C. C. Gilman, H. C. Hetherington, S. F. Lathrop, H. L. Huff, W. J. Moir. This board of directors elected C. C. Gilman president of the company and James McKinley secretary.

Work of grading began on the road, the route of which already had been surveyed, and in July, 1868, cars were running into Eldora. At the time, a double celebration took place in Eldora for that little city had just received the welcome news of having been declared by the Supreme court of the state, the permanent county seat of Hardin county.

July 8, 1868, the Iowa River Railroad Company was organized, for the purpose of building a line from St. Paul to St. Louis. Articles of incorporation were issued to the company, C. C. Gilman was chosen president, Thomas Kensett, vice president, and R. A. Babbage, secretary. The company purchased the seventeen miles of road built by the Eldora Railroad & Coal Company between Eldora and Ackley, and in October, 1868, the road-bed from Eldora to Marshalltown, a distance of twenty-seven miles, was under construction and completed the following year. In 1869, the Iowa River Railroad Company was reorganized and incorporated as the Central Railroad Company of Iowa. C. C. Gilman was elected president, and under his energetic supervision the road was completed almost to the Minnesota line. Before reaching St. Paul, however, another reorganization and change of name took place, after the road had gone into the hands of a receiver in 1874. In 1879, Russell Sage and others, of the Central Iowa Railway Company, successors to the Central Railroad Company of Iowa, received articles of incorporation, and D. N. Pickering became president of the company, which finished the building of the road to Des Moines. Within the few years last past the Central became a part of the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad system.

The Central of Iowa was the first railroad built into Hampton, and its coming was looked forward to with great anxiety and no little doubt. This is the road that the citizens of Maysville made strenuous efforts to secure for that point, hoping that in the attainment of their great desire their town would not only become the me-

tropolis of the county, but also be able to show many reasons why Maysville should be made the county seat instead of Hampton.

"The iron horse" made its first appearance in Hampton, Tuesday, June 28, 1870. The citizens of the place having gotten up a program for a Fourth of July celebration, received word from C. C. Gilman, president of the Central, that a train of cars would be run to Hampton on that day with 2,000 excursionists, to assist in the festivities. Of that event and its inglorious termination Editor Raymond wrote in 1900 while in a reminiscent mood, as follows:

"It was a great event for our town, and we felt that it was incumbent upon us to put our best foot forward on that day and have such a celebration as would put all previous efforts to shame and make surrounding towns hang their heads with envy. We had a meeting to make arrangements, of course, and everybody turned out as we have never known them to do on a similar occasion before or since. This meeting was held early in June and of course the railway was not here yet, but C. C. Gilman, at that time president of the road, sent a letter which was read at the meeting, pledging his word that on the 'Fourth' the iron should not only be laid to Hampton, but that an excursion train should be run, bringing 'at least 2,000 people.' Maybe the roof didn't raise when this letter was read! It may seem strange to our people now, but there was a lively contest, to see who should get on the different committees. One man who had not been here very long, but had abundantly demonstrated his abilities as a 'rustler' while he had been here, made a fiery speech, in which he declared that in order to make the celebration a success and inspire confidence with the public at large, the 'old ring' that had run previous Fourth of Julys and similar functions must be relegated to the rear and new blood brought to the front. His address elicited uproarious applause, with such good effect that he was promptly elected a member of the general committee of arrangements, and after considerable excitement and 'electioneering' eight more were chosen, none of the number now being residents of Hampton except D. W. Dow and the writer hereof.

"Immediately after adjournment the newly created committee held a meeting, when it was discovered that the 'new blood' had captured the committee 'hands down,' and the orator aforesaid was elected chairman of the committee and forthwith delegated with full power to run the machine, the only three opposing being Dow, George Beed and the writer, who were considered as belonging to the 'old ring' that had been running things. About \$200 had been

subscribed, besides work enough pledged to fix up the grounds, do the necessary team work, etc. Another new man had been elected marshal, and he was promoted as assistant-in-chief to the chairman aforesaid, and there the direct responsibility of the balance of the committee of arrangements ended.

It was decided to hold the exercises in a locust grove, now cut down, on the Stiles place northeast of the cemetery. Col. John Scott, of Nevada, was engaged as orator of the day and the Ackley band engaged to furnish music. The eventful day dawned bright and clear and public expectation was at the highest pitch. Hampton for the first time was to show herself to the world as a railroad town. The train came from the south about half past ten. All Hampton was at the depot. It turned out to be only a 'special' bearing President Gilman and a few of his friends. They did not disembark, but after a few moments delay backed out of town. Still, we staid, waiting for the other special with 'at least 2,000 people.' About noon it came, with fifteen or sixteen flat cars with bushes stuck in the sides for shade. Colonel Scott was not aboard but the Ackley band was.

"The marshal was on hand and getting the band into the road he led the way on his prancing charger to the grounds, followed by a miscellaneous crowd of people. Somebody, we forget who, but think it was Tom McKenzie, read the Declaration of Independence, G. G. Clemmer read the Emancipation Proclamation, as well as it was possible to do with the constant popping of firecrackers around and under the stage, and the intellectual part of the day's proceedings was over. The band that had been invited from Ackley straggled in and got their dinners as best they could, it never having occurred to the chairman of the committee of arrangements but what they could forage for themselves. We forgot to say that when the train arrived several enterprising citizens who had teams, some of them from the surrounding country, were on hand and the first thing our guests heard was: 'Right this way for the grounds, only a quarter!' After the 'exercises' at the grove were over no one wanted to ride back; all had time to walk.

"The afternoon was pandemonium let loose. A large number of the track-laying gang of the railroad were here, and while the crowd that came on the excursion from the south were mainly respectable people, there was quite a sprinkling of 'toughs' among them. (We had a few of our own here in those days too.) There was a 'blind pig' near the depot where whiskey was freely dispensed.

And somehow or other there were other supplies of the same class of goods in town. We had no city marshal, and as the afternoon wore away the crowd became more uproarious and disorderly. The Fourth of July marshal undertook at one time to stop a row, but he speedily abandoned the job and got himself out of sight, nor by the way, was he ever seen here subsequently, as he evacuated the town, with all his belongings, before daylight the next morning. It subsequently transpired that he had collected about \$125 of the funds subscribed by the citizens, having been appointed 'deputy collector' by the aforesaid chairman of the committee of arrangements, who was so busy running a ten-cent swing on the Fourth, and on making it on previous days, that he had no time to attend to this part, or any other part of the business.

"Luckily, no damage was done, except a few windows broken and a few heads slightly cracked, all the casualties being among those engaged in having the fun. The citizens generally got off the streets and most of them went home and staid with their families and let the tough crowd have it out. Of course, there were a lot of unpaid bills left; the printers were left and all the merchants who had furnished anything. In fact, we do not recollect whether or not any attempt was made to pay outstanding bills, as the bulk of the money had disappeared with the marshal. Of course, the chairman of the committee made no report; how could he with the other fellow gone? But it was a long time before you could mention that Fourth of July celebration in this town without the man addressed would either swear or laugh, according as he had been personally interested in the occasion."

#### BURLINGTON, CEDAR RAPIDS & NORTHERN

In 1881, the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern railroad reached Franklin county, entering its territory on section 34, Lee township. Bearing in a northwesterly direction, the road passes through Oakland township and makes its exit on section 31, Morgan township. On this road there are two stations in Franklin county—Dows and Popejoy. This road is now a part of the Rock Island system.

#### THE CHICAGO GREAT WESTERN

The Iowa & Pacific Railroad Company was organized in 1871 and made a survey of a line to run between Dubuque and the Da-

kotas. Considerable grading had been accomplished up to 1876, when the company failed. The Dubuque & Dakota Railroad Company was then organized and finished the work from Waverly to Hampton. Eventually the road was completed, is now under the control and management of the Chicago Great Western and is known by that name.

#### THE DES MOINES, IOWA FALLS & NORTHERN

This road made its entrance into Hampton August 21, 1907. The first train carrying passengers from the south arrived in Hampton Monday, February 4, 1908. It became popularly known as the Des Moines short line. In the summer of 1908 the road was sold to the St. Paul & Des Moines Railroad Company. The road is a popular one with the people of Hampton, giving them direct transit to the state capital on the south and St. Paul on the north.

## CHAPTER XVII

DRAINAGE DITCH DISTRICTS—A LATTER DAY IMPROVEMENT WORTH MILLIONS TO LOCAL FARMS—LARGE TRACTS OF LAND RECLAIMED BY BIG DITCHES—B. H. MALLORY, MEMBER FRANKLIN COUNTY BAR, TELLS THE STORY.

I shall discuss the subject of drainage solely as it applies to the reclamation in whole or in part of lands too wet for food-producing purposes. Man has ever been prone to think he could improve upon the works of the Almighty in creating the world and especially has this been true with the relation to the distribution of water over its surface and in many instances the hand of man has supplemented the hand of God to man's profit and God's glory. Many of us are apt to think that the draining of certain lands and the irrigating of others is the result of modern conditions and demands, but the facts are that the most gigantic systems of irrigation were in operation in Egypt and in Asia before the dawn of the Christian era and for some unknown reason portions of Asia that were very fruitful in those early days are now practically desert wastes on account of the abandonment of the irrigation systems. However, my purpose is to treat of reclamation from the standpoint of drainage alone and to apply the same to the results obtained in this county under the provisions of law in force in this state. Surface water has always been regarded as a common enemy both by man and by the common law, but man with his accustomed proneness to avoid the enemy, unless by a necessity forced to meet him, has always dodged this surface water enemy as long as he could obtain dry lands suitable for agricultural purposes at a moderate price. In fact large areas of land in the State of Iowa were so unattractive on account of their wetness that individuals would neither buy nor homestead them and the United States Government gave large tracts of this class of land to the State of Iowa under swamp land acts to be used by the state for internal improvements. However, our increased and increasing population has brought us face to face with the problem

of producing food enough to care for our own people and as a result there is a continual effort to bring new and heretofore unproductive lands under cultivation. Starting with the common law provision that surface water was a common enemy and that the lower or servient estate was in duty bound to receive such surface water as naturally flowed onto it from the upper or dominant estate, we have gradually, through constitutional provisions, statutory enactments and judge-made laws, developed our present system of drainage laws, by which every piece of land in the State of Iowa may receive relief by proper application of existing laws. Until the present statutory enactments our courts generally held that the dominant estate could not throw water onto the servient estate in a manner different than it flowed thereon naturally. This practically precluded the installing of tile systems outletting upon the lower holders, and in order to obtain relief the owner of wet land must make some kind of an arrangement with the lower holders for a co-operative system or, as more usually resulted, he was obliged to carry the water from his lands across the lower holder at a large expense. Our Legislature, recognizing the public necessity of bringing all the lands within the state under cultivation, enacted a law by which a majority of the land holders in a given area might petition the board of supervisors to establish a drainage district and place the burden of the improvement therein upon all the land in the district according to the benefits derived. It was soon found that it was impossible in many instances to get a majority of the land holders to join in a petition of this character and the law was subsequently amended so that any one land holder might petition the board for the establishment of a drainage district. Our law has been constantly amended and developed as earlier stated by constitutional amendment, legislative enactments and judicial decisions until at the present time the law in substance is:

That any land holder having land too wet for cultivation may file a petition with the board of supervisors setting out such fact together with a list of the land of other land holders that would be benefited by a drainage improvement, at the same time filing bond to pay the preliminary expenses in case the system is not established. This gives the board of supervisors jurisdiction to take charge of the matter. They place the petition in the hands of a competent engineer who makes a report upon the same and, if in his judgment it is feasible to drain the said land, he prepares plans and specifications, which he submits to the board of supervisors, and if approved by them, a

hearing is had and the district usually established. Then follows a letting of the work by advisement and an assessment of the land in the district to pay the costs thereof. Development of this law into its present condition has involved all manner of litigation, but the Supreme court has taken the broad view that public necessity demanded the reclamation of these lands and they have gone to great length to sustain the law wherever it were possible to do so.

Franklin county, on account of its geological formation rather than on account of its elevations, in its natural state, contained a very large percentage of wet land. Practically speaking, the eastern half of the county is surfaced with what is known as Iowa drift and the western half with Wisconsin drift and although the elevations of the western half of the county are higher than those of the eastern half, so far as appearances are concerned, the reverse seems to be true as the eastern half was naturally well drained while the western half remained in a very wet condition. With the exception of a small area which drains to the south and west towards the Iowa river, the drainage of this county is south and east through various creeks into the Cedar river. These creeks all have well defined channels through the Iowa drift, but as a rule have not reached into the Wisconsin drift. In other words, if you should drive north and south through the county on the section line running through the city of Hampton, you would cross a large number of beautiful creeks, some of them quite large. If you would parallel this road four miles west, you would find that these creeks had lost themselves and that the lands in that portion of the county originally were without outlets, except for extreme overflows, and that a large portion of the same consisted of sloughs, ponds and marshes. The earlier settlers in this portion of the county attempted individual drainage and many of them succeeded in draining various portions of their farms into other lower areas with considerable success, but no effective drainage was accomplished until outlets were provided under our present drainage law.

The first drainage district was established October 3, 1905, and completed about two years later. Since that time about thirty drainage districts have been established in this county, all but one of them being located in what is known as the western part of the county. The general plan has been to dig dredge ditches emptying into the headwaters of the present creeks and by this method the creeks, the natural drains of the county, have had their lengths extended largely to the west. These open ditches have formed the outlets for



tileage systems and in many of the districts large tile have been used instead of the open ditches. At the present time we have open ditches aggregating approximately forty-three miles and tile drains approximately one hundred and five miles. There is included in drainage districts in the county approximately seventy thousand acres and the total costs of these improvements has been \$433,512, to which may be added the engineer's estimate on two other improvements under headway of \$38,000. It should be understood that the systems as put in by the county are simply outlet systems. Of course, these systems have tapped the wet areas and in themselves have relieved much of the lands of their surface water, but these lands have required a vast amount of additional tiling in order to receive the benefits afforded by the outlets. This tile has been put in by the individual owners and it would be a conservative estimate to say that the expenditures made by the individual owners have exceeded the cost paid out for the outlets. Again many land holders who were not in drainage districts have been stimulated by the increased price of land and the results they have seen from drainage in these drainage districts to drain portions of their land into natural outlets that already existed and I believe it is fair to say that the sum spent for tiling in this county since the establishment of the first drainage district eight years ago is easily \$1,000,000 in addition to the original cost of the outlets provided under the drainage system. This would make a total expenditure of approximately \$1,500,000 for drainage purposes in this county in the last eight years. These various drainage projects have resulted in much litigation and much dissatisfaction at the time of the establishment of the different improvements, but I know of no instance where a system has been completed and a land holder has availed himself of the outlet furnished that he is not satisfied with the result and would under no condition allow the improvement to be removed and his land placed in its former condition. The litigation has practically all resulted from the selfishness that seems to exist in most people. The law provides that each piece of land shall pay its proportionate share of the cost of the improvement according to the benefits derived. This assessment is made by disinterested parties. Yet it is almost impossible to find a man whose land has been assessed who does not feel that he has paid more than his proportionate share. This, I assume, results from unconscious selfishness, inherent in mankind, yet being as charitable as possible, I am constrained to believe that many have objected to their assessments, knowing that they were fair, hoping to shift the

burden onto other shoulders, thereby receiving something in addition to what they themselves paid for. The practical man would ask the question, "Has this investment paid?" Those who are familiar with the conditions of this county previous to the installment of these drainage systems may readily satisfy themselves as to whether it has paid or not by driving through the western portion of the county. Farms that fifteen years ago were so wet as to be unprofitable to the owner or the tenants have become the most productive farms in the county and the general appearance is one of extreme prosperity and values of lands have doubled. This increased price of land, of course, is not wholly due to drainage as other conditions have intervened, but without the drainage little advancement in prices would have been had on these wet farms. The writer recalls the experience of one man who owned a wet farm and was struggling from year to year to pay off his debt on the same and support his family. He petitioned with others for the first drainage district in this county and on account of the peculiar location of the district, most of the cost of the improvement was assessed against the lands in the upper end of the district including his land. Many of the residents were fighting the assessment and this man came to Hampton to consult an attorney and in the private office of the attorney he broke down and wept saying that he had petitioned for this district and he did not like to fight the assessment, but he had no idea that it was going to be so heavy and that with the debt already on his farm, he was satisfied that he would lose his farm. He finally concluded, however, that as he had started the machinery in motion to establish this district that he would not complain of his assessment, but would renew his effort to carry the additional load. He took advantage of the outlet furnished him by tiling his land into it, broke up pieces on which he had never received a crop, made other pieces upon which he had expended labor and seed many times without results, safe and profitable farm land. The result was that he began to make money, paid off his ditch assessment, paid off his other debts and in the summer of 1911 built one of the finest farm homes in this county. His experience is indicative of the results that have been obtained by others who have taken advantage of the outlets furnished and brought their lands to a state of efficiency that was impossible before the outlets were made.

In addition to the benefits derived by the individual land holders, the public has received a great benefit in the drainage that has been afforded the public highways. The highways in many instances

crossed low marshy tracts of land that had no outlets and the county or the township was helpless to obtain drainage for the same until these drainage systems were established, but since that time many of these places, which were impassable during wet periods, have been drained into the outlets furnished and some of the best roads in the county may be found in these very places. The public has again received a large benefit from the fact that the valuation of these lands has been so increased that they are now bearing their proper proportion of the burden of taxation.

The drainage of Franklin county is not completed, but most of the larger systems are now in. From this time on the drainage will be practically individual drainage and small tile districts. However, in leaving the subject, I wish to predict that at some future time a joint district will be established by Franklin and Butler counties and the course of the West Fork will be straightened by cutting off its numerous bends and curves reducing its length by approximately one-half and relieving a vast area along its boundary of overflow, which makes the land at the present time unfit for cultivation purposes.

## CHAPTER XVIII

### WHY DID YOU COME HERE?—THE QUESTION ASKED BY EDITOR RAYMOND—ANSWERED BY THE QUERIST—INFLUENCE OF FRIENDS A COGENT AGENCY

Editor Raymond, one day in the year 1907, took up his pencil and while ruminating upon the blessings kind Nature had bestowed upon the people of this community, wrote the caption of an article which read: "Why Did You Come Here?" and then proceeded to answer the question for many a Franklin county settler. Below is given the result, as portrayed by him:

Did you ever stop to reflect upon what directed your steps to Franklin county? We are not addressing those who came here in childhood or youth with their parents, but those of more mature age who came here and made homes. Were you to give it a little thought you will find, the chances are, that you came here because some one you knew was already here—possibly a relative. You did not, back in Wisconsin, Illinois or Ohio, take a map and putting your finger on Franklin county, resolve that you would go there and locate; the chances are that you wrote first to some one already living here with whom you had an acquaintance, and the one addressed assured you that it was a fine country—the finest in the land. So you came to look and you liked it too; you bought a home and in turn were, in due time, the means of bringing another settler from east of the Mississippi. So there is scarcely a man in the county who has been here any length of time who cannot point to some one who came here on his account, either through previous acquaintance or through correspondence. It would make an interesting book if every one would tell just how they were induced to come to Franklin county; through whose influence they came here, or if one may so express it, who they followed here.

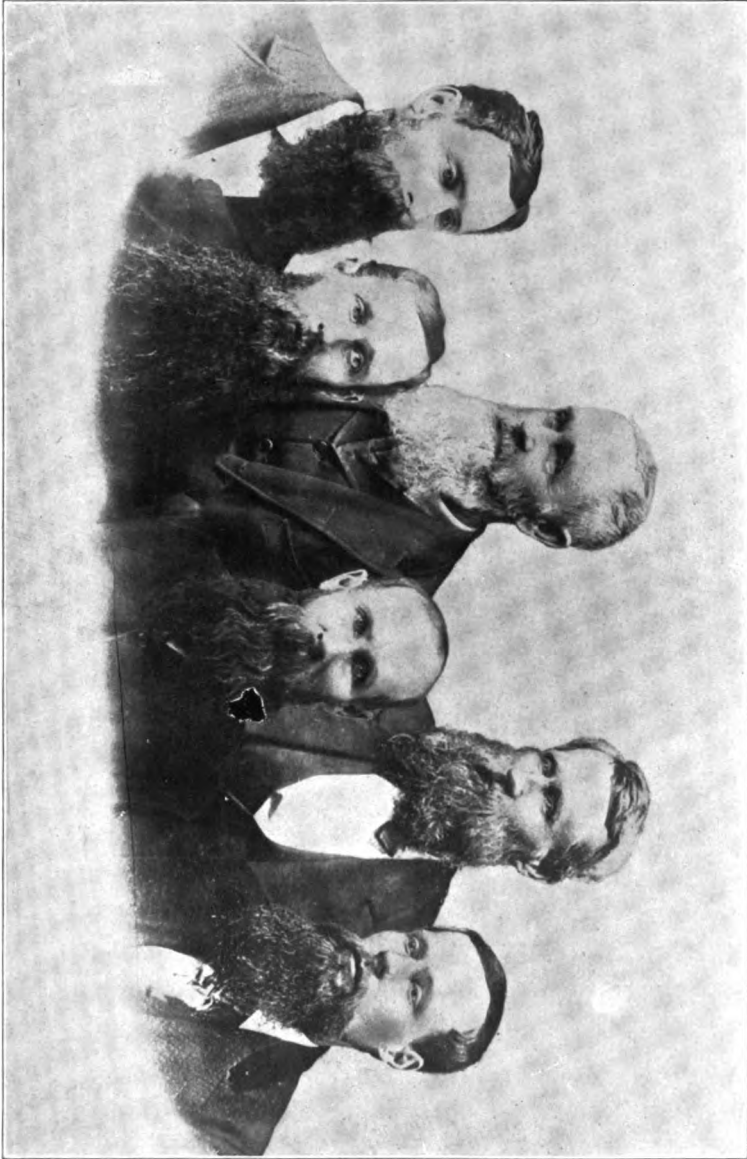
To undertake to trace out the thread of these pioneer influences would be an endless and probably impossible task, but we can give what we think are a few of them. We may make errors in trying so

to do, but if so our columns are always open for corrections, and we trust to receive them if we make misstatements.

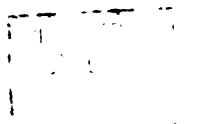
Probably the greatest number of people who have located in Franklin county during the past fifty years who emigrated from any one locality, have come from Jo Daviess county, Illinois, and Grant and Lafayette counties, Wisconsin. In Reeve and Geneva townships this would include the Clock families, Bobsts, Waddingtons, Tuckers (now gone), Hickses, Runyans, Lukes and others too numerous to mention. In and about Hampton there are the Mallorys, Adamses (two distinct families), Proctors, Webbs, Stonebrakers, Doctor Hutchins, Ed Funk, the Rules, more Lukes, Henry Osborne, George W. Pease, L. C. Chase, the Srees, Robinsons, Dr. H. K. Phelps, N. R. Bourne, the Claypools, and so many more that you would almost need a directory to publish their names. In and around Chapin and Sheffield there are many who came from the same region: The Blackstones, Mitchells, Runtons, Oateys, Atkinsons and numberless others.

As near as we can find out, E. L. Clock, now of Geneva, was the "advance man" of this multitude. He located at old Maysville in 1856 and we find no record of anyone from the vicinity named prior to that date. That he was the first of the Clock family is alone sufficient to account for a large emigration, but until we are convinced to the contrary we shall believe that Mr. Clock was the pioneer, and we are satisfied that if you ask any one of those we have named how they came to locate in Franklin county, they will either name E. L. Clock, or some one who came here directly or indirectly on his account; in all events three or four such questions will end up on him. How Mr. Clock's steps were directed to Franklin county we never heard.

There were no Danes in Franklin county up to about 1870-71, when a man of that nationality came here to Hampton. We are not certain about his name, but think it was Soren Jensen, but he was commonly called "Esquimau." He only remained here a year or two, going to Colorado. If any of his countrymen followed him here we do not know it. In 1872 Charles Krag, of Hampton, and Nels Larsen, of Alexander, came, and others of the same nationality soon followed. We do not know exactly, but we do not think that we hazard any guess when we say that nearly all the Danish people in the county could trace their locating here to one or the other of these men, although they might have to go, in some instances, a roundabout way to do it. Our early Danish settlers came from Cedar



H. C.                      H. A.                      ALONZO                      E. L.                      JARVIS                      C. H.  
THE CLOCK BROTHERS



Falls, as Messrs. Krag and Larsen did, as well as Jensen, referred to. We are in nowise sure about when Jensen came here, by the way.

About 1865-6 there was an emigration into Ingham township from Dodge county, Wisconsin. Among those who came were the Woodleys and Menzies. If we ever knew who was the pioneer among them, we have forgotten.

In an early day, probably about 1859, there was an emigration into West Fork township from Winnebago county, Illinois, comprising the Hall and Morehouse families among others. After them, from the same neighborhood, came the Kelloggs, Vanstons and Hudsons. We do not know who of the Halls or Morehouses came first.

If we were to name the county in the United States that has furnished the most inhabitants to Franklin county, we think we should be compelled to put Jo Daviess county, Illinois, first, but the second, without question, would be Delaware county, Indiana. Among those who came from there are first, the Jones families, and we might stop there and have our assertion good, but when we mention the Boots, Manifold, Shroyer, Horner, Mulkins, Silence and many other families who either came from Delaware county or followed some one who did come from there, it will be readily admitted that Delaware county contributed its full share toward settling up Franklin county.

In the fall of 1854 a colony left Delaware county to come and make new homes in Iowa. Uncle Levi Jones, dead these many years, was at the head of the colony. We do not remember, if we ever knew, all the names of the others, but their steps were directed to Buchanan county from the fact that the eldest son of the Jones family, Alpheus, had come from Indiana a year or two previous and located about half way between Independence and Littleton. It was late in the fall when the Indiana people reached the end of their long journey, so they decided to winter in that locality and look around for permanent homes at their leisure.

Two men named Clark and Cameron, evidently speculators, had already entered land in Franklin county, among other tracts, the farm now owned and occupied by A. D. St. Clair, three miles south of Hampton, and had laid out and staked out a town on the level land lying north of J. M. Stout's house and between him and St. Clair. This town, so far as we know, was never named or recorded. Messrs. Clark and Cameron induced Mr. Jones to look at Franklin



county, and accordingly, accompanied by his son-in-law, Isaac C. Mulkins, he came up here in the winter. He and Mr. Mulkins liked the country well enough so that they bought before their return to Buchanan county, Mr. Jones buying the well known place where he lived so many years and where he died, and Mr. Mulkins the place where Thomas Fox now lives. The next spring they came up with their families and were soon joined by Jabish Jones, a brother of Uncle Levi, who located with his numerous descendants at Four Mile Grove. Martin Boots and many others, in fact the settlement in and about Four Mile Grove, was practically made up of those who came from Indiana on the trail of Uncle Levi. Alpheus Jones sold out in Buchanan county and came here a little later. Aaron Boots, a brother of Martin Boots, came from Indiana to Buchanan county with the first detachment but did not come to Franklin county, settling in Black Hawk county.

So far as we know, the venerable Martin Boots, now of Geneva, is the only one alive who came from Indiana in 1855.

In the north half of the county there are quite a number of families from Clayton county in this state. As near as we can discover, the starting point of the immigration from that vicinity was owing to the fact that Lyman W. Bailey, who was one of the very first settlers in the northern portion of the county, had a brother-in-law named Goldsbury, who resided at Springfield, in Clayton county. It was a little town, not far from where Monona now is, but the railroad missed it and it shared the fate of all such places. In and about the burg lived Jacob G. Zimmerman, William Ellis, the Crawfords, James, Alexander and others, James Vance, W. S. Bowen, E. F. Hanks and others whose names we have forgotten. Bailey used to visit his brother-in-law at Springfield and was never backward about extolling the good points of Franklin county, and as early as 1861 or 1862 some of the Springfield people came out to look at the country and have a visit at the hospitable Bailey home. We think that John Goldsbury, a nephew of Mrs. Bailey, came as early as any one, although J. G. Zimmerman came out two or three times before he decided to settle. In 1864 Joseph Bobst and Zimmerman came out and bought land, Bobst getting three-quarters of the school section in Ross township. John Goldsbury had come out that year and had the logs cut for a house, but sold out to Zimmerman who built the house on the farm yet in possession of the family. In 1865 Bobst and Zimmerman moved their families out, but as near as we can

find out, William Ellis was already here, and must have come in 1863 or 1864.

We cannot begin to tell who followed them, but apprehend that "Lyme" Bailey was the indirect cause of all the immigration from Clayton county here. Several years later Alex. Crawford, coming from Clayton county, started for Kansas, with a team, of course, and stopped here to make his relatives and old neighbors a visit. Resuming his journey, he got mired in one of the sloughs west of town and had to unload. He came back to take a start, but never took it, as he very wisely decided to locate in Franklin county and bought the nucleus of his fine farm in Mott township.

We suppose that all of our old settlers know that Hon. J. B. Grinnell was the nucleus of the settlement in and about Old Chapin. He laid out the town and bought lands in the vicinity and induced many to settle there. The first settlers there, B. D. Robinson, John D. Leland, A. S. Ross, R. T. Knight, H. H. Grinnell, John W. Avery and Rev. William P. Avery, have all passed away and very few of their descendants are now residents here, but it is safe to say that Mr. Grinnell was the direct cause of their locating there, and it is also true that the large majority of those who came after were induced to do so by some of those we have named as the pioneer settlers.



## CHAPTER XIX

THE TOWNSHIPS—REEVE, MORGAN, WEST FORK, OSCEOLA, INGHAM—  
THE FIRST SETTLEMENT MADE IN REEVE—MORGAN ONE OF THE  
INITIAL THREE TOWNSHIPS ORGANIZED—THE EARLY FARMS,  
TOWNS AND INHABITANTS.

### REEVE TOWNSHIP

That part of Franklin county which is now the domain of Reeve township was selected by the first settlers for their new homes. It was here that J. B. Reeve, the first permanent settler, located. In the autumn of 1852, in company with Addison Phelps and a Mr. Moore, while prospecting for claims the party caught up with John Mayne, his wife and child, who were looking for a place to camp. They all decided to remain together that night and set up their tents on the spot which afterwards became known as Mayne's Grove. All of them were pleased with the surroundings and concluded to locate there. Mayne squatted on section 23 and built a log house 16x16 feet. Reeve and Phelps boarded with Mayne that winter and ate their meals on a table contrived by stretching a beaver skin over a wash tub. Hunting and trapping and getting out logs for a cabin consumed the winter months, and when the milder weather arrived a habitation was erected. Reeve brought oxen and joining teams with Mayne, managed to break up a few acres of prairie which were planted to corn, and in the fall a good crop was harvested. Mayne was essentially a pioneer hunter and trapper and looked it in his six feet odd, dark skin, and the evidence of unusual strength portrayed in his great limbs and muscles. Before his corn had been gathered Mayne sold his claim to G. D. Sturms and then went on section 28, remaining there a year, when he removed to Hardin county. By spring Phelps became displeased with his venture and started for the east, whence he came. The abandoned claim was taken up by Leander C. Reeve, a brother of James B. Reeve. Leander came in the spring of 1853 and remained until 1857, when he sold out to S.

H. Carter and returned to his former home in Ashtabula county, Ohio.

In the year 1854 the little colony in Franklin county was increased by the arrival of the following named persons: S. Garner, Isaac Miller, C. M. Leggett, John G. Mitchell, H. J. Mitchell, Hyman Mitchell, William May, J. Springer, Dr. S. R. Mitchell, Jacob Wright and a Mr. Webster.

The arrivals in 1855 now remembered were: F. M. Springer, Levi Jones, Isaac Mulkins, J. S. Mulkins, Solomon Staley, W. Conway, Benjamin Butterfield, James Soper, Martin Soper, James Morris, James Rucker, James Johnston, L. Shroyer, Henry Shroyer, W. J. Shroyer, Nathaniel J. Shroyer, Amos Roberts, Erastus Baker, William Freeborn, A. Jones, F. A. Denton, William Higgins, the Whitesides and Fortners and Dr. L. H. Arledge. S. H. Carter made his first visit to Franklin county in 1853, and entered land on sections 21 and 22 in Reeve township. He moved here in 1862, and died in Hampton in 1906.

In the '60s, among others who made settlements in the township were John Imlay, J. M. Soper, Albert Pickering, Amos Sheppard, George W. Wilton, Amos B. Hudson, Garrett Luke, Isaac Way, Philip Kratz, Mrs. Susan Cole, John Meyer, O. D. Andrews, A. D. St. Clair and Warren Towle.

The reader's attention is directed to an article in this work written by the late L. B. Raymond, in which is given an extended narrative of the very earliest settlements in the county. Many names appear there that will not be found in this chapter.

Reeve was one of the first three townships erected out of Franklin township, which was then coextensive with the county. When organized in 1855, it comprised township 90, ranges 19, 20 and 21, and township 91, ranges 19, 20 and 21. From time to time territory for four other townships was taken from Reeve, and in 1880 Reeve was organized with its present boundary lines as township 91, range 20. Mott township is to the north of it, Geneva on the east, Grant on the south and Hamilton on the west.

The largest body of timber existing in the county when John Mayne and J. B. Reeve entered it was in this locality selected by these pioneers for a location and since known as Mayne's Grove. The timber covered six sections of the township. The land is watered and drained by Mayne's creek and its branches and here is to be found some of the finest farming land not only in Franklin county but in this section of the state. The soil in common with that

of the whole county is of a most excellent quality—a dark, rich loam which produces every crop indigenous to this latitude, in abundance. Live stock also finds good pasturage and plenty of water.

A word or two in regard to the men who had the hardihood to come into this new country and open it up for settlement: H. J. Mitchell was born in the State of New York. At the age of fourteen he found himself in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, and in the fall of 1854 he located in Reeve township, Franklin county, where he married Octavia Smith, who was the first person to teach a class of children the elementary principles of an education in Franklin county. Miss Smith had come to the county with her sister, Mrs. John Mitchell, from Wisconsin, in the spring of 1854, and that summer taught school in a small log building erected by the settlers on the hill about eighty rods northeast of the site of the present residence of S. G. Rennick, near the old Reeve cemetery. She was then sixteen years of age, and at the age of seventeen married Hial J. Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell engaged in farming, and both he and his wife became widely known throughout the county. Both of them have passed away.

Francis M. Springer was born in Jasper county, Illinois. He came to Franklin county in 1854 and settled at Maysville, where he helped survey the town site. Mr. Springer saw the early growth of the county and took a prominent share in forming its onward course. He held several local offices.

Levi Jones and his sons, M. B. and T. W. Jones, were all here in 1854 and helped shape the course and policy of Franklin county in its infant days. Levi Jones was a member of the first board of supervisors. M. B. Jones is now a resident of Hampton.

Orson G. Reeve and J. Rumsey Reeve, sons of J. B. Reeve, were boys when their father, the first settler, came to the county, and both of them are now residents of Hampton, the county seat, which their father was chiefly instrumental in maintaining in its important position in the county. John Rumsey Reeve is established in the lumber trade, while Orson G. Reeve, who recently retired from the Reeve township farm, is now the present representative from the county in the State Legislature.

Isaac C. Mulkins came to Franklin county and settled in Reeve township in 1856. He erected a log house, wherein he spent the first winter without any chinking between the logs. There was no floor and being without a stove, he cooked his meals on the ground inside the walls of his cabin. Mr. Mulkins was a member of Com-

pany H, Thirty-second Iowa Volunteers, the only company of soldiers raised for the Civil war in the county. Among the children who came to Franklin with Mr. Mulkins was his son, J. S., who was then a mere lad. He grew up with the community and in 1870 married Maggie Creighton.

Benjamin Butterfield was another one of the men who braved the uncertainties of a new country and settled in Reeve township on section 29, in 1855. He remained on the place, which he greatly improved, until his death in 1878. Mr. Butterfield had the distinction of being the first justice of the peace elected in Cook county, Illinois. John S. Butterfield, a son, came with the family in January, 1856, and soon thereafter married Mary J. Jones, of Geneva township.

Lewis Shroyer was one of the first settlers in the township, coming from Indiana in the spring of 1855. He was one of the first farmers in Franklin county. Henry Shroyer was elected school fund commissioner in August, 1855, and succeeded Judge Reeve as presiding officer of the county.

James J. Johnston, a native of Ireland, in the early part of 1855 found himself in Washington county, Iowa. In the fall of that year he came to Franklin county and located on section 2, Reeve township, where he resided for many years. In relating his experiences of the early days in Iowa, Mr. Johnston at one time said: "When I came to Iowa in the spring of 1855 there was not a mile of railroad west of Dubuque, and when we wanted flour we usually had to go to Cedar Falls—a three days' journey—and when we raised anything to sell it had to be taken to that place. We also had to dress our own pork and haul it to Cedar Falls or Waterloo. I sold pork the year before the war at that town for \$2 per hundred, and my wheat for 33 1-3 cents a bushel." Mr. Johnston died August 18, 1899.

J. M. Soper was an early settler of Reeve township and became one of the leading farmers of the county and was for many years engaged in buying and selling stock. He was born in the Green Mountain state and came of worthy ancestors, his father having been captain in the War of 1812 and his grandfather in the Revolution of 1776. Mr. Soper was raised on a farm and coming to Franklin county in 1856, followed the tilling of the soil, which was his natural inclination. He not only accumulated a competency but also gathered around him a host of friends who held him in the highest esteem.

Philip Kratz was a native of Germany, who emigrated to the United States when a small boy and settled in Wisconsin. In the fall of 1853 he walked all the way from Janesville, Wisconsin, to Franklin county, where he entered land and then footed it to Des Moines, where he spent the winter. Returning to Franklin county, he entered more land but did not locate on it until the summer of 1855, when he returned from Wisconsin with John Meyer. He built a log house in Reeve township, to which he brought his wife in May, 1856. Mr. Kratz became one of the representative men of Reeve.

William J. Shroyer settled in Reeve in 1856 and on October 21, 1858, was married to Maria Rucker, at the home of her father, Squire James Rucker, who came to the township in 1855 and died March 17, 1906. In 1865 Mr. Shroyer moved to Hampton, where he celebrated his golden wedding in 1908.

E. Caldwell, a native of New Hampshire, emigrated to Wisconsin, and in 1858 came to Maysville, Reeve township, and opened a blacksmith shop. He enlisted in Company H, Thirty-second Iowa, in 1862, and served until July 22, 1863. Returning to Maysville, he followed his trade for a time and then went to Illinois.

John Imlay arrived in Reeve township in the fall of 1860 and located on section 15; O. D. Andrews located here in 1861. Albert Pickering arrived in the county in 1861, settled in Lee township, where he remained two years, and then removed to Reeve township. He afterwards engaged in the mercantile business at Hampton. Mr. Pickering served the county as sheriff two terms, and then returned to Reeve township.

W. W. Day settled in Reeve in 1862. He was elected county judge in 1868, and died in 1896.

A. D. St. Clair settled on section 10, in 1863. He is a native of New York, taught school in his early days and then took up farming. He became one of the leading men of Reeve township and among other offices, held that of county supervisor. He still owns his Reeve township farm but is leading a retired life at Hampton.

George W. Wilton, born in Canada, located in Reeve township in 1864. In 1877 he entered the mercantile business in Maysville and was appointed postmaster of that place.

Warren S. Towle settled on section 3, Reeve township, in 1865; Jacob Kurtz located on section 25, in 1866; David H. Van Kirk was a son of William Van Kirk, who settled in the township in 1866.



There were a number who came between this latter date and 1876, among them being W. B. Timmerman, M. D. Latham, Robert Bird, W. S. Nobles, H. Z. Tucker, C. B. Green, Amos B. Hudson, Garrett W. Luke, John G. Hicks, Theodore Thomas, Isaac T. Way, J. M. Goble, G. H. Hyndman, Thomas Fox, Henry J. Millard, James M. Bailey, James Hunt, John Vincent, Amos Sheppard and J. M. Stout.

Among the early incidents to take place in this township worthy of note may be mentioned the following: Alexander Arledge and Julia Springer were the first persons to be married in Reeve. The ceremony was performed by Squire McCray, who at the time held the office by appointment of the county judge of Hardin county.

The birth of a son, Isaac, to Samuel Garner, early in the spring of 1854 was the first occurrence of this nature to take place here. The next birth was a few days later and was that of a son, Abner, to Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Sturms, who some years later moved to Kansas.

The death of Mr. Crouch's child in the spring of 1854 was the first sad event in the community. A short time later a Mr. Webb, a settler of the township, died in Hardin county, and his remains were brought to Reeve township for burial.

The first burial in Mayne's Grove cemetery on section 23 was that of the wife of Dr. Arledge, in 1854.

Dr. T. H. Baker, who was a lawyer as well as a doctor, opened the first store in Reeve township in a log house a mile east of Maysville. This was the first attempt at merchandising in Franklin county. The next store was kept by Solomon Brazzelton, who began operations in 1854. He sold his stock to the firm of Sparling & Brown, the senior member of whom was killed in battle during the Civil war. Brown moved to Independence in 1858 and then William Boyles was the town's merchant until he suspended. The next to engage in trade in Maysville was E. L. Clock.

There was a blacksmith shop started in the fall of 1855 on what is now the farm of J. E. Hicks, in Reeve township, on section 13, and run for two years by a man named Lightfoot, who had a son named Jephtha. The next shop was started by Levi Jones in section 23, in 1856. The shop was later moved to Maysville.

The first physician to locate in the township was Dr. L. H. Arledge, who began practice in Maysville. Doctor Addis located there in 1863.

Octavia Smith, who came with her sister, Mrs. John Mitchell, to Reeve township in the spring of 1854, taught the first school held in the township in the summer of that year in a small log building. She was at the time a miss of sixteen summers. A year later, however, she became the wife of Hial J. Mitchell. About three years afterwards the building was torn down, moved to Maysville, rebuilt and converted into a blacksmith shop. In 1855 the settlers got together and put up a schoolhouse of logs they had gotten out themselves. The building stood near the old Reeve cemetery on the farm of Benson Toll. William Boyles taught that school in the winter of 1855, and among his pupils were Orson G. Reeve, Martin B. Jones, now a citizen of Hampton, David Creighton and his sister Margaret, who became Mrs. J. S. Mulkins, and William Shroyer. The summer school was taught here by Miss Octavia Smith, who had among her pupils Orson G. Reeve and two of his sisters. As Orson Reeve recalls, there was no floor in this school building, nor a stove. The seats were made of puncheons. There was one window, and near that was a board eighteen inches wide which served as a desk and was used by the pupils in their turn when called upon to take writing lessons. When William Boyles first came he brought a set of maps. He also had a list of the names of state capitals, their population, and the principal rivers of the country. These were set to music and sung by the pupils—a primitive though effective way of impressing the children's minds with the geographical attributes of their own country.

In speaking of school, Orson G. Reeve recalls that the winter of 1856-7 was the most severe within his memory. At the foot of the hill on which the schoolhouse stood, was a stake and rider fence. The snow that winter fell to a great depth and was finally capped by a crust of ice. The children would get on their sleds and toboggan down the hill, scooting over the fence, and gleefully continue their way until reaching a point at least one hundred rods beyond the point whence they started. It is needless to state that the fence was out of sight, being completely hidden and covered by the snow.

Mr. Reeve also recalls that G. D. Sturms had moved to a new location near the timber. Near his house was a vacant spot. This was covered so deep with snow that it came even with the top of the first floor. To reach the doorway, Mr. Sturms was compelled to cut steps through the snow up to the door sill.

Within two rods of the Reeve residence was heavy timber. Mr. Reeve says that he stood at the end of the house and that the snow was so dense he could not see the barn, six rods distant. Several people froze to death that winter. Two of the Coles family, to whom the elder Reeve had sold five acres of land, went down to the timber to get wood. They had to drive down to Mayne's creek to turn around, the snow being too deep in the woods for that movement.

James Fairchild, one of the first settlers in Reeve township, opened his home for the initial religious services held in this community. Job B. Garner was the preacher who administered to the spiritual longings of the settlers who gathered together on this occasion. At this time Mr. Garner was without means, but was desirous of securing a claim. Leander Reeve had taken up a claim and was holding it for a friend in Ashtabula county, Ohio, the former home of Mr. Reeve, but as the Ohio friend did not come to claim the tract of land, Mr. Reeve let the self-styled minister have it on condition that he would take charge of the regular religious meetings of the settlers, then arranged for, and preach to the people of the community at least once a week. The first meeting was held in the summer of 1853, at which nearly every one in the township was present. There is no other record of Mr. Garner having presided at any religious exercises, save and except the one just mentioned.

The Protestant Methodists of this community held their first meetings in 1855 at private houses but before the year had waned the log schoolhouse was converted into a place for church services.

Reverend Crill organized a class about this time and the Springer and Arledge families composed the greater part of the new church, which was in operation about a year.

The settlers of the Methodist Episcopal faith held their first meeting in the spring of 1855 in a log schoolhouse on section 23, Reverend Stewart presiding. Among the first members were Levi and Jane Jones, the Faulkner family, Isaac Mulkins and wife, Henry Shroyer and wife and William Johnson and wife. Levi Jones was chosen leader of the first class and held the position for many years. Of the early pastors may be mentioned Reverends Stewart, J. H. Burley, Freeman, Hesstwood, Glassner, Connell, James Hankins, Knickerbocker, Cooley, Charles Jones, Miller, J. J. Sitler and Jacob Haymond.

The Wesleyan Methodist Church of Mayne's Grove was organized through the labors of J. A. Crill, who held a tabernacle in the grove on the 11th of September, 1876. A class was formed, consist-



**RUINS OF THE OLD H. C. CLOCK STORE  
BUILDING, MAYSVILLE**



**SCHOOL HOUSE, MAYSVILLE. ERECTED 1868**



ing of the following members: Josiah H. Bond, Mary E. Bond, Jane Van Kirk, Jennie Bond, Caroline Collins, J. R. Miller, Henry House and I. T. Way. The first officers of the society were: Mary E. Bond, class leader; I. T. Way, steward; C. M. Leggett, clerk; Rev. John Calderwood, pastor, who served two years.

#### FOUR MILE GROVE

About the year 1854 two men named Clark and Cameron, evidently speculators, entered land in Franklin county, among other tracts the farm later owned by A. D. St. Clair, about three miles south of Hampton. They later laid out and staked off a town on the level land lying north of J. M. Stout's house and between him and St. Clair's. As far as is now known, the town was never named or the plat recorded. These speculators induced Levi Jones to come here and take a look at Franklin county. Mr. Jones, with his son-in-law, Isaac C. Mulkins, arrived in the county in the winter of that year. Mulkins was very much impressed with the country and bought a tract of land before returning to Buchanan county, from which he and Mr. Jones had journeyed. Jones also bought land, which was the well known place where he lived so many years and where he died. The Mulkins tract became the well known Thomas Fox farm. In the spring of 1855 Jones and Mulkins were joined by their families and also Jabish Jones, a brother of Levi, who located at Four Mile Grove, Martin Lutz and many others. In fact the settlements in and about Four Mile Grove were practically made up of immigrants from Indiana who followed on the trail of Levi Jones. Alpheus Jones sold his property in Buchanan county and came here a little later.

#### MAYSVILLE

This was a thriving little village situated on a stage line between Ackley and Hampton, about six miles south of the latter place. It was laid out in the year 1856 by William May, who removed to Minnesota. The location was a good one, on rolling prairie ground, with Mayne's creek and its groves of timber only a short distance away.

Maysville for a time was far ahead of Hampton in point of population and as a trading place. Its leading men were intensely ambitious and fought valiantly and long to secure for Maysville the

county seat. The first lawyers and doctors made Maysville their home. As late as 1870 hopes of securing the county seat had not died out in Maysville as the following item in a Maysville letter to the Franklin Reporter in that year indicates:

“That the new railroad scheme meets the unqualified approval of our citizens generally goes without saying. The sanguine ones predict that Maysville will have a railroad before Hampton after all the fuss. Consequently, the county seat will be eventually removed to this place. The site of the courthouse will be fixed upon soon, and near unto it will be the Reporter office, for of course that paper will want to come to headquarters, if it expects to keep up with the march of events.”

The above article was written shortly before the Iowa Central reached Hampton, leaving Maysville six miles to the south. This was a body blow to the future prospects of Maysville and from this time onward its population began to dwindle, its influence ceased to have any force in political affairs, and eventually the town became nothing but a name and a subject for future historians to dilate upon.

A postoffice had been established there in 1857, with Edward Sparling as the first postmaster. His successor was E. L. Clock. The next postmaster was a Mr. Kreisler and his successor was 'Squire Dunn. By the spring of 1890 the postoffice was discontinued and the last store in the place was moved away. All that now remains to indicate the former greatness of Maysville is a two-story stone schoolhouse, erected in the '70s, which was at that time the best schoolhouse in Franklin county. It stands as a memorial shaft, emblazoning the memories of an ambitious people, and is the only visible headstone to indicate the burial place of Hampton's ancient rival.

#### MORGAN TOWNSHIP

Morgan township is composed of congressional township 91, range 22, and derived its name from one of its earliest settlers—Lewis H. Morgan—who eventually removed to the State of Oregon. It is situated in the second tier from the south boundary, with Wright county on the west, Scott township on the north, Hamilton on the east and Oakland on the south. This was one of the three original townships in Franklin county and embraced nearly one-third of it. The creation of the township took place at the March term of the county court in 1856, and its organization was completed in the fall of that year, when the following officers were elected, the votes being cast

at the house of J. I. Popejoy, who lived in what is now Oakland township: Justice of the peace, Lewis H. Morgan; clerk, Jesse R. Dodd; assessor, J. I. Popejoy.

The territory comprising this township is well watered by the Iowa river, which runs through the southwest corner, forming a semi-circle through sections 30 and 31. Originally there was considerable heavy timber along the Iowa but none elsewhere except beautiful groves planted by the pioneers. The soil is a dark productive loam on the prairies, but along the river a more sandy loam obtains, which produces the finest crops of corn, grain and grass. The surface is gently rolling, with rich valley or bottom lands that seldom overflow.

Lewis H. Morgan was probably the first settler in the township to which the name was given. He was a native of Kentucky, a man of more than ordinary intelligence. It is said of him that he attended school with Abraham Lincoln in Illinois and heard him make his first plea at the bar. The distinction of being a schoolmate of the great emancipator is in itself to be prized; but Mr. Morgan must have received more schooling than Mr. Lincoln, for the martyr President's education, as is well known, was acquired outside the walls of an institution of learning. Mr. Morgan settled in the township in the spring of 1856 and later kept a hotel in Otisville.

Robert E. Train came to Morgan township in May, 1856, and became one of its leading citizens. After a residence on his farm of many years he removed to Dows, where he engaged in the real-estate business. In 1883 he was appointed postmaster. Mr. Train was an Ohioan by birth. He was possessed of a college education, taught school, and his mental make-up and abilities made him a valuable acquisition not only of his immediate community but to the county, of which for several years he served with faithfulness and general satisfaction on the board of supervisors. He died April 30, 1910.

E. A. Howland settled in the township in the winter of 1857-8 and started the first cheese factory in this part of Iowa in 1858. He was elected a State Senator from this district and was county supervisor for many years. Finally disposing of his interests he removed to Belmond, in Wright county, where he went into the mercantile business.

About the time Mr. Howland arrived, Frank White, Frank Walters, Lewis Osborne, Frank Mitchell and Jesse R. Dodd located in the community. The latter remained only a few months and removed to Oakland.



A comparatively early settler was Samuel Parkinson, who settled on land in Morgan township in 1861. This farm he greatly improved by the erection of valuable buildings and a handsome home. Mr. Parkinson was a native of England.

William Whipple settled on section 17 in 1864. He was a native of New York. Mr. Whipple had a splendid Civil war record. He was considered a good citizen and a splendid farmer. For several years he held the office of justice of the peace.

August Quasdorf was one of the frugal, industrious and progressive sons of Germany who settled in this township. He came to Iowa in 1864 and after living one year at Alden, bought a tract of wild land in Morgan township, where he erected a board shanty and immediately commenced to make improvements on his property. He had little means at the time but by good management, hard work and economy became one of Morgan's successful farmers.

Alonzo A. Bangs came with his parents, Samuel and Melissa Bangs, from Michigan to this township in 1865 and settled on section 19.

Another prominent citizen who settled in this township was A. J. Northrup, a Congregational minister, of New York, who located on section 30, in 1865. This was his home until his death in 1880. His wife followed him to the unknown land in 1881.

Col. Sidney J. Mendell, after the close of the Civil war, in which he served with distinction, settled on section 30, in Morgan township, in the fall of 1866. Here he remained until his death, which took place December 13, 1909. He was a native of New York, received an academical education and at the age of twenty taught school in Kentucky. Mr. Mendell became not only prominent in township affairs but had much to do with shaping the course of the county in its onward march to prosperity.

William H. Weaver's settlement in this township was coextensive with that of Colonel Mendell. He was a Canadian by birth and was raised on a farm. He came to Iowa with no means of support save a strong, physical make-up, and a determined disposition. He arrived at Ackley in 1866 and at once engaged at work on a farm. He then took up carpentering as an occupation, in which he continued until the spring of 1868, when he moved to his farm on section 8, which he had acquired in 1866. Mr. Weaver was one of the first importers of fine standard bred horse flesh from Canada.

Samuel Bangs settled on section 9, in Morgan township, in 1866.

Albert R. Wood came to the township in 1869. He was a veteran

of the Civil war. Mr. Wood soon attained a most desirable place in the confidence of his neighbors and was elevated to places of trust and responsibility in the community.

James K. Frazer came to Franklin county in 1870 and first settled in Maysville. After remaining there a year he located in Morgan township.

Ferdinand Schulz came from the fatherland and in 1876 began farming in Morgan township. He was a man of more than ordinary ability and intelligence. During the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia he was in the employ of the German commissioners in their department. He taught school in Iowa and held offices of trust in Morgan township.

R. E. Train taught the first school opened at Otisville in 1856. This schoolhouse was the rendezvous for all the children of school age in the township until 1867, when Jennie Mendell held school in a little log house. In the fall of the year just mentioned, a frame building for school purposes was erected on section 30. The first school taught there was by S. J. Mendell. He continued here as an instructor for five consecutive terms. Since then a number of schoolhouses have been built and in each school district instruction has been afforded to the children thereof from eight to nine months throughout the year.

Early in the history of the township a cemetery was located on section 30, where thirty bodies were buried in the course of time. In the fall of 1883 these bodies were disinterred and removed to a new burial spot, containing eleven and a half acres, on section 19, which is now known as Mount Hope cemetery. The same year an association was formed which has charge of the grounds. The township had also previous to this opened a cemetery in 1880, on section 23.

#### THE VILLAGE OF DOWS

Morgan township has but one village and only a small part of that. Shortly after the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railway was in operation, the Cedar Rapids, Iowa Falls & Northwestern Town Site Company caused a plat to be made of the town on sections 30 and 31, in Morgan township, and sections 25 and 36, of township 91, range 23, of Wright county. At that time the town was known as Otisville. The name was later changed to that of Dows and up to the present time that part of the village in Morgan township, Frank-

lin county, contains but about two hundred inhabitants. The population of the township, including the fractional part of Dows, is 1,076.

The Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railway, now known as the Rock Island Railroad, passes diagonally through that portion of Dows lying in Morgan township and here is located the depot and elevator built by James Richardson, in 1880. J. J. Iverson took charge of the elevator in the year it was built and was one of the first persons in Dows to buy grain and stock. The first grain dealers were George Alexander and G. H. Richardson.

E. B. Willix started the first lumberyard in Dows in 1880. Another lumberyard was opened by Cole & Davis in 1881.

John Graham was the first banker, opening a private bank in connection with his lumber business, in 1881. The firm of Wilson & Jenkins opened the first general store in Dows. This was in 1881. That same year Williams & Barker began a grocery business, also O. R. Johnson.

H. J. Miller started a hardware store in 1881, and the year 1881 was when the Dows Tribune made its bow to the local public. Its editor was I. C. Phifer. The Tribune lasted one year.

H. E. Schultz had his drug store running in good order in the early part of 1881, and in 1883 the village was making an attempt to support two physicians—Drs. J. A. Mulnix and F. E. Cornish. Those who started in business in Dows in 1881 were: D. O. Wilson, shoe merchant; Wright & Collins, blacksmith shop; Ward & Hill and John Morgan, wagon shops; Bushnell & Wilson, creamery; C. B. Flindt, meat market.

In 1882 Mrs. R. Hopkins opened a millinery store; Ward & Hill, an agricultural implement concern.

The first lawyer to locate in Dows was F. M. Williams, making his appearance there in 1882.

One of the chief industries of Dows is the manufacture of tile, a splendid quality of clay being obtained from the bed of the river. Dows in its entirety is now a bustling little village of 900 inhabitants, but as the greater part of the village is located in Wright county, a detailed history of it has hardly a place here. However, the postoffice is of general interest to all in that community and a short history of that important institution will be given. The office was first established at Otisville, November 27, 1856. Lewis H. Morgan received his commission as postmaster on that date. His successors were Elisha A. Howland, April 17, 1865; and William

Tutin November 16, 1869. On December 23, 1880, the name was changed to Dows and on that date R. E. Train received his commission as postmaster. His successors were: John F. Kent, September 16, 1885; John Jenkins, December 8, 1890; John F. Kent, April 10, 1893; Horatio Ed Smith, November 12, 1897; Clyde E. Hammond, September 16, 1902-13.

## WEST FORK TOWNSHIP

This township was detached from Ingham in 1868 and the organization was completed by an election held November 13, 1868, at the house of Simon Selix, when the following officers were chosen: Trustees, James E. Bailey, James Ray and W. H. Bowton; clerk, Thomas E. B. Hudson; assessor, Lewis Sumner; constables, J. W. Hall and G. H. Horton.

West Fork lies in the northeast corner of Franklin county and is in township 93, range 19. It is made up of splendid farms, highly cultivated and well improved, all of them adapted to stock-raising and the production of grains of almost every variety. The hay and grazing lands are superb and stock-raising is one of the chief industries.

The west fork of the Cedar river traverses the township, entering on section 27, and coursing diagonally across its territory, makes an exit from section 35. The stream is skirted by a good supply of timber and the soil is a dark, rich loam; inclined in places to be sandy.

This township was one of the first to be settled. Henry Meyer was the first to take up a habitation here. He was a native of Illinois but when a boy removed with his parents to Wisconsin. In the fall of 1855 Mr. Meyer located on section 33 and by industry and thrift soon acquired other lands and became prosperous. He served in the war of the rebellion and always was considered one of the leading men of his community.

Leonard N. Lockwood was also one of the first settlers in the township of West Fork, coming in April, 1856, when he entered the northeast quarter of section 1. He was a native of New York and taught school in his younger days. Early in March, 1856, he made the acquaintance of Solomon Robinson at Iowa Falls and with him began to search for a location in the West. While on their way, they fell in with John O. Crapser and the trio investigated the territory now included in West Fork. Here Mr. Lockwood selected

the northeast quarter of section 1. He afterwards bought fifteen acres of timber land in partnership with Robinson, at Allen's Grove. They were obliged to go to Cedar Falls for a plow and wait until it was made. Meanwhile they broke about thirty acres of land and lived in a tent until fall. During the winter they got out logs and in the spring of 1857 built a cabin on Mr. Robinson's claim and there Mr. Lockwood lived until his marriage. The pioneers had poor success with their crops, the first year harvesting only four bushels of wheat from fifty bushels of seed that was sown. However, by perseverance and industry he brought his farm up to a high degree of improvement and finally became one of the well known live stock farmers in the county. He built a modern home in 1865 and later erected a barn which for some time was the envy of his neighbors.

Solomon Robinson, already mentioned, was from Vermont. He came with L. N. Lockwood, and with him prospered. His claim was also on the southeast quarter of section 1, where he lived until 1880.

J. O. Crapser also accompanied Lockwood, broke forty acres of land and put up a log house 18x24, which cost him \$300 in gold. The building was later moved over the Butler county line and used as a postoffice by John H. Lockwood. Mr. Crapser was a native of New York. He was a gold digger in California in 1851, and in 1856 selected the northwest quarter of section 2 in this township as his future home and place of activity. Mr. Crapser was a man of enterprise and always had an eye single to the best interests of his immediate community. He also laid out the first highways under his authority of road supervisor. Mr. Crapser once served on the county board of supervisors.

Aaron T. Little, with his wife and children, came west in 1856 and located in the southeastern part of West Fork township. In 1870 he removed to a larger farm about two miles west, in Ross township, where he remained until about 1890, in which year he took up his residence in Hampton. June 24, 1908, this old pioneer died at the home of a son, L. A. Little, at Winchester, Oklahoma, being in his seventy-third year.

The first blacksmith in the township was Richard Belt, who located and opened a shop on section 35, in 1856.

James Ray was born in Scotland. At the age of twenty-five he arrived in New York and eventually found himself in Iowa. In the early spring of 1859 he bought eighty acres of land of Richard

Belt at Allen's Grove and by good judgment and industry gathered enough of this world's goods to make his mind easy as to the years before him. He held several local offices and was known for his public spirit and interest in the welfare of the community.

Thomas E. B. Hudson, after an honorable service of three years in the Civil war, emigrated from his Illinois home to Franklin county, and in 1867 purchased a farm of one hundred and seventy acres in West Fork township, where he located. Always progressive, he was one of the first to put up a large and capacious barn. This was built in 1879, having ground dimensions 40x50 feet, and cost \$1,200. Mr. Hudson largely engaged in raising stock and was not only a successful farmer but one of the influential men of his community. For some time past his home has been at Hampton.

Thomas Hall, with his sons, Philo, Alonzo and John, and son-in-law, William Hartwell, located in West Fork in 1860, choosing the west half of section 3, where he built a residence, to which he later attached the first schoolhouse built in the township, which he acquired.

There were a number of others who came to the township in 1860. Among them were Hiram Morehouse, George Howard, James Birch, Loomis Benjamin, James Chambers, Ransom Knapp and William Jenkins.

Joseph G. Bushyager was a son of Henry Bushyager, a pioneer settler of Iowa. The latter was a native of Pennsylvania, and after working at his trade of carpentry in Bremer county two years, located on section 18 in this township, in 1860. Here he resided until his death in 1881. Mr. Bushyager was one of the first trustees of Ingham township, then including West Fork, and afterward served on the board of supervisors. Joseph Bushyager was a member of Company H, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, which was recruited for the Civil war at Hampton. After the war, he became a prosperous farmer and a leading citizen of West Fork.

William Jenkins came with his father, James Jenkins, to West Fork township, in 1860, and made a permanent settlement.

John Knesel settled in this township in 1866 and for a year lived on the Horton place. He then bought eighty acres of land and before the '80s was the possessor of two hundred and twenty acres. He was a good farmer and with industrious habits soon became one of the leaders in this splendid farming community.

William Thornberry arrived in West Fork township in 1867 and purchased a farm, whereon he took up his permanent residence. He became well known in the community and was held in high esteem.

Another early settler of this township was Garrett Van Riper. He was a native of the State of New York, served in the Civil war, and came to Franklin county in 1867, choosing a farm in West Fork township for a home and means of livelihood. By energetic perseverance, he accumulated a substantial property.

A well known farmer of West Fork was Joseph Slade, who settled in the township in 1867, locating on section 5, where he first bought forty acres. He was a soldier of the Civil war.

In the early '60s, William M. Wolf, Jacob Klinefelter, the Kuegler, Keifer and Nolte families, all of Dane county, Wisconsin, settled in West Fork township.

Edward, Emanuel and Samuel Esslinger arrived in West Fork township from Milwaukee, about 1869. Soon thereafter came the Marks, Horstman, Hopes and Faerber families and a number of others.

Hiram Morehouse had a habitation on a part of the east half of section 3. He came with the Halls and was a brother of Mrs. Hall.

William Garber had located on a part of section 4, and L. Benjamin and his son-in-law, George Falsom, on section 5.

The Hartman and Jenkins families, Levi Culver and the Rudloffs lived down near the north side on the west fork of the Cedar river, and Henry Bushyager, and his son Joseph and G. H. Horton lived just across the river on the south side on sections 18 and 19. Down the river on a part of section 29 was Lewis Sumner, and a little farther down was A. T. Little. Beyond him was the home of Henry Meyer and family. James Ray lived across the river on a part of sections 35 and 36. The Bushyagers, Hortons, Sumners, Littles and Henry Meyer lived on the south side of the river. No one lived on the east side except Lockwood and Robinson, as before stated.

In 1866 came Volney Kellogg, T. P. Treadwell, L. John, Henry Bowton and H. D. Caldwell. The last four families located on section 16. About this time James Chambers settled here and improved and lived on the west half of the northeast quarter of section 2. Chambers became the first postmaster at Coldwater.

Alonzo Hall and Lucy Lill were married by Rev. Loomis Benjamin in 1862. This was the first ceremony of the kind to take place in the township.

The birth of John O. Crapser, on September 19, 1856, was the first to occur in the community. The child was a son of Julian H. Crapser.

The first death, or deaths, to occur in the township were long to be remembered. A man by the name of Hogan lived in a log house at the grove and was stricken with paralysis. His wife left him in the cabin with two children, while she went to a neighbor's for assistance. While absent, the little ones going too near the open fireplace, soon found their clothing enveloped in flames, which communicated to the bed on which the invalid lay unconscious. The mother on her return was horrified to find the house in flames and the two children fatally burned. The father lived but a few days and the triple burial occurred at Janesville, Bremer county.

A postoffice was established in the township called Ingham and was located on the northwest quarter of section 16. L. T. John was appointed postmaster about the year 1858 and at about the same time L. N. Lockwood petitioned for a postoffice to be located on or near section 2, of what is now West Fork township. The petition was granted and the office called Coldwater. James M. Chambers was postmaster. After a few years the office was removed across the line into Butler county, and in 1879 Ingham postoffice was abandoned and the settlers were required to go to Sheffield for their mail.

Rev. Loomis Benjamin, who settled on the Slade farm, preached the first sermon in West Fork township, in the year 1860, at the home of J. O. Crapser, on section 2. The minister's audience consisted of about twelve persons. For some time thereafter this worthy man held meetings regularly.

The Coldwater Baptist Church was organized in the fall of 1879 at the house of John Lockwood, just across the Butler county line. A. R. Butler, of Osage, presided at the first meeting. The names of most of the first members follow: L. N. Lockwood, Emeline Lockwood, John H. and Maria Lockwood, Andrew J. and Sarah Lockwood, Edward A. Lockwood, Emily Lockwood, Lizzie C. Lockwood, Dora E. Lockwood, Ida M. Lockwood and Solomon Robinson. The first pastor was Rev. A. R. Button. L. N. Lockwood having donated a site on the southeast quarter of section 1, a church edifice was erected in 1881 at a cost of \$1,200. In 1882 the society was incorporated, and the first services in the church were held in July of that year. Reverend Button resigned and Rev. J. F. Bryant was placed in charge.

A German Baptist society had been organized sometime in the



'70s and in the year 1883 this church put up a fine house of worship on section 5.

A schoolhouse, the first one to be built in the township, was erected on section 2, in 1861, by John O. Crapser. This is the building that became part of the residence of Thomas Hall, in 1883. The first term of school held in the house was taught by Louis Parker.

A cemetery was located near James Ray's place soon after the first settlement. Years later another burial place was opened near Hall's schoolhouse.

T. E. B. Hudson was one of the early settlers in West Fork township and after years of industry on the farm, came to Hampton to reside in 1889 and at the same time take up the duties of auditor, to which office he had been elected. A few years later he was persuaded by the late Editor Raymond to write the following article for his paper:

"I arrived in Franklin county, August 2, 1865. I first came into what is now West Fork township, but what was then a part of Ingham township. How did I happen to come to Franklin county and West Fork township? I attended country school and lived in the same neighborhood in Winnebago county, Illinois, with the Hall boys, who had moved to Iowa in 1860. At that time (August 2, 1865) the Dubuque & Sioux City Railroad, now the Illinois Central, was in operation only as far as Cedar Falls and we walked from there into Franklin county. I will give you the condition of West Fork township at that time, so far as it relates to actual settlers. L. N. Lockwood and Solomon Robinson lived on the east half of section 1. They, with John O. Crapser, came there in 1856 from New York state. John O. Crapser lived in a log house on the northwest quarter of section 2, and James Birch on the south half of the northwest quarter of section 2. Hiram Morehouse lived on a part of the east half of section 3. He came with the Halls and was a brother of Thomas Hall's wife. Thomas Hall and his three boys—Philo, Alonzo and John—and his son-in-law, William Hartwell, owned together the west half of section 3 and lived there. William Garber was living on a part of section 4, and L. Benjamin and his son-in-law, George Folsom, lived on section 5. The Hartmans, old Mr. Jenkins and family, Levi Culver and the Rudloffs lived down near the north side on the west fork of the Cedar river and Henry Bushyager and his son Joseph, and G. H. Horton lived just across the river on the south side, on sections 18 and 19. Down the river on a part of section 29 was Lewis Sumner, and a little farther

down the river lived Henry Meyer and family, who was the father of our townsman, Adolph Meyer and Mrs. Peter Carlson. Across the river, on the north side, on a part of sections 35 and 36 lived James Ray. The Bushyagers, Hortons, Sumners, Littles and Henry Meyer all lived on the south side of the river. I think there was a man by the name of Squires living in a small house on what was afterwards a part of the farm of Volney Kellogg, on the southeast quarter of section 11. You will notice that there were few settlers along the northwest and south sides of the township and no one living on the east side except Lockwood and Robinson, as before stated, on section 1. All the balance of the township was a vast wilderness of prairie grass.

"In 1866 came Volney Kellogg, T. P. Treadwell, L. John, Henry Boughton and H. D. Caldwell. The last four named located on section 16. About this time James Chambers came and improved and lived upon the west half of the northeast quarter of section 2, and by the way, when the Coldwater postoffice was established, Chambers was the first postmaster.

"What was then Ingham township was divided in 1868, and the first election in the new township of West Fork was held November 3d of that year, in what was known at that time as the Rudloff school-house. Isaac Patterson was elected a member of the board of supervisors and I was elected township clerk.

"In 1865 the nearest market was Waverly; however, some farmers were still hauling their produce to Cedar Falls."

#### OSCEOLA TOWNSHIP

Osceola township was carved out of Reeve in 1857 and made a separate organization, but since then it lost considerable of its territory, which was taken to form other townships, and its present boundary lines are as follows: Geneva township on the north; on the east is Butler county, on the south Hardin county, and on the west, Grant township. Its location is in the southeast corner of Franklin county.

The land in Osceola township is principally rolling prairie, relieving the monotony of a broad expanse of territory by three groves of natural timber. The land is well watered by Beaver creek and its branches. The soil is a dark rich loam, producing plenteous yields of corn, oats, rye, potatoes and other cereals. The surface of the land is quite rolling for a prairie country, and of 23,040 acres it

contains, there is practically no waste land in the entire township. The Iowa Central Railway passes through Osceola, entering the township at section 35, and after running in a northwesterly direction, makes its exit from section 25. Faulkner is a railroad station situated in the northwest corner of section 15. The township was early settled and developed rapidly and substantially until today its farms are as well improved and cultivated as any in the county.

Dr. L. H. Arledge, whose name has frequently been mentioned in this work, Thomas Downs and a Mr. McCormick are said to have been the first settlers in this part of the county. They came in 1853.

Being induced to visit this part of the country by the general government throwing open for settlement a large amount of land that had been set apart for the endowment of the State University, Richard T. Blake, Luther Butterfield and Patrick McCann left their homes in Cook county, Illinois, in 1854, and with ox teams slowly made their way across the Mississippi at Dubuque, and after many hardships they arrived at Downs Grove, about the 15th of August, where they met Thomas Downs and family just returned to their home after an absence caused by Indian troubles. Near the Downs home was McCormick's cabin.

Blake was pleased with the surroundings and bought McCormick's claim, on which he had at the time about ten acres plowed. McCormick then left the country and ended up in Wright county. Richard T. Blake was probably the first permanent settler in Osceola township. He was born in Ireland and followed the sea for many years. He was the father of twelve children, one of whom married Walter Shroyer, a son of Lewis Shroyer, and is still making her home three miles south of Hampton.

The Blake home, purchased of McCormick, was just north of Beaver creek and south of the Fahey place. Mr. Blake died in 1896.

Orson Reeve remembers an incident which shows the primitive way of doing things in pioneer days. He says he thinks there is a tax receipt in existence that Robert Piatt gave to Richard Blake. When Blake came to pay his taxes, Piatt was out in the field, where Blake found him back of the woods. Mr. Blake made tender of his taxes; Piatt sat down on a stump, took off his plug hat, and making a desk of it, wrote a tax receipt on a common piece of paper and handed it to him. The validity of the receipt never was questioned.

Patrick McCann, who came to the township with Blake, entered land close by, improved it and made it his home for many years. He

was also a son of old Erin and emigrated to America when fifteen years of age. He married Margaret McCarle, at Cedar Falls, in 1856, and to them were born in Osceola township seven children: Mary Ann, Margaret, James, Catherine, Henry, Florence and Elizabeth.

Luther Butterfield was a frontiersman, his parents being residents of Illinois at the time of the Black Hawk war, when Luther was born. He settled in the township the same time as his companions. His health was greatly impaired, however, through exposure and hardships, and on January 9, 1857, he passed away at the age of thirty-two years.

From this time on until the fall of 1855 there were but five families in Osceola township: Thomas Downs, Richard T. Blake, Luther Butterfield, the Seiffersmans and J. Koppas. The two latter had located on claims previously taken up in 1854.

Theodore Miller, a pioneer, became one of the leading citizens of Osceola township. He was formerly a resident of Freeport, Illinois, and located about one mile northwest of McCormick's Grove, in the fall of 1855. Richard Blake sold to him the old McCormick log cabin, to which J. Koppas put up a claim, the cabin having stood near the line of the Koppas and Blake places. The matter went before 'Squire Leggett, who lived on the Andrews place in Reeve township, and the verdict was given for the defendant. Koppas shortly thereafter sold out his place to John Fahey, who came from Ohio in 1858. He was regarded as an excellent citizen, and among other offices in which he served faithfully and well was that of board of supervisors, on which he was a member six years. Seiffersman lived on his place until 1867, when he sold out and went to Missouri.

James Whiteside was a settler in the township in 1859. He purchased land upon which he lived until 1893, and made it one of the finest farms in Franklin county. In the year last mentioned Mr. Whiteside moved to California, where he died March 1, 1908.

Among the few who came here in 1866 was Martin Cooney, a native of Ireland. He emigrated to the United States in 1847 and the year 1855 found him in Dubuque county, Iowa.

S. A. French arrived in the township at about the same time as Mr. Cooney. Among later settlers may be mentioned the following: M. K. Donovan, Edward O'Brien, Moses Myers, Michael Hollaran, Isaiah Wagner, Michael Burns and John T. Trumbower.

Michael Burns settled in the township in 1868. He was a native of Ireland. James Treanor was born in Ireland and located on section 17, in 1869. He became a valued neighbor and citizen and held offices of importance in the township.

M. K. Donovan in 1867 purchased the northeast quarter of section 10 and located there with his family, remaining until 1882, when his home was burned to the ground. He then built a modern residence on section 11 and owned one of the finest farms in the township. During Mr. Donovan's residence here by his superb leadership he kept the township in the democratic ranks, but met defeat in 1896, the German element leaving the party that year on the issue of bimetallism. Then we formed the gold standard. Donovan moved to Eagle Grove, in Wright county, about 1903, and was elected mayor of the town.

Edward O'Brien arrived in Franklin county in 1868, bought land and located in Marion township, where he farmed until 1872, at which time he settled in Osceola township. Mr. O'Brien was a democrat and held several local offices.

Moses Myers located on section 16, in 1869. Michael Holloran was born in Ireland and emigrated to the United States in 1857. He farmed in Illinois and in 1870 settled on section 30, Osceola township, and in course of time accumulated several hundred acres of land.

Isaiah Wagner became one of the solid, reliable men of Franklin county. Mr. Wagner located on section 9, Osceola township, in 1868. He had served three years in the Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteers.

The first birth in Osceola township was that of Bennie J. Butterfield, December 8, 1854. He died about a year later.

The first marriage ceremony performed was between Samuel Burke and Jane Herman, in June, 1856.

Luther L. Butterfield died January 9, 1857. This was the first death in the township. The body was laid to rest on the farm a half mile north of where the village of Ackley now stands.

The first school taught in Osceola township was presided over by Mrs. Luther Butterfield in the winter of 1857-8. The log school building stood in what was known as the Whiteside district. The first schoolhouse built by public funds in the township was in 1864.

At the home of William Richardson, Reverend Connell, a Methodist minister, preached the first sermon in the township, in 1858. He also held meetings at the home of Mrs. Butterfield.

A public cemetery was laid out in Osceola township, just north of Ackley, in 1862. Prior to this, burials had been made near the earthly home of the deceased. Another cemetery was platted in 1863, two and a half miles north of Ackley, called Franklin Street Cemetery. The first person to be buried here was Mrs. Ingham, a daughter of William Richardson, one of the pioneers of the township.

#### FAULKNER

On section 15, Osceola township, was laid out and platted, in 1878, the town of Faulkner. It is a station on the Iowa Central railroad, one, however, that has not grown to notable dimensions. It has never been incorporated and for that reason the census bureau has not given the number of inhabitants. The township itself has 748. There is a small depot here, however, a grain elevator, a general store, blacksmith shop and other conveniences. The postoffice was established in 1871. The first grain buyers were of the firm of White & Austin, and the first merchants, the firm of McLain & Son.

#### INGHAM TOWNSHIP

Ingham is a township whose population in 1910 numbered 665. It was detached from Washington township in 1858 and given a separate organization. An election was ordered by Judge Reeve to be held at the house of Simon Selix, April 5, 1858. The president of that meeting was Henry Meyer; judges, J. H. Ingham, Lemuel Armstrong and J. H. Allen; clerks, Isaac Stover and J. A. Staley. The officers chosen at this election were Lemuel Armstrong, Simon Selix, J. H. Allen, trustees; Isaac Stover, clerk; Henry Meyer and J. A. Staley, justices of the peace; Simon Selix and L. H. Cooley, constables. On May 17th the trustees held their first meeting and divided the town into two road districts.

Ingham township, named for George H. Ingham, an Ohioan, and one of the first settlers here, contains something over 23,040 acres, little of which was considered as waste land. Its territory is well supplied with water, the west fork of the Cedar river running diagonally to the southeast across the northeast corner of the township. The south fork of the Cedar river having three branches, which form a junction at the southwest corner of section 28, waters the greater portion of the township. There are also a number of live springs of

pure water, all of which give the region unusual facilities for stock-raising, which is the prominent industry here. The soil is rich and productive. Some timber is still to be found along the streams. These attributes, abundance of water, considerable timber and a fine quality of soil, make Ingham township a very desirable place in which to live. Farms, in the highest state of cultivation, here abound and they are improved with modern residences, barns and other buildings. To be explicit, Ingham township farmers are more than specially blessed in their possessions and that portion of Franklin county cannot be surpassed anywhere.

David Allen was the first person to settle in this locality, choosing a spot in the northeastern corner in the timber along the west fork of the Cedar river, since known as Allen's Grove. He arrived here in the spring of 1854, with a large family. A son, Jonathan Allen, located on section 1, at that time.

The next settler here was John R. Hartgraves, who had become a citizen of Butler county in 1853. In August, 1854, he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 25 and located there. His claim included land on each side of the creek, which had some of the finest timber in the county. At that time Mr. Hartgraves' nearest mill and trading point was Cedar Falls. He was the father of nine children. A son, David, died while serving his country in the Civil war. The other children were Nicholas T., John R., Peter, Solomon T., George, Elizabeth Jane, Almeda and Olive Caroline. Peter was the first child born in Ingham township.

Joseph Riddle settled on section 25, in 1854, and at once began farming. He continued in this occupation on this place until 1886, when he sold out and removed to Missouri.

James W. Allen was twelve years old when his father, David Allen, arrived in Ingham township. He was a member of Company H, Fifteenth Iowa Infantry and was with Sherman on his noted march to the sea. Returning from the war, James took up the occupation of farming on section 16 in this township.

Another of the pioneers of 1854 was Benjamin Jones, who came to Franklin county with his father, Jabish Jones, and a brother, and entered three hundred and twenty acres of land in Geneva township, besides buying eighty acres of school land. In 1879 Benjamin bought eighty acres of land on section 35, Ingham township, and took up his residence there in 1881.

George H. Ingham emigrated to Iowa from Ohio in 1855, and after prospecting through several counties located on the northeast

quarter of section 32, Ingham township. There he remained until 1863, improving a farm and adding greatly to its value. In the year mentioned he engaged in trade at Hampton with William G. Beed for a time and again returned to his farm, which he sold to C. J. Mott in 1866. He then returned to Ohio.

There were several came in 1855. Those now remembered were Isaac Stover, who settled at Allen's Grove; Isaac Grandin and John Staley.

In 1856 came Loren Cooley, Simon Selix and Lemuel Armstrong. Cooley remained but a short time and then went farther west. Lemuel Armstrong, long since deceased, was a Pennsylvania farmer and also had some experience in rafting on the Susquehanna river. He removed to Ohio and then to Linn county, Iowa, in 1855, remaining there until the next spring, when he came to Franklin county, locating on bottom lands south of Hartgraves' creek, on section 35. In July, 1857, the bottom lands were overflowed to the depth of several feet. The crops were all destroyed along the creek bottoms and the water came into the Armstrong cabin above the window sills, thus endangering the lives of the family, which were barely saved from the rushing waters by the escape of the women and children to higher land. After two or three years Mr. Armstrong located on section 16, where he lived until his death, which occurred May 29, 1880. His wife followed him August 16, 1882. This pioneer was entrusted with the various township offices and at the time of the discontinuance of the Menzie postoffice he was in charge of it. Merrill Armstrong was a son who continued on the home farm, after the death of his father, for many years. His brother, Curtis Armstrong, was a member of Company H, Thirty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and died in 1868 from disease contracted while in the service of his country.

Simon Selix removed from Ohio to Bureau county, Illinois, in 1845. In 1856 he came to Franklin county and located on section 13, Ingham township. On this place he erected a good frame house in 1872 but lost it and its contents by fire in 1873. This drove Mr. Selix and his family back into the old log house—their first habitation—until another building could be erected. He was the father of thirteen children, most of whom were born in Franklin county. Among them were Justus H., David F., George H., William H., Eleanor E., James N., Cecelia D., Mary S. and Julia A.

There were but few to come and locate in this township in the year 1857. However, Martin Moore was one of the few. Un-



fortunately, while at a school board meeting on section 16, in 1879, he was killed by lightning.

Between this time and after the conclusion of hostilities between the North and the South but few additions were made to the settlements in Ingham township. There were some arrivals in the '60s, before the war, but not many. John Meehan was one of them, coming to Franklin county in 1860 and locating on section 1 in this township. In 1862 Mr. Meehan enlisted in Company H, Thirty-second Iowa Volunteers, and served through two years of the hardest service.

James Anway settled in Howard county, Iowa, in 1856, and after a residence of over five years removed to Franklin county and went onto the farm taken by John Staley, one of the earliest settlers. Here Mr. Anway remained and in a fair measure became prosperous.

James Trindle was a resident of Ingham township as early as 1862, having exchanged a farm of ninety acres in Wisconsin for three hundred and twenty acres of land in Ingham township. His success as a Franklin county farmer became at once assured, from the fact that the first crop he gathered from his land was a most bounteous one. In 1879 Mr. Trindle erected a fine residence on his place and not only became prosperous but also a man of importance in the affairs of the community.

W. K. Tucker, a new Englander, settled in La Salle county, Illinois, in 1858. He arrived in Franklin county in the fall of 1865 and began farming on one hundred and sixty acres of land in Ingham township. His ambition was to have a good farm and a residence with modern conveniences. To this end he erected a home but at considerable expense and difficulties, as he was compelled to haul the lumber from Aplington over roads that were almost impassable.

Jacob Woodley, who came from Wisconsin in 1865 and purchased eighty acres of school land on section 16, became one of the leading farmers of Ingham township. His family was installed in a log house 13x17 feet, but by the year 1878 they were living in a fine new residence which Mr. Woodley had built.

Oscar A. Chambers was a Buckeye, who became impressed with the beauties and advantages of Franklin county and located in Ingham township in 1866.

Orlando Hilliker was not only one of Ingham township's early farmers but he was also well known for his ability as a stock-raiser.

He came to the township with his family, consisting of his wife, two sons and a daughter, in 1867. His father, Ellis Hilliker, had bought a farm of two hundred acres in 1877, which later became the property of Orlando, who made a specialty of stock.

Edward Burnham was another one to make a permanent residence in Ingham township in 1867. He served in the Civil war, as did his son, Remembrance H. Mr. Burnham was a republican in politics and a zealous member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Lyman Hall was a native of Knox county, Ohio, whence he removed to Bureau county, Illinois. There Mr. Hall enlisted for the Civil war and in 1867 came to Franklin county, buying eighty acres of land of his cousin, Simon Selix, which he improved and surrounded with all the comforts of life.

T. W. Bailey settled on section 24, in 1869. He came first to Iowa in 1866 and spent three years in Butler county, following farming.

W. Wilkins also immigrated to Butler county in 1866. In February, 1869, he purchased a home and a tract of land on section 12 in this township from Wesley Allen.

Gifford Mickel was a native of New York state. He emigrated to Iowa, where he carried on farming and blacksmithing until 1869. In that year he located in Ingham township and in 1875 built the first blacksmith shop in the community. This he moved to another location on section 1, where he plied his trade industriously and remuneratively for a number of years. Mr. Mickel organized the first Sunday school at Allen's Grove and lived to see a large class grow up there.

J. F. Gans was a prosperous farmer of this township and made his first appearance here in 1876. He soon secured one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he began cultivating in addition to the raising of stock.

L. Reed secured a farm in Ingham township in 1871. Here he moved his family and in addition to general farming took up stock-raising, in which he made a success.

Frank Barry was one of the leading stock farmers of Ingham township. He was born in Green county, Wisconsin. His parents, however, were natives of Ireland. They came to America in 1845 and settled in Wisconsin. Frank Barry came to Franklin county in May, 1869, having at the time a pony, a saddle and \$30 in money. Here he associated himself with a brother, William, and bought a tract of land on section 10, Ingham town-

ship, on which a herd of cattle was placed to fatten, while other portions of the farm were being cultivated for grain.

Samuel Bailey settled in Franklin county in 1869. He bought 106 acres of land in Ingham township, to which other acres were added, and by good judgment in his methods of tilling the soil and raising live stock, he became possessed of a competency. Mr. Bailey was a veteran of the Civil war, serving three years.

R. Woodley was a Pennsylvanian, who removed to Wisconsin and thence came to Franklin county in 1869, at which time he bought eighty acres of land in Ingham township.

G. H. Minert came to Hampton in the fall of 1870, where he lived two years. He then rented a farm in Ingham township and three years later purchased it. He was a man who understood all the cares and duties that came with the conduct of a farm, and being careful and industrious was successful in whatever he undertook to do.

George Sutton settled in Ingham township in 1870. James Lefever also settled here the same year. G. W. Burns came in 1872 and located on section 22.

J. Darling came in 1873 and bought eighty acres of land of N. B. Claypool; C. Roemer was a settler in the township in 1875, choosing a tract of land on section 19; T. H. Stackhouse settled in Ingham township on section 6, in 1878.

Among the happenings of importance which are part and parcel of the early history of Ingham township may be mentioned the following: The first birth was that of Peter, son of John R. Hartgraves, February 2, 1856.

The death of a Mr. Jones by suffocating in a well in 1857, was the first to occur in the community.

James W. Allen in marrying Susan Harlan took the initiative in proceedings of that character in Ingham township. The ceremony was performed at the home of the bride's parents in Butler county, September 10, 1857.

The next Ingham township people to be married were George Harlan and Charlotte Staley, who joined their fortunes and happiness by marriage in 1858.

The first religious service in the township was held at the house of Jonathan Allen, on section 1, 1855. In 1857 services were held at the Hartgraves schoolhouse.

G. Mickel started the first blacksmith shop in the township, in 1869. Later a shop was opened at Hansell, by W. H. Anway, and one on the farm of J. S. Silvius.

Leonard Lockwood taught the first school in the township in the winter of 1856-7. The scholars were secured by subscription. The first public school was taught by John A. Ackley, in a schoolhouse located on the southwest corner of section 25, in the fall of 1857. There were only seven pupils at this latter school, most of whom were of the Hartgraves family.

In the early '60s settlers of the Methodist faith held meetings at the Union Ridge schoolhouse, but no class was organized until 1866. At that time Rev. J. G. Wilkinson formed an organization which consisted of T. W. Bailey and wife, M. L. Bailey, James and Mary Trindle, B. S. Chambers and wife and Thomas Lewis and wife. This class was organized as the Second Methodist Episcopal church of Franklin county. In the pastorate Reverend Wilkinson was succeeded by Reverend Cooley, and others of the early pastors were: Revs. Isaac Hall, J. A. Kerr, W. S. Darwin, William Gough, A. J. Northrup, J. W. Gould, M. L. Whitmore, J. M. Beal, G. W. Lutz, O. H. Sproul, W. A. Pottle and S. A. Camp. For a number of years this Methodist society held services in the schoolhouse. It now has a church and parsonage in Hansell. It is a strong organization both in membership and the character of the people. On Sunday, December 15, 1889, a handsome church edifice was dedicated by Rev. DeWitt Clinton, present pastor of the Hampton church. The building cost \$1,555, all of which had been paid with the exception of \$342. This was subscribed before the close of the dedicatory exercises. E. J. Starr is the present pastor, who with his family moved into a new parsonage in the fall of 1913.

The United Brethren organized a society under the leadership of Elder Stone in 1875. The first members were O. A. Hilliker and wife, father and mother, James Trindle and wife, William Trindle and James Wrightman. For some time meetings were held at the Chambers schoolhouse under charge of Rev. W. R. Benson, who also preached at Bristow. Rev. E. Schaffer is the present pastor.

The German Baptists organized a branch of the Coldwater church, January 1, 1883. Previous to this, however, services had been held from 1875 in the Chambers schoolhouse under the leadership of Rev. John F. Eidenberry. The first regular pastor was Rev. J. M. Hanawalt.

A Union Sunday school was organized in the township in 1883, which had an average attendance of over one hundred scholars. The first superintendent was Oscar A. Chambers.

The Union Ridge Baptist Church was organized January 27, 1865, with fourteen members. The first pastor was T. H. Judson. Adrian Gillett was the clerk, and Calvin Gillett, deacon. The society lived fitfully until 1868, when it disbanded, while under the pastorate of Rev. C. A. Smith.

A Good Templars lodge was organized in 1867, with thirty-eight members, and held at the Union Ridge schoolhouse. The first officials were: O. A. Chambers, worthy chief; Justus Selix, secretary; R. S. Chambers, chaplain. Like other Good Templar lodges this one has ceased to exist.

The first postoffice established in Ingham township was presided over by Isaac Stover, in 1860. It was called Union Ridge and was located in the northeast part of the township. After several changes in postmasters, the office was moved to the residence of the postmasters. James Harlan was the next to follow Stover. He, however, held the office in Butler county. When the railroad was built, the office was removed to Dumont, and the name changed.

Cream Hill postoffice was established, with a man named Smith as postmaster, but in 1880 it was discontinued and removed to Hansell.

Menzie postoffice was established in 1867, with Lyman Hall as postmaster. He was followed by Lemuel Armstrong, who held the office until it was discontinued.

#### VILLAGE OF HANSELL

George W. Hansell and his wife, Laura B. Hansell, caused to be laid out and platted, in the fall of 1880, fifteen acres on the northwest quarter of section 28 and a part on section 29. The Dubuque & Dakota railroad, now known as the Chicago Great Western, had established a station there about 1873 and named it in honor of Mr. Hansell. At the time the town was platted, M. L. Whitmore was established as a general merchant. A blacksmith shop was in operation by W. H. Anway, and an elevator with a capacity of 14,000 bushels, had been erected by Mr. Hansell in 1880. This was under his control, together with a lumberyard.

In 1883 George W. Hansell erected a large store building, which was stocked with a line of general merchandise and managed by the firm of Hansell, Son & Sweet. A line of agricultural implements was added to the business and installed in a large warehouse built

the same year. The town is still a busy little mart, with good transportation facilities, and has probably 150 inhabitants.

M. L. Whitmore, Hansell's premier merchant, was raised on a farm and became an itinerant minister of the Methodist church. He arrived in Franklin county in 1880 and engaged in the mercantile business at Hansell. In the meantime for two years he had charge of the Union Ridge Methodist Episcopal Church in Ingham township.

A postoffice was established here in 1880 and George W. Hansell was appointed postmaster.



## CHAPTER XX

THE TOWNSHIPS CONTINUED — GENEVA — OAKLAND — HAMILTON — GRANT—LEE—GENEVA EARLY SETTLED—JOB GARNER CAME TO THIS TOWNSHIP IN 1854 AND WAS FOUNDER OF HAMPTON—DATES OF TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATIONS.

### GENEVA TOWNSHIP

The locality in which Geneva township now lies induced some of the first settlers of Franklin county to make the locality their homes. The land is of a most excellent quality and in value is probably as high in the estimation of those who are experts as any in Franklin county. The territory is well watered, Mayne creek running across its lines from west to east, which with its small tributaries waters and drains the entire township. Considerable timber was found by the pioneers at what afterwards became known as Four Mile Grove and Highland Grove.

Geneva township was erected out of Reeve township in 1858 and the first officials were appointed by the county court. They were William H. Thompson, clerk; Daniel Tillman and William B. Johnson, trustees. Later in the spring of that year an election was held in a log schoolhouse on section 16. This subdivision of the county has now the following boundaries: On the north, Ingham township; on the east, Butler county; on the south, Osceola township; and on the west, Reeve township. The Minneapolis & St. Louis railroad, formerly the Central Iowa, enters the township at the southeast corner of section 2 and makes its exit from the northwest corner of section 18. Geneva is the only station.

The first settlements in the township were made in 1854. Those locating here that year were Job Garner, Amon Rice and Peter Rhinehart. Garner chose a tract of land on section 15, where he built the first house in the township. He only remained a year, however, disposing of his property to Martin Boots. Mr. Garner then entered land, which afterwards became the site of the county seat and gave forty acres to the county.



Jabish Jones came with his wife and son, Benjamin, and another son, and together they entered a tract of land in Geneva township, in 1854. Here the father lived until his death, which took place in 1882. Benjamin remained until the fall of 1881, when he moved to a farm he had purchased in Ingham township.

Among those who came in 1855 were Martin Boots, J. E. Perdue, Silas Moon, Charles Leggett, Henry Smith, George Hansell, William H. Thompson, Q. A. Jordan, Rufus Benson, Samuel Carbaugh and William Ward.

J. E. Perdue left his home in Illinois in 1855 and coming further west found Franklin county to his liking and settled on section 17, where he lived until 1868 and then moved to Southern Iowa.

Silas Moon came from Indiana and settled on section 17, in 1855. He did not remain long and with the desire of making a change moved to Oregon territory.

Charles M. Leggett in 1855 selected a tract of land for a home, on which he lived for many years. The farm was afterwards owned by J. A. Pickering. Mr. Leggett was elected justice of the peace in 1855 and held the office for fifteen years. He was the first justice in Franklin county. Selling his farm in 1870, 'Squire Leggett moved on to another at the west end of Mayne's Grove. After a residence there of six years he retired from the farm and became a citizen of Hampton, where he remained until 1888 and then became a member of his son's family, at Smithland, in Woodbury county, where he died November 27, 1901.

Henry Smith was in the township as early as the fall of 1854, but did not locate permanently until the following spring, when he entered land on section 17. This property he afterward sold to J. E. Perdue.

George Hansell came west from Ohio in the spring of 1855 and stopped a while in Cedar county. In July of the same year he located on sections 6 and 7, in Geneva township, where he lived until 1873. That year he removed to Ingham township, and the station on the Chicago Great Western in the township is named for him.

William H. Thompson was one who took up his fortunes with Geneva township in 1855, coming here in the fall of that year and locating on sections 7 and 8. Here he improved the land which he had purchased of the Government and there remained until his death, which occurred August 26, 1913. Mr. Thompson was known and designated as one of Franklin county's grand men, a gentleman

of rare mental capacity, one who always stood in the front ranks for the best interests of her people. Few men were more loyal to duty and few left a cleaner life record. At the time of his decease he had lived continuously on his farm for fifty-eight years.

David Church was a Geneva township farmer as early as 1855, having located here in the fall of that year and hired a house. In the following spring he built a habitation into which he moved his family. Mr. Church settled on section 9 and in a few years was the possessor of several hundred acres of the finest land in Franklin county. His neighbor, William Ward, put up the frame house for him. Mr. Church became quite active in the affairs of the county. He served on the board of supervisors six years and after becoming a citizen of Hampton in 1882 he assisted in the organization of the Citizens Bank of Hampton and was one of its directors. He died May 14, 1909.

William Ward, a Pennsylvanian and a neighbor of David Church while living in the Keystone state, immigrated west in 1855 and coming to Franklin county located on section 18 and there improved a farm, which is now known as the J. H. Butson place. About 1873 Mr. Ward moved to Hampton and for two years was in the livery business. He then bought the Shobe place in Sheffield and farmed it for some time, when he moved to Texas.

Q. A. Jordan arrived here early in 1855 and located on section 16. He was a good farmer and worked diligently to improve his place. Mr. Jordan remained until about the outbreak of the Civil war, when he removed to Kansas.

Martin Boots at the age of twenty-one married and began farming in Ohio. In the fall of 1854, with the object of bettering his condition, he came west and spent the winter near Waterloo. The following spring he purchased and opened a farm in Geneva township. In his house was held the first religious service in the township. He was a member of the United Brethren Church.

Rufus S. Benson was from Madison county, Ohio. He immigrated to Franklin county, Iowa, with his parents, Isaac and Eunice Benson, in 1857, and settled near Four Mile Grove on a farm on section 16, which is still in possession of members of the family. In 1862 he helped raise Company H, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, this being the only exclusively recruited company from Franklin county. He was elected its second lieutenant and after the death of Captain J. B. Reeve was promoted to the rank of captain, which office he held until mustered out in August, 1865. Captain Benson

was elected clerk of the district court in 1866, and in 1873 clerk of the board of supervisors. In 1873 he became county treasurer, holding the office four years. In 1876 Captain Benson bought an interest in the Franklin County Bank and served as its vice president until 1880, when he was elevated to the position of its president. He served this district in the Legislature in 1881 and was his own successor to the office in the years 1883 and 1885. Having made investments in Kansas City, he removed there in 1890 and after living at that place six years, took up his residence in Florence, New Mexico, where he had a considerable body of land and large cattle interests. There he died in March, 1905. His remains were brought back to Hampton and now lie in Hampton cemetery.

Richard Horner was a native of the Hoosier state, whence he emigrated to Iowa in 1856 and settled on section 18, on a tract of land taken up the year previously by John Evans. Being a blacksmith by trade, he combined farming with that of horseshoeing and wagon repairing. Three of his sons served in the Civil war, one of whom, Jesse, met his death while fighting for the Union. The estimation of Mr. Horner by his neighbors as a citizen was a high one. His son, W. C. Horner, was fourteen years of age when the family arrived here. He was one of the boys who enlisted in Company H, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, recruited in Hampton. He married Rhoda Boots in 1865.

P. C. Berry was a native of the Keystone state. He was reared on a farm, and desiring to make the cultivation of the soil his vocation, sought the prairies for a farm and found one to his liking in Geneva township, coming here in 1856. Mr. Berry was a good citizen and an excellent farmer. He was a charter member of the lodge of Masons.

In 1858, Eleazer Manifold settled in Geneva township. He left his native home in Indiana when eight years of age and removed to Blackhawk county, Iowa, whence he came to this township and settled at Four Mile Grove, where his father died in 1875.

Jarvis Clock was born on Long Island in 1828. With his parents he went to Ohio in 1832. He saw considerable service on the great lakes and also on a whaling vessel. In 1855 he found his way to Iowa and purchased a farm in Franklin county in this township but did not move thereon until 1859. He built on the place a substantial stone house, set out an orchard and planted a grove of maple trees and by good judgment and thrift made his place one of the most

valuable in the township. After a short illness, Mr. Clock died of pneumonia, February 18, 1879.

Lavellette Stoddard settled in Franklin county in 1857, spending three years in Maysville, Reeve township. In the spring of 1860 he moved with his family to Geneva township. He had two children: Fannie E., who married Dr. S. R. Mitchell, first clerk of the court of Franklin county; and William P., now living in the town of Geneva.

Edward McClelland, a Pennsylvanian by birth, came to Iowa in 1861 and located in Geneva township. In 1878 he took up his home on section 15. Mr. McClelland became quite prominent in Franklin county politics and held several offices.

N. Clemmens arrived in Franklin county from Pennsylvania in 1862 and eventually located on section 2, Geneva township. By industry and thrift he accumulated several hundred acres of land and was rated a good farmer and citizen.

Allen Andrews was born in the State of New York. He came to Iowa in 1866 and settled on section 13, Geneva township, where he lived until he died in 1875. He was a republican in politics, held local offices and served on the board of supervisors.

Henry H. Andrews was a son of Allen Andrews and came with his parents to Franklin county. After the death of his father he took charge of the farm and managed the home affairs with ability and good judgment. He held several local offices.

Henry Ihde came to the United States from the fatherland and after serving his adopted country in the Civil war settled in Franklin county, choosing a farm in Geneva township for his abiding place. He became an estimable citizen.

John M. Yenter was also a native of Germany, who removed to Pennsylvania when twenty-one years of age. He eventually immigrated to Iowa and in 1867 settled on section 22 in Geneva township. It was through his endeavors that the German settlement got its initial start in this township.

Isaac Appleby removed from the State of New York to Illinois in 1864, and in 1868 he removed to Franklin county and purchased a farm in Geneva township.

James W. McDougal was born in Ohio and served in a regiment from that state in the Civil war. In 1868 he came to Franklin county, remained that winter at Mayne's Grove and in the spring located in Geneva township.

Adam Knau settled on section 22 in Geneva township in the spring of 1869. He devoted his whole time to the improvement of his farm and soon had the satisfaction of bringing the place up to a high standard.

W. C. Reinke came to America from Germany in 1857 and located in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he followed farming until 1866. That year he removed to Iowa and settled in Hardin county. In 1869 Mr. Reinke came to Franklin county, locating on section 25, in Geneva township. He was a man of good education, well versed in his native tongue, and having received instructions while in his adopted country prepared himself and was ordained a minister in the Evangelical Association. His first circuit was at Butler Center in 1867. John G. Herbster was born in Baden, Germany. He immigrated to the United States in the spring of 1859 and coming to Germany purchased a farm of 160 acres on section 35.

William B. Bryan located on section 7 in 1870. He was a veteran of the Civil war.

John Knoll was born in Germany. He immigrated to Illinois, whence he removed to Franklin county in 1870 and located in this township, where he died August 7, 1882.

Louis Belzer was a German. He immigrated to the United States with his parents in 1848 and settled in Wisconsin. He arrived in Franklin county in 1865 and settled in Geneva township.

Frederick R. H. Lill was born in England. Finding his way to Canada, he removed from there in 1869 to Iowa. In 1870 Mr. Lill located on section 14, this township.

James Pearse settled in the township in 1872. He was a native of England. Mr. Pearse located on section 7, accumulating several hundred acres of land, and became very successful.

Bernard Heitman was born in Germany. He located in Geneva township in 1873, purchasing a farm at that time, which he greatly improved.

John Bauer was from Wurtemberg, Germany. He attended the celebrated Heidelberg University two winters. He came to the United States in 1873 and located on section 23, Geneva township and there became permanently settled.

John C. Bell was born in Yorkshire, England. He came to the United States in 1855 and settled in Wisconsin. In 1875 Mr. Bell became a resident of Geneva township, where he became a fixture and was always highly esteemed by his neighbors.

Frank Beach served in the Civil war, was married to Sarah Elsey in 1864 and in June, 1866, settled on section 12, in this township. He was held in high regard by his neighbors and held several local offices.

Thomas F. Argent was an Illinoisan by birth. He served in the Civil war and returned to Illinois after his discharge. After a residence in several places he came to Franklin county in 1876 and settled in Reeve township, where he farmed until 1877. In the year just mentioned Mr. Argent came to Geneva township and took up farming.

Ludwig Bell was a German citizen, who came to Franklin county in 1878 and located on section 12, Geneva township. Mr. Bell was a good farmer and as a matter of course, prospered.

Charles L. Canfield was a Buckeye and grew to manhood on a farm. With his young wife he came to Franklin county in 1878 and settled in this township, where he farmed until 1881, after which time he conducted the Geneva Hotel.

John Dovey was an Englishman, who emigrated to Canada when he was fourteen years of age. In the spring of 1881 he left Ackley to take up his residence in Franklin county, locating on section 23, in Geneva township.

Rev. Jacob Haymond was a Virginian, who made farming an occupation until 1860, when he entered the ministry, uniting with the Methodist Episcopal Church. He had charges in Marshall, Hardin, Grundy and Linn counties, and in 1879 took charge of the church at Geneva, remaining there three years. A son of Reverend Haymond, Edward H. Haymond, located on section 13, Geneva township, in 1881.

John M. Boots, son of Martin Boots, was born in Geneva township, June 1, 1856. He was reared on his father's farm. In 1882 he was married to Rachel M. Manifold, daughter of one of the early settlers. Mr. Boots located on section 2 in the spring of 1882.

O. H. Tillman, a native of Darke county, Ohio, removed with his parents, Daniel and Mary Tillman, to Franklin county, in 1855, settling on section 10 in this township, where the parents lived the remainder of their days. The father passed away in 1861 and the mother in 1876. He was a member of Company H, Thirty-second Iowa Volunteers and served until August 25, 1865. After the war he returned to Franklin county and in 1867 married Miss Mary L. Clinesmith, of Holmes county, Ohio. The parents of Mrs. Till-

man, Andrew and Margaret Clinesmith, came from Ohio to Franklin county in 1855 and settled in Mayne's Grove, remaining there one year, when they went to Morgan township.

John M. Runyan, an Ohioan, settled in Franklin county in the late '60s, choosing Geneva township for a location.

E. L. Clock, whose native place was Long Island, New York, removed from Warren, Illinois, to Franklin county in 1856. He built a frame store building at Maysville and installed a general stock of goods, continuing there in the mercantile trade until 1871, when he sold out to his brother, Captain H. C. Clock, who located in and is now living at Geneva. E. L. Clock began to accumulate land in the vicinity of Maysville and from his home in Geneva managed his farm in the raising of live stock. In 1907 he and his wife, who in her maidenhood was Miss Fannie Wheeler, and whom he wedded on January 21, 1857, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage. Mrs. Clock was a native of Painesville, Ohio, and with her brother, the late Henry Wheeler, and her widowed mother, she came to Franklin county in 1856 and settled near Geneva, in Reeve township.

Anna Scott taught the first school in Geneva township in the winter of 1854-5. Her pupils met her at the residence of Peter Rhinehart, where they were given instruction. An attendance of five pupils was the maximum. Alvira Johnson, who afterwards became Mrs. Creighton, taught a term of school in 1856 at the house of Daniel Tillman. In 1857 the first schoolhouse was built on section 16. William H. Thompson taught the first term in this building. The old pioneer was a victim to the primitive method of pupils in their mischievous practice of barring out the teacher. One morning Mr. Thompson went to the schoolhouse but found the children, headed by two or three big boys, had locked him out and refused to let him in the building unless he would treat them to something the next Friday. Being amply possessed of mother wit, Mr. Thompson climbed the stick and mud chimney of the cabin, which was built against the side of the building, and reaching the roof, placed a broad board over the top of the chimney flue, which, driving the smoke downward into the schoolroom was meant to drive the unruly boys and girls into the open, but Mr. Thompson failed in his endeavor and was beaten by his opponents. He was compelled to leave the children in possession and did not gain admission into his schoolroom until the next morning. It is said that one of the older boys who took part in this escapade was William Horine.

The first permanent schoolhouse was erected during the summer of 1862. Here the following winter Amelia Cole gave instructions to fifteen scholars. This building was used for school purposes until 1873, when it was bought at auction by John Strain for \$50.

The home of Martin Boots was the rendezvous for the settlers religiously inclined, and it was here that Reverends Brown and Olmstead held the first church services in the township. This was in the summer of 1855. In 1858 Reverend Brown organized a society. At the time Revs. John Buckmaster and Israel Schaffer presided. Those who became members at that time were John Gould, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Boots, Jesse Manifold and wife, J. Jones, Mary Jones, Thomas Jones and Sarah Jones. The meetings were held in the log schoolhouse on section 16.

The first burial ground opened in Geneva township was located about a mile east of Four Mile Grove. This place served the whole township until 1868, when another burial spot was made use of near the grove. There was a burying ground at Highland Grove. Some time later the bodies from these were removed to the Geneva village cemetery, in 1875.

#### THE TOWN OF GENEVA

Geneva is situated on section 19 of Geneva township and was laid out and platted in September, 1871, by William J. McVey. Obadiah Smith was the surveyor. In 1903 the village was incorporated as a town and the census for 1910 gave the place a population of 199.

H. C. Clock was the first person to engage in business in the town. He came to Geneva in September, 1871, and on Nov. 1 opened a store. He had been in the merchandise business in Maysville the preceding ten years. His new stock of goods here was installed in a building which he had erected, the dimensions of which were 22x26 feet and two stories in height. This structure later was covered with galvanized iron and was painted to resemble brick. Mr. Clock is the pioneer of Geneva, still active and giving his time and attention to many business affairs. After the railroad was built Mr. Clock paid \$760 and certain of the farmers \$740 as a bonus to the railroad company for a sidetrack and depot. John Strain and William J. McVey each gave five acres of land for depot grounds.



The Geneva House, still serving its purpose as a retreat for the wayfarer, was built by H. C. Clock. The original structure was a schoolhouse. To this was built an addition, giving the building its present dimensions. Mr. Clock was the first landlord of the Geneva House. In 1875 he sold the property to A. P. McCardle, who later turned it over to Mr. Clock, who conducted it until the spring of 1881, when Charles L. Canfield became proprietor. Since his day, the Geneva House has been under the management of different people.

Doctor Tidd and Mr. Silence opened a drug store in Geneva in 1880, continuing the partnership one year, when Doctor Tidd became sole proprietor and maintained the business for many years, together with his practice.

John D. Parks was the first to engage in the hardware trade, commencing business in 1875 in a building erected for the purpose. He was succeeded by his son, George, who sold to J. A. Waddington, who is still in business.

Joseph Kulas opened a boot and shoe store and a cobbler shop in 1878.

George Thompson started the first exclusive grocery store in 1877. He sold out his goods to Fred Steiner, in March, 1880.

Joseph Fuchs opened a wagon shop in 1882; George Johnson a blacksmith shop about the same time.

M. Burns was the first lumber dealer. He opened a yard in 1871, continuing therein until 1872, when he sold out to H. C. Clock. Mr. Burns was also the pioneer grain dealer. After H. C. Clock acquired the business the firm of H. C. Clock & Brother built an elevator in 1875, with a capacity of 6,000 bushels.

A postoffice was established near Geneva in 1858 and among the early postmasters was William H. Thompson. After Geneva station was established, H. C. Clock was appointed the postmaster and held the office many years. The first money order was issued to Charles H. Tidd in favor of George H. Clock, for \$5.25, in July, 1881. The first order was paid to Peter W. Hicks by George Hicks for \$10.10.

The first school building erected in Geneva was built about 1872 and was used for the purpose until another one took its place. The old building was moved and became part of the Geneva House. The present building stands on a beautiful tract of land in the northeast part of the town. It is two stories in height and contains three rooms, where three teachers preside. The structure was



**Methodist Episcopal Church**

**SCENES ALONG RESIDENCE AND BUSINESS STREETS OF GENEVA**



built in 1905 at a cost of \$5,000. There are ten grades and a two years' course in high school work. The average attendance is about sixty pupils. The present members of the school board are: C. L. Fox, president; W. T. Overton, treasurer; B. D. Hunt, secretary. J. H. Clock, H. T. Page, D. McMillan and William Laipple are the other members.

#### GENEVA SAVINGS BANK

The Geneva Savings Bank was organized in 1902 by D. G. Wiley as a private institution. In July, 1905, F. A. Harriman, H. L. Harrison, N. A. Inglis, A. W. and G. F. Beed and B. D. Hunt purchased the property and organized it as the Geneva Savings Bank, with the following officers: H. L. Harrison, president; A. W. Beed, vice president; and B. D. Hunt, cashier. It is capitalized at \$15,000.

A very sad incident is connected with the organization of the Geneva Savings Bank. On Friday, October 29, 1905, F. A. Harriman, A. W. Beed, G. F. Beed, H. L. Harrison and N. A. Inglis went to Geneva in Mr. Harriman's machine to check up and take formal possession of the bank. At nine o'clock in the evening, the party started home, taking the old Maysville road, and while motoring down the steep hill just beyond A. D. St. Clair's residence, at the rate of thirty miles an hour, Mr. Harriman lost control of the steering gear of the machine. The front wheel struck the bridge that spans a small creek at the foot of the declivity and the impact was so great that the occupants of the car were thrown clear over the bridge, which is thirty feet in length. All escaped serious injury but Mr. Harriman. He was found lying on the ground, unconscious, and was picked up by his companions, who took him to the home of A. D. St. Clair, at the top of the hill. Dr. L. E. Haecker was summoned by 'phone and was soon at the injured man's bedside but could do nothing for his patient. The young man remained unconscious until his death, which took place soon after the physician's arrival. However, no bones were broken and death was evidently caused from concussion of the brain. Mr. Harriman was one of the prominent young men of Hampton, and left a widow, a daughter of John M. Hemingway, to mourn his loss. Mrs. Harriman at the time of her husband's death was the mother of twin girls, who were about six weeks old.

## METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

This society was first connected with Eldora Mission. Reverend Stewart, a local preacher, was in charge. He preached in the summer of 1855. In the fall of 1856 Maysville circuit was formed and Reverend Freeman was the pastor. In the fall of 1857 Rev. H. J. Burly ministered to the charge. The circuit at that time took in all of Franklin county and most of Butler county. Reverend Burly was in charge two years, and in the fall of 1858 Rev. James Hankins succeeded him. He had a colleague in Father Connell in the fall of 1859, and in the fall of 1860 Rev. Smith Knickerbocker took up the pastorate and remained about two years. His successor was Reverend Hesstwood. Mayne's Grove was the first appointment in this charge. In June, 1856, a class was organized at Mayne's Grove and called the Maysville class. Levi Jones was appointed leader.

The Geneva Church was organized in the winter of 1873-4 by Reverend Bargelt. Services were conducted in the schoolhouse in Geneva until 1882. In the summer of that year a church building was completed at a cost of about \$2,000. Some of the early contributors to this were James Pearse, Thomas March, John H. Page, Silas Page, W. P. Stoddard, B. H. Shute and H. C. Clock. The latter was not a member but was on the board of trustees.

The old church was remodeled and built to in 1899. It is a frame structure. The old parsonage was sold and moved into the country and on the site a new residence for the pastor was built during Reverend Barton's administration. The present members number 175. In the Sunday school are enrolled 135. The auxiliary societies are the Ladies' Aid Society, Woman's Home and Woman's Foreign Missionary Societies and Epworth League.

Here follows a list of the pastors: 1862, O. Glassner; 1863, C. J. Jones; 1864-65, G. J. Wilkerson; 1866-68, L. S. Cooley; 1869, G. Woods; 1870-71, J. J. Littler; 1872, W. H. Miller; 1873, H. Bargelt; 1874-75, J. M. Hedges; 1876-77, G. B. Crinklaw; 1878, L. S. Cooley; 1879-81, Jacob Haymond; 1882, Reverends Sprowl and Bretnell; 1883, T. A. Miller; 1884, G. E. Shear; 1885-86, W. E. Ross; 1887-91, Thomas A. Trimble; 1891-95, H. H. Barton; 1895, Eugene Ketchum; 1896-1900, N. F. Norton; 1901-02, W. E. Smedley, who died during his second year of service; F. P. Fisher, who filled out Reverend Smedley's unexpired term and remained until 1904; 1904-06, W. F. Spry; 1907, G. B. Shoemaker; 1908-11, J. B. Jones; 1911, T. M. Nielsen, the present incumbent.

## ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

In June, 1913, St. Paul's Church was organized by Rev. J. C. Wieneke, the names of the charter members being: John O'Brien, Ed O'Brien, his mother, Mrs. Ed O'Brien, John Haller, John Honick, John Amman, Dennis O'Laughlin, Michael O'Laughlin, James Redding, John S. Redding, Leo Redding, Clement Redding, Job Bartacek, John Kopacek and Thomas King, with their families. It is confidently anticipated that the number of families will be increased when the new church building is ready for occupancy.

Building operations began on the church, a frame structure, in the fall of 1913 and it will be dedicated before the expiration of the winter season. The property was purchased in July, the contract let in October and the corner stone laid November 16th, with fitting ceremonies. Since the organization of the parish, services have been held in Woodman Hall. The pastor is Rev. J. C. Wieneke of Hampton.

## FRATERNAL SOCIETIES

Kedron Lodge, No. 24, A. F. & A.M., was organized at Maysville July 29, 1868, by a dispensation from the grand master, which was granted to C. L. Clock, A. B. Hudson, E. L. Clock, Henry Shroyer, J. M. Jones, A. Pickering and B. K. Jackson. The first officers chosen were: Charles L. Clock, J. W.; L. S. Cooley, secretary; J. D. Parks, treasurer; H. C. Clock, S. D.; Henry Shroyer, J. D.; J. M. Jones and Albert Pickering, stewards; B. K. Jackson, tyler.

After Maysville began to disintegrate, the lodge was moved to Geneva, January 28, 1874, and C. L. Clock was elected worshipful master, which office he held until his removal to Hampton.

Albia Lodge, No. 213, I. O. O. F., was organized at Maysville, January 23, 1871, by H. C. Clock, W. W. Soper, A. A. Noble, W. T. Bullis, T. H. Reeve and G. W. Soper. The first officers were: W. W. Soper, N. G.; A. A. Noble, V. G.; T. H. Reeve, secretary; H. C. Clock, treasurer. This lodge became strong in numbers and continued to hold its meetings at Maysville until the completion of the Central Railway, when, in 1874, it moved to Geneva.

Geneva also has a strong lodge of the order of Modern Woodmen. All these organizations have auxiliary societies, whose membership is chiefly composed of women.

## GOD'S ACRE

William H. Thompson was one of the real pioneers of Franklin county and became a permanent and valued citizen. He was a man of splendid breeding, education and refinement; his early New England training was always apparent. Mr. Thompson took a deep interest in all that pertained to the welfare and advancement of his new home and neighbors in this western prairie state; and was a keen and critical observer of every local incident of note. Of Nature he made a deep study, and as a student of her manifold beauties, he was often impelled to preserve his impressions in choice bits of prose, as the following article, written in 1871, clearly indicates:

"Among the many changes and improvements that have been made in Geneva township during the past year, one that deserves a passing notice is the building of a good, plain four-board fence around the Highland Grove cemetery. It was during the winter of 1857 that David Church lost an infant son, and at that early period of the settlement of our township there was no cemetery to inter the little infant in. So Mr. Church and wife selected a spot on the crown of the bluff on the south side of Highland Grove, it being a portion of prairie belonging with his timber lot, and a pleasant and elevated situation. A few years later and some two or three other little children were placed by its side, for the want of a more suitable place for interment. Then as the settlement seemed to require a cemetery, the offer was made by Mr. Church to donate an acre or more if needed, for that purpose, and W. H. Thompson offered to donate the same from his land that lay adjoining Mr. Church's on the west and comprised a portion of the crown of the bluff. The offer was accepted and trustees were appointed to legally establish a cemetery. The ladies of the vicinity formed a mite society to obtain funds to fence and improve the ground, a portion of it was laid out into lots and the past summer a substantial fence was completed around the ground. The enclosure is eighteen rods square, and the view from the cemetery we believe is equalled by but few, if any, in the county. The scene presented from this elevated position, on a clear, pleasant day, few can fully describe and do justice to it. Looking away to the north, a goodly portion of Ingham township is plainly seen, dotted here and there with a farm house and occasionally a neat, white schoolhouse. Turning the eye to the northwest, the town of Hampton is in full view before you, with the towering church spire, bearing the most positive evidence of a

Christian civilization; then the wide scope of prairie stretching away to the west, with the numerous artificial groves, which in summer breaks pleasantly the sameness of the prairie scene, and in a more southerly course taking in the little village of Maysville; then facing to the south the winding course of Mayne's creek can be traced for several miles, and beyond it across the rolling prairie we have seen the tops of the trees in the grove just north of Ackley, about twelve miles distant, and a friend lately told us that the workmen upon the cupola of the new hotel in Ackley could see Highland Grove, and the course of the Iron Horse can be plainly traced by his smoky breath the greater part of the distance from Ackley to Hampton; then changing the view in a southeasterly direction, Four Mile Grove is plainly seen and on beyond it some twelve miles, stands Bear Grove, in Butler county, a prominent oasis upon the treeless prairie, and to the east the timber along Van Horn's creek with the wide grass bottom lands along its valley, with Burr Oak Grove, and in the distance the belt of timber upon Union Ridge along the banks of the West Fork is plainly visible for several miles.

"Such is but a brief outline of the view from this beautiful elevation selected to be the last earthly resting place of the loved and lost ones. Little did we think when we first stood upon this beautiful eminence, fifteen years ago, and could have numbered all the settlers' houses then in sight upon our fingers and gazed admiringly upon the scene, that within so short a period, this spot would be held as a sacred and endeared resting place of two loved and cherished, but early lost buds of promise. There are ten little ones sleeping there now, all under ten years of age, and one aged person with them; and while we reflect upon the change that a few short years have wrought, we look forward to the future hoping this fitly chosen spot may ever be held as God's acre, as the old Saxons called their burial grounds, and may loving hands continue to improve and beautify it. May we ever bear in mind that all the works of man are perishable, and man himself must perish, 'Dust thou art, to dust returneth.'"

#### OAKLAND TOWNSHIP

Oakland township lies in the southwest corner of Franklin county and was organized in 1867, having been detached in that year from Morgan township. The first election was held at the home of John I. Popejoy, in 1856. This, however, was before Oakland was



separated from Morgan township. A postoffice was established when there were not more than a dozen families in the community. Amasa Dodd was the first postmaster and the name of the office was Oakland.

Oakland township is watered and drained by the Iowa river, which runs through it from northwest to southeast, traversing portions of sections 18, 19, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 35 and 36. Originally the river had heavy timber on either side of its entire course through the township. One railroad—the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern, now known as the Rock Island, trends diagonally across the township, entering on section 6 and making its exit from section 25. The soil is of a very productive quality, producing all the cereals, vegetables and fruits common to this climate. Some of the most beautiful and productive farms in all northern Iowa are situated along the Iowa valley. So lasting is the richness of the soil that lands which have been cultivated for over a half century produce perfect grains in bountiful measures. Corn usually ripens a month earlier than on the prairie back from the river. Much heretofore waste land has been reclaimed since the establishment of Drainage Ditch No. 2, located in the northeastern part of the township.

Oakland has for its boundary lines, Hardin county on the south, Wright county on the west, Morgan township on the north and Lee township on the east. Three trappers known by the names of Dennis Sprague, Doctor Crawford and Francis M. Mitchell, are credited with having been the first settlers in Oakland township. Sprague had a claim where the village of Oakland was afterward located and Mitchell went to Des Moines and made the first entry of land in Franklin county. These men did not stay long, however, and in all probability John I. Popejoy, who appeared here in 1854, entering six or seven hundred acres of land, should be characterized as the first real settler of the township. Mr. Popejoy visited this region with H. H. Pierson in 1854 and stopped at a spring where H. C. Holmes had made a preemption of 160 acres. Here they heard some one coming, which proved to be two men carrying a gun and an ax, who accosted them with the query "What are you doing here?" This led up to some warm words between the quartette, but finally a bargain was reached by which Popejoy purchased whatever interest the men had in the locality. The land thus obtained was the finest tract of timber on the north bank of the Iowa river, covered with oak and black walnut. The final entries made by Mr. Popejoy

brought his possessions up to 2,860 acres in one body, 1,000 acres in grass and the balance in timber and plowed land. He became the biggest farmer and cattle man in this section of the state and in 1881 erected the largest and finest farm residence in northern Iowa, which cost him \$12,000. It was situated in a beautiful oak grove, about thirty rods from the east bank of the Iowa river, overlooking the beautiful Iowa valley. He established himself on this place with his family, in 1855. Mr. Popejoy became prominent in public affairs. He represented his district on the county board for sixteen years and had the further distinction of being the first assessor in Franklin county. The town of Popejoy was named in his honor. He passed away in 1896.

Jesse R. Dodd moved to Oakland township from Morgan township in 1855, and located in Oakland Grove, a village so named by John I. Popejoy.

G. A. Polhemas emigrated from Illinois in 1855 and located on the south side of the Iowa river, where he lived until the spring of 1883, at which time he removed to Dakota. A Mr. Beatty came to the township about the same time as Mr. Dodd but soon returned to his native state, Vermont.

James D. Brande settled in Iowa in 1854, first locating in Hardin county. In 1857 he purchased 130 acres of land on section 35, Oakland township, twenty-one acres of which were under the plow. On the property was a block house—one of the best in the community. This was the home of the Brandes for some years.

Levi Bigelow, a native born son of the state of New Hampshire, settled at Otis Grove in 1856, and the following year moved to Oakland. Mr. Bigelow was postmaster at Oakland over twenty years, township clerk ten years, and also served as justice of the peace, assessor and school director. In 1866 he went into the mercantile business.

E. A. Smith was a son-in-law of Levi Bigelow. He came to the township in 1857 and finally located on section 28.

C. W. Walton became a resident of this township in 1865. He acquired a valuable farm of 130 acres, all but twenty acres of which he placed under cultivation. Mr. Walton saw much service as a private soldier in the war of the rebellion. He became one of the leading citizens of this township and held most, if not all, of the local offices.

A. O. Sime, a Norwegian, settled here June 10, 1867. He purchased a tract of eighty acres of land, to which he added other acres from time to time, finally becoming prosperous and independent.

N. W. Hagenson located on section 7, in 1867. Three years later he removed to a purchase on section 17. Being inured to hard knocks and having a determination to advance, it was not many years before Mr. Hagenson had accumulated a fine property and was rated as one of the good citizens of the township.

Rev. N. Peterson was one of the worthy men who chose Oakland township for a place of residence. He was born in Denmark and emigrated to the United States in 1866, first engaging in the mercantile business at Indianapolis, Indiana. He prepared himself for the Lutheran ministry at Decorah, Iowa, also at the German Lutheran Seminary at Springfield, Illinois, and the Norwegian Lutheran Seminary at Madison, Wisconsin. In 1877 he became the pastor of Otis Grove Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Claus Erickson, as his name indicates, a Norwegian, immigrated to America at the age of twenty-two, first locating in Wisconsin. He enlisted in Company G, Twenty-second Wisconsin Volunteers, and served three years. In 1868 he became a resident of Oakland township, assuming all the duties devolving upon a good husbandman, and became a highly respected citizen.

Iver Iverson came with his brother, Erik, from Norway to America in 1868. The Iverson brothers became residents of Oakland township that year, first purchasing forty acres of land, upon which they began farming. Later Erik Iverson secured a tract of 160 acres of land on section 18.

Daniel B. Martin and Nancy Garner were the first couple married in Franklin county. At the time, they lived in that locality which was afterwards part and parcel of the original Reeve township, and was eventually separated from Reeve and became a part of Oakland township. The license was secured at Eldora before Franklin county was organized. Under authority of the license issued by the county court of Hardin the young couple were married, but not, however, until Franklin county had been organized and detached from Hardin, and its county court assumed all the functions prescribed by law. Martin not knowing this and having waited some time after receiving his license, and not being a resident of Hardin, concluded the marriage was illegal and as soon as possible the marriage ceremony was again performed, this time by Judge J. B. Reeve, at his home in Reeve township. Not, however, until three weeks had elapsed from the time 'Squire Leggett, who held his commission under appointment from Hardin county, had declared Martin and Nancy Garner man and wife.

The first birth in Oakland township was that of James Mitchell, son of Sanford Mitchell, in 1855. In the home of Sanford Mitchell death first made its appearance in the township, in 1856. The son at that time was called and the body found interment in Oakland cemetery. Mrs. Mitchell died in 1860 and was buried in the Popejoy cemetery.

Tabitha Wyatt taught the first school in Oakland township in a building erected by J. I. Popejoy and J. R. Dodd, west of the river, on section 27, in 1857. The young lady mentioned was a daughter of C. W. Wyatt, a settler of 1856. Miss Wyatt was probably the youngest school teacher who ever undertook to inject the rudiments of an education into a group of pupils. At the time of opening this school she was only twelve years of age.

Rev. Philemon Plummer held religious services at the home of John I. Popejoy, in 1855. In 1875 the Baptists, Methodists and Congregationalists organized societies but in the '80s the Methodists was the only organized religious body remaining. Previous to these just mentioned, however, a Union Sunday school was organized in 1858.

In 1857 Amasa Wyatt and J. R. Dodd put up a sawmill, which was greatly needed and generously supported.

Sanford Mitchell opened a blacksmith shop in 1856 and about the same time J. R. Dodd opened a store which afterwards came into possession of Silas Pearce.

Early in the history of the township a burial ground, known as Popejoy cemetery, was laid out on section 27. It contained one acre of land. An association to take charge of the property was formed in 1864. William Walton was chosen as its president. Another cemetery was opened on section 8. This tract of land consisted of two acres and many interments have been made there.

#### VILLAGES

Jesse R. Dodd filed and platted Oakland village in January, 1857. The plat embraced the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 28, but as a trading point the village never amounted to very much. In fact there never was any great attraction there for the settlers. However, a postoffice was established and in 1866 Levi Bigelow built a store and kept the postoffice. He continued in business there for a number of years. Amasa Dodd was the first postmaster. In 1862 Levi Bigelow was appointed postmaster.

Popejoy is a station on the Rock Island railroad. It is located on section 22 and was platted by the Cedar Rapids, Iowa Falls & Northwestern Town Lot Company, per C. J. Ives, president, and E. S. Ellsworth, secretary, on September 28, 1880, as Carleton. The name was afterwards changed to Popejoy. It is now a town of no little importance. The census of 1910 gave it a population of 200. In 1908 it was incorporated. It has two grain elevators, a bank, church, several stores, shops; and secures a good trade from a rich and prosperous class of people within a radius of several miles. A post-office was established June 19, 1888, and J. W. Finch was first appointed as postmaster. His successors were: M. E. Mathews, July 23, 1890; J. W. Finch, May 11, 1893; J. H. Popejoy, October 3, 1894; Edwin P. Finch, January 17, 1896; Annie A. Gordon, November 15, 1897; Robert L. Mendell, April 29, 1901; John E. Carr, March 11, 1907; William S. Kent, September 26, 1910; James H. Popejoy, February 27, 1912.

The Bank of Popejoy, a private financial concern, was established in 1896. Its officers are: G. H. Jameson, president; J. E. Carr, vice president; and A. F. Iverson, cashier.

#### A WEEK IN OAKLAND

The late L. B. Raymond was familiar with every nook and corner of Franklin county and probably knew every man within her borders. He made a study of the history connected with this important subdivision of the state and visited at intervals various localities, in order that he might obtain material of value to add to a collection already accumulated. On one of his "trips into the country" in 1871, this indefatigable news gatherer spent a week among the industrious and hospitable people of Oakland township, and on returning to his desk, at the Record office (now Recorder), wrote the following for his paper:

We had the pleasure of spending last week in Oakland township, and becoming better acquainted with its situation and its people than ever before. Five years ago the coming spring we passed through the township but since that time our travels have been confined to other portions of the county. Oakland, as the most of our readers are aware, is situated in the southwest part of the county, the Iowa river flowing diagonally through the township. There is considerable timber skirting the river, but aside from this there are no groves except artificial ones, which have been started on many farms.

The land near the Iowa is of good quality and well adapted either to agricultural or grazing purposes; in a large share of the township, however, the soil is not of the best quality, being wet and heavy with many gravel knobs. The principal improvements yet made are near the river. Oakland Valley is quite a little village, containing about a dozen dwellings, a brick schoolhouse, a postoffice, store, etc. Levi Bigelow is the postmaster and merchant of the place. We were highly pleased with the general appearance of the people with whom we became acquainted. They are generous and whole-souled, deeply interested in education, intelligent and moral. At Oakland Valley an interesting lyceum is maintained, holding regular meetings every Friday evening. These meetings are well attended, are very interesting and are proving instructive and beneficial to the entire community. Regular religious exercises are held each Sabbath, the Methodists and Congregationalists having church organizations. In the northern portion of the township the inhabitants are largely Norwegians, who are an industrious class of people, good farmers, with neat and frugal housewives, and are rapidly becoming Americanized. In this neighborhood there are two schools in which nearly all the pupils are Norwegians. These children make very studious, well behaved pupils and are learning rapidly, considering the advantages they have enjoyed. There are five schools in the township, with four comfortable schoolhouses and another about to be built. The teachers at present employed in this township are H. L. Frost, Mrs. L. L. Johnson, Mrs. Lizzie Fobes, Miss Mattie A. Northrup and Miss Emma Dodd—a corps of teachers equal in ability to those of any township in the county.

Among the projected improvements in this locality we notice that L. R. Fobes is about opening a farm a couple of miles north of the village. He is busily engaged in drawing building materials, fencing, etc. and making ready for more active operation as soon as the season will admit.

We were kindly "taken in and done for" by the "Cattle King" of the Iowa valley—John I. Popejoy—to whom we are under lasting obligations for many favors shown us during our stay in his vicinity. Mr. Popejoy is an extensive stock grower and is wintering the present season about one hundred and thirty head of cattle, mostly four-year-olds. They are in good condition and will yield a good sum of money when ready for market.

## OAKLAND IN THE EARLY DAYS

By Harry Dodd

In and around Oakland at the time of the Indian massacre at Spirit Lake and Okoboji, were eight families—by name Brande, Wyatt, Popejoy, Mitchell, Smith, Dodd and Polhemus. The Wyatts lived in a two-story log house where Mr. Houghton now lives; Dodds lived on what is now the Rice farm; Polhemus' home was near the present Coats farm; and Mitchell lived on the place now owned by Mr. Graff.

Alden was a large village of three huts, while Iowa Falls possessed the superior number of four. There were only a few homes between these two cities and none at all between Oakland and Hampton. Iowa City was the nearest town where provisions were obtainable, so several men would make the trip together and return with several wagon loads of flour, groceries and other necessities. There were no roads at this time and they were unnecessary, as the men would strike off across the prairie, turning out only for sloughs and ponds.

When the news first reached the settlers of the terrible outrages committed by the Indians at Spirit Lake, great excitement prevailed among the scattered settlements. Rumors continually reached our friends at Oakland that Indians were coming to massacre all the people in Iowa. Wagon trains of five and six and more were passing on their way east to God's country, as they expressed it. Many came from Fort Dodge and further west. Each reported the Indians only a few hours' journey back of them and rapidly coming east. The eight families at Oakland were urged to join these people who were escaping death, or a fate worse than death, but not one of them could be persuaded to leave the homes they had worked so hard to make pleasant and comfortable. However, they believed that something should be done to protect the helpless women and children, so the homes were deserted and all gathered at Mr. Mitchell's home, on the Graff farm of today, and turned the place into a fortress. In all respect and reverence the rude log hut was dubbed Fort Mitchell. For the accommodation of the women and children beds were made on the floors, both upstairs and down. The men brought their guns and for a week sentinels stood at their posts day and night to guard the fort and the precious souls it contained.

The Popejoy family were unable to join the rest because of their stock, but fearful lest the Indians should come upon them unawares,

they kept the horses harnessed during the day and at night hitched them to the wagons so as to be ready at a moment's notice and take refuge in Fort Mitchell. And lest in spite of these precautions they should be caught napping, they planned their campaign as follows: In the family was a young German girl and in her care were placed the two youngest girls. She made them a solemn promise, with her hand over her heart, that if the Indians attacked their home, she would seize the little girls by the hand and flee to the river, which was but a short distance from the house. And if hotly pursued by the Indians and no avenue of escape presented itself, she would drown both the little girls and herself in the river, the parents preferring such a fate for the girl and their little ones to a life of captivity among the Indians. The father and mother were to guard the rest as best they could.

At the little fort the strictest watch was kept and after many sleepless nights, the families dispersed to their various homes where no Indians came to disturb their slumbers.

In 1857, the same year as the Indian scare, was held the first town meeting. It was in a big house which stood on the site of Adam Smith's corn crib of today. The first election took place at this time, Mr. Popejoy and Jesse Dodd being among those elected to office, and they at once entered upon the duties assigned them. During the same year it was decided that there should be some kind of a school, as the only instruction the children received was from the parents. Accordingly, an old log house on the banks of the Iowa river was chosen for the purpose. The floor was puncheon and the seats or benches were mere slabs or half logs with sticks driven in for legs. The stove was one of the old-fashioned kind, with an elevated oven, that had previously served as a cook stove.

The first teacher was Eliza Smith. She was paid by subscriptions made by the parents. Some of the pupils desired to study geography but the teacher informed them that if they insisted on studying that subject, they would have to get a new teacher as she knew nothing whatever about geography. After the first term, there being a scarcity of teachers, a little girl of twelve years took up the ferrule. Although but a year older than most of her pupils, Jennie Wyatt did fairly well, as most of the children were informed by their parents of the punishment awaiting them at home if they did not mind the little schoolma'am.

In 1859 the school district was organized and called Oakland, and under the new arrangements, the teachers were paid by the



county. Miss Elizabeth Bigelow was the first teacher after the organization. After school was out Miss Bigelow became Mrs. Adam Smith. They drove to the minister's and every time Miss Elizabeth spied a pretty flower, Mr. Smith would get out of the buggy and pick it for her, and sad but true, after the ceremony when they were riding home, no one observed Adam picking any flowers. However, Mr. Smith built a home for his bride. Part of the pine used came from Cedar Falls, and the rest came from Independence.

In 1862 the county superintendent, by name N. B. Chapman, decided that Franklin county should have an institute. Accordingly, Professor Enos, of Davenport or Dubuque, was employed to conduct the first training school, and he was paid \$50 for his work. Two girls, Mary Wyatt and Delia Hitt, represented Oakland at the institute and they have rendered the following account of it: Hampton was then a small village, with a population of 200. The institute was held in the schoolhouse and an old melodeon was borrowed for the occasion. About one hundred teachers were present and they were entertained by the people, no charges being made for their board. The institute began at 9 and closed at 4. Every morning they all sang the song, "The Year of Jubilo." It commences, "Say Darkies, have you seen the Massa?" After singing they took up the study of geography, all reciting in one class as at a common school. Then followed the other studies in the same manner. There were no examinations at the close of the institute, which lasted a week, but those who desired to teach were given certificates by the superintendent.

During one of the recitation classes, one of the teachers differed from the professor on some small point. An argument ensued, in which the young lady became very angry, and after scolding at Professor Enos, walked out of the room and did not return to the institute. Several years later she became county superintendent and she was considered an excellent educator.

At the close of the institute, Sam Wyatt, then a lad of twelve years, came with a team after the two girls. A friend had taken them part of the way and exposed them to a fever at a farm house where seven of the family were lying ill with the disease. Sam found the girls and they started homeward. It was a very dark night and the horses could not follow the road. The girls had to get out of the buggy and creep on ahead of the horses in order to tell where they were going. But after a hard night's travel they reached their

homes in Oakland. Miss Wyatt taught school that fall. She received \$12 a month and paid \$1 a week for board.

This was during the Civil war and hard times prevailed. Calico, that we now obtain for 2 or 3 cents a yard, was then purchased at extravagant prices, ranging from 35 to 60 cents. As the dresses had six and seven widths in the skirt, it took a small fortune to buy a common dress and no one had a superfluity of clothes. People raised their own wheat, so flour was obtainable. None used sugar; it was too expensive, but molasses took its place. For drink, they made a coffee from the roasted grain of wheat and corn. This was sweetened with molasses. An amusing story is told of a minister who visited at one of the homes near Oakland at this time. The lady was delighted to have so honorable a guest and was anxious to please him. At the supper table, she began pouring molasses into his cup of coffee. The minister sought to stop the deluge of molasses by saying, "That is plenty, thank you." The lady replied, as she continued to pour in the syrup, "It's none too good for you, if it's all 'lasses."

In 1862 occurred a unique wedding in Oakland. The ceremony took place in the brick house now owned by John Carr. The bride was a winsome lass by the name of Mary Billings. The groom borrowed his brother's wedding coat, pants and vest and he carried a pair of slippers in his hand, which he put on when he arrived at his fiancee's home. At 4 o'clock the next morning he was four miles east of Oakland after a load of hay.

The settlers agreed they should have some kind of a church. So a Methodist minister came up occasionally from Alden and held meetings in the schoolhouse. The Methodists at that time shouted and groaned a great deal, and consequently the meetings were noisy ones. One Sunday, as they were shouting in their usual way, a nervous little girl in the corner began to cry. The older ones took this as a sign of her conversion and put her name on the church roll, the child being too timid to remonstrate. One old gentleman went home with her to tell her parents about it; and ever after, at every misdeed, Mary was twitted of being a poor Christian, until her heart was well nigh broken. Little Mary is an old lady of sixty winters now, but she says she has never quite forgiven the man and woman who put her name on the church roll and told her parents she had been converted.

Mr. Slocum who owned a piece of land along the river bottom near the Wheeler place, desired to rent it for hay land. It was rented

to two young men, on condition they would not plow around the stacks to protect them from the prairie fires which frequently occurred. The young men agreed, but after the hay was all stacked they felt fully justified in taking some precaution against fire. So they plowed several furrows around each stack, burned the grass around the hay and then turned the furrows back. When Mr. Slocum saw the burned grass which formed so complete a circle around each stack he inquired how they had burned them so true. The young men told him they had set stakes for that purpose.

Soon after this Mr. Slocum moved south near Alden. In those days the men had but one suit of clothes, which was nearly threadbare before another was purchased. The news reached Oakland that Mr. Slocum had a new suit of clothes. As the rumor was doubted, a committee was sent to investigate the matter. They found that he had worn his old suit out and was wearing the lining, which had been mistaken for a new one.

Soon after this, a law suit occurred, in which Mr. Morgan was justice. Mr. Train, in pleading the case, said: "I would willingly talk for two hours longer if I could convince the court that I am right." "Well," said Justice Morgan, "don't talk any more on my account, because my mind was made up before you began."

And, like Mr. Train, I would willingly talk for two hours longer, but I fear that the judges, like Justice Morgan, had their minds made up before I began.

#### HAMILTON TOWNSHIP

Hamilton township was erected and detached from Reeve township in 1871, and on October 10th of that year the first election was held, at which the following were selected as the officials of the community: Trustees, R. J. Elliott, R. Hamilton and J. W. Wallace; assessor, I. W. Myers; clerk, D. W. Elliott; justices of the peace, D. M. Pratt and Asa Wright; constables, J. E. Bahcan and Albert Miller.

Hamilton comprises township 91, range 21 west. It is bounded on the north by Marion, on the east by Reeve, on the south by Lee and on the west by Morgan townships.

Here prairie land principally abounds. It is of the most fertile quality. In the southern part the land is rolling, through which runs a small stream, having along its banks considerable timber. A sandy loam, with clay subsoil, obtains contiguous to the streams. The

northern portion of the township is a level prairie of a deep black loam and much of it was low and swampy. This character may also have been given to the northwest and northeast portions of the township in its early days. In recent years this low land has all been drained. Practically all of Drainage Ditch No. 17 lies in the extreme northeast corner, and sections 6, 5, 8 and 7 lie within District No. 3. District No. 18 and Sub-District No. 1 cover a considerable portion of the southwestern part of the township and in the southern and southeastern part lies Ditch No. 16.

This vast modern improvement has brought thousands of acres of very valuable land into cultivation and has added greatly to the worth of property in this section of the county. The total number of acres in the township is 23,040. The land is adapted to the production of a generous yield of corn to the acre, also oats, hay and stock-raising.

The first settlers who came to this township remained but a short time. They were Richard and John Bingham, and a companion named Lampman. These pioneers preempted land and erected log cabins thereon in 1855. The Bingham returned to their native state—Indiana—after a residence of about two years, and Lampman went to California, where he shortly afterwards died.

Andrew and Robert Hamilton, Robert Darrah, Nathaniel Walker and William Braden may be justly termed the real pioneer settlers of Hamilton township, and that view of the matter was probably taken by those who gave it its name. Andrew Hamilton arrived here in the fall of 1855. He was a native of Ireland, where he received a common-school education. Emigrating to America in 1848, he settled in Harrison county, Ohio. In 1855 he bought a lot of stock and came to Iowa, first stopping in Independence. Mr. Hamilton located in the township, built a log cabin and lived there until 1873, when he put up a more modern and commodious habitation. He was a man of great force and thrift and accumulated a competency. He helped to build the Methodist church.

Robert Hamilton did not arrive in the township until in May, 1856, when he entered eighty acres on section 25. Robert Darrah also came in 1856, building himself a cabin on section 36. He was a native of Ireland, and as did the Hamiltons, first settled in Harrison county, Ohio. Mr. Darrah put up a log house on his place and that was the home of himself and family until 1877, when a better building took its place. This worthy pioneer taught the first school held in the township. This was in the winter of 1857-58 and

the schoolhouse was a little log shanty. The pupils consisted of about nine children. He held many positions of trust and responsibility.

Between the time that the families just mentioned settled in the township and the '60s, there were many arrivals but the names of the individuals are not obtainable. The writer can give but a few scattered names of those who came at a later period.

Thomas Stockdale was a settler here in 1859. He was a native of Ireland, emigrated to the United States and first settled in New York state. He then went to Wisconsin and from there to Hardin county, whence in the year mentioned he removed to Franklin county and located on section 26, Hamilton township. The farm he cultivated became one of the most desirable places in this section. As its owner was a man of thrift and industry and with excellent management, he brought the place up to a high state of cultivation and improved it with excellent buildings. He paid considerable attention to the raising of stock. Mr. Stockdale soon had for neighbors a trio of Pennsylvanians—C. Cobble and the Kempthorne brothers.

J. W. Wallace, whose birth place was Harrison county, Ohio, after living in various places in Iowa, settled on a farm in Hamilton township in 1861. The land had been entered by him about the year 1856. Mr. Wallace became one of the large land owners of the township and also had his farm well stocked with cattle.

John and David Elliott came to the township in 1861 from the Buckeye state. They were accompanied by William Ganfield. The latter located on section 26 and made a specialty of stock-raising. When he came here John Elliott's wife, five children, and a sister, Susan, were with him.

Charles Kempthorne located on the northwest quarter of section 25, in 1868. He was a native of England and emigrating to the United States in 1850, first settled in Jo Daviess county, Illinois. Mr. Kempthorne served three years in the Civil war.

Those who came in the '70s were E. H. Stinson, who settled on section 21, in 1870. He also had a good Civil war record. Edward Scantlebury located on section 16, in 1876. Mr. Scantlebury was a fancier of graded stock and always had quite a number of fine animals on his place. Together with general farming, he also paid some attention to dairying. He was an Englishman by birth. Jacob Pearson purchased a farm in Hamilton township in 1874 and settled on it in 1879. He became prosperous, improved his place by erecting thereon comfortable and commodious buildings and was ranked

among the progressive farmers of the community. James Sharpe was a native of Ireland and came to America in 1872. He settled in Hamilton township in 1875 and began the raising of stock. His son, J. J. Sharpe, took up the breeding of fine Durham cattle and graded Norman horses. Anthony Snyder, a Pennsylvanian, located on section 32 in 1878. He had a military record of which he might well be proud.

Another settler in the township in 1878 was Thomas Malone, who came from Wisconsin that year and located on section 13. He had previously, in 1868, purchased the property. Here he built a fine brick house, the only one at that time in the township, and became one of the well-to-do and influential men of this section. He now resides in South Dakota.

John, a son of Robert Darrah, was the first person born in Hamilton township. His arrival upon earth was in the winter of 1857. He moved into Lee township in 1878.

The first death occurred in 1857. In that year Nathaniel Walker died at the home of Robert Hamilton. Aaron Hamilton, father of Robert and Andrew Hamilton, was the second in the township to pass away.

James Faun and Margaret Braden, a daughter of William Braden, were married at the home of the bride, by James Rucker, a justice of the peace, in 1858. This was the first marriage ceremony performed in the township.

An itinerant preacher stopped at the home of Andrew Hamilton in 1857 and held religious services. This was the first meeting of the settlers for the purpose in the township.

In the fall of 1881 a Methodist society having been organized, Robert Hamilton donated a site on which the Methodist people erected a church building, which cost \$1,400. It was dedicated in the fall of 1881 by Reverend Milliner, of Iowa Falls, assisted by the pastor, Rev. Jacob Haymond.

A postoffice was established in the township and Nelson Wright was appointed postmaster. He kept his office at the house of A. C. Wright, where it remained three years and was then discontinued.

The first school taught in the township was by Miss Belle Birkett, in 1863, in a frame building located on section 25, and afterwards moved to section 26. Later the building was placed on its old site on section 25. Since that time a number of district school buildings have been erected. A detailed account will be found in the chapter on educational subjects.

William Davis settled in the northwest corner of the township in 1870. Frank Wall, Hazel Boddy, William Boddy, Edward Boddy, Peter Smith; 'Squire Slocum in the southeast corner; Robert Lawe, James Norman in the northeast corner; George Wright and the Frazers in the southwest corner.

#### GRANT TOWNSHIP

Grant lies in the southern tier of townships belonging to Franklin county, and is bounded on the north by Reeve, on the east by Osceola, on the south by Hardin county and on the west by Lee township.

It was originally a part of Reeve and Osceola townships and later of Oakland. In 1870, on petition of Wesley Brogan and others, Grant was erected and separated from Oakland township. The first election was held at a schoolhouse on section 16 on the 16th day of October, 1870, at which time there were thirty votes cast for the following officers: Long Saley, clerk; J. F. Moats, assessor; B. F. Cogswell, John Griggs, H. Talhelm, trustees. Saley and Moats failed to qualify and Wesley Brogan was appointed clerk, and Nelson Saley, assessor.

The land composing this township is principally prairie and is drained by Beaver creek, which heads on section 9 and takes its way to the southeast corner, there entering Osceola township. The soil is sandy loam and highly productive. Fine farms, splendidly improved, abound on every hand. The raising of stock is an industry not overlooked by the enterprising, industrious men who have made this community a valuable one to themselves and the county at large. There was at one time considerable low, marshy land in the western part. This all has been brought up to a splendid marketable value by the institution of Drainage Ditches Nos. 9, 13 and 1. Drainage District No. 19 has reclaimed some valuable land in the western part of the township. The St. Paul & Des Moines Short Line runs through the western tier of sections, having Bradford station on section 6.

The first persons to make settlement in Grant township were Amos Roberts, James Sayre, Sr., and two men named Macey and Stoddard. Sayre and Stoddard settled on section 5, in 1860. There were others who came about this time but their names have gone out of the reckoning.

Levi Talhelm, who had early settled in Reeve township, located in this community in 1863, on section 4. Mr. Talhelm is now city clerk of Hampton.

John Griggs located on section 36, in 1867. William T. Bullis was also a settler of 1867. He served in the Civil war and after coming to Franklin county aided in the organization of Grant township.

Nelson Saley, a native of Maine, came to Franklin county in 1868, and bought an improved farm in Grant township, which for many years was his home. In 1895 he moved to Hampton, and in 1900 to Silver Lake, Kansas, where he purchased a farm and there died September 30, 1905.

Frederick M. Hamblin came to Franklin county from Dubuque county, in May, 1868, and became a citizen of this township and was instrumental in furthering its organization. He was a Civil war veteran, a good farmer and a good citizen.

Wesley Brogan located on section 5, in 1873. Previous to this his parents had removed to Muscatine county, in 1869.

Joseph Studer came to Grant township in 1873. He had spent two years in Eldora before coming here.

The year 1873 witnessed the coming to Grant of William Boddy from Hardin county. He was an Englishman by birth and a stone mason by trade. He fought for the preservation of the Union in the Civil war until 1865 and afterwards went to Kansas. The family came to Iowa in 1869. Mr. Boddy, after coming to Franklin county, first settled in Lee township.

W. B. Johnson became a citizen of this township in 1874. His parents were W. B. and Lydia H. Johnson, who were pioneers of Franklin county, settling in Geneva township in 1855 on the present site of the depot at the village of Geneva. The senior Johnson was the first mail carrier from Maysville to Cedar Falls. Soon after locating in the township W. B. Johnson secured a tract of land on section 6, where he made his home.

Moses A. Webber located on section 15, in Grant township, in March, 1875. He was also rated as one of the capable farmers of the township. He became well-to-do and reached a high place in the estimation of his neighbors.

Heinrich Meyer, a native of Germany, came to the United States when nineteen years of age, first stopping at Cincinnati, Ohio. He arrived in Franklin county in 1873 and purchased land in Grant township. He there cultivated the soil and made a place for him-



self in the community as one of its industrious and prosperous farmers.

E. B. Keeling was a settler of 1876. In 1877 he married Mary Griffin. He began work on a farm, paying his every attention toward its improvement, in which he succeeded to his own satisfaction and the admiration of his neighbors.

Henry Fessler was born and obtained his education in the Keystone state. He enlisted in the Civil war and in 1871 came to Iowa, first stopping in Hardin county. In 1872 he removed to Osceola township, in Franklin county. In the latter '70s he located in Grant township and became not only prominent as a farmer but also well known as a politician.

Newton Penny was born in Indiana. He arrived in Grant township in 1872 and took up his permanent residence here. Mr. Penny was a Civil war veteran, serving in the Thirty-second Iowa. He was held in the highest esteem in the community and filled local offices of responsibility.

Benjamin Havens came to Franklin county in 1877 and located in Grant township. He had served in the Ninth Iowa Cavalry in the Civil war.

John W. Meyer located on section 6 in this township in 1878. He was born in Wisconsin. His parents, John and Catherine Meyer, with their family settled in Franklin county in 1858. John W. Meyer married Matilda Pickens, January 8, 1878, and on the 15th of the month fixed his permanent residence in Grant township.

Nicholas Plattner settled on section 22, in 1880. He became one of the large farmers of the community. Mr. Plattner was a native of Switzerland. He came to America in 1858 and perfected himself in the art of gardening.

Edward Ryan became a citizen of Grant township in 1880. He had married Nora Kiley the month previous to his arrival and soon got into the midst of things in an effort to carve out a home and a high place among his neighbors for himself and family. In this he succeeded. He has been for many years clerk of the township and his continuous service in this office surpasses all precedents.

The first marriage to take place in Grant township was that of Levi Talhelm and Anna Cogswell, in 1871. Mr. Lambert and Ruth Cogswell were married at the same time.

Mrs. Johnson, grandmother of Mrs. Levi Talhelm, died in the spring of 1872. This was the first death to occur in Grant township. The burial was in the cemetery at Maysville.

The first birth was that of Charles W., son of W. T. and Eliza Bullis, which took place May 14, 1867.

Rev. Mr. Woods of Maysville, a Methodist minister, preached the first sermon in the township at the house of J. F. Moats, in 1869.

The first school was taught by Jennie Roberts, at the house of J. F. Moats, in the winter of 1869-70. The same winter Miss Sperry taught at the house of Humphrey Talhelm.

Grant township has a fair share of the schools distributed in the county, good roads, well kept, highly improved farms and had a population in 1910 of 600.

#### BRADFORD

Bradford is the latest town to seek recognition as a trading point in Franklin county. It was laid out and platted November 19, 1906, by the Bradford Town Site Company, of which G. A. W. Dodge was president, and J. W. Souder, secretary.

The village is located on the east part of section 6, half way between Hampton and Iowa Falls, and today has a population of 200. Bradford has the largest farming community from which to draw trade in Franklin county. Its buildings are substantial, principally constructed of reinforced concrete. There are two general stores, and an implement warehouse located there; elevator, coal yards, drug store, hardware store, restaurant, barber shop, blacksmith shop, bank and a number of fine residences.

The Methodist Church was erected in the fall of 1912, at a cost of \$3,000.

The Bradford Savings Bank was established in 1908, with a paid up capital of \$15,000. T. W. Purcell is president; O. F. Myers, vice president; W. L. Luke, cashier. The deposits at the time of its last statement were \$50,000.

#### LEE TOWNSHIP

Lee township was originally a part of Reeve and was separated therefrom in 1870. The first name applied to it was Iowa township but this was soon changed to Lee, upon petition of certain of the settlers in order to honor the memory of one of the first settlers, William H. Lee. An election was held October 11, 1870, by which the organization of the township was completed. The judges were: J. W. Slocum, J. Bolitho and J. R. Norman; B. R. Fitch, clerk.

Officers elected were: Trustees, B. R. Fitch, J. Bolitho and J. W. Slocum; assessor, P. Smith; clerk, B. R. Fitch; constables, J. R. Norman and P. Smith.

Lee is situated in the lower tier of townships and is bounded on the south by Hardin county, on the west by Oakland, north by Hamilton, and east by Grant township. The land here is mostly prairie and originally, low and swampy. Elk creek, Rock creek and Mayne's creek traverse its territory. Native timber is scarce but a number of fine groves planted in early days beautify the surroundings where they exist. Thousands of acres of land in this township have been reclaimed by the installation of large drainage ditches, excavated at a large outlay of money. Main Ditch No. 6 lies in the northern part and Ditch No. 5 in the southern. These ditches cross and twist and turn throughout the township and have been the means of changing the aspect and general conditions of the lands, which they have drained and made very valuable for farming purposes.

The Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern railway, now of the Rock Island system passes through the southwest corner of the township, and on sections 29 and 30 is a station called Burdette.

Owing to its land being undesirable for farming purposes, from the fact that it was low and wet, Lee attracted but few settlers in early days. The first person known to preempt land here was William Taylor, who had located near Iowa Falls, in Hardin county, in the fall of 1854, with his family, consisting of wife and seven children. In the winter of 1856, Mr. Taylor preempted one hundred and sixty acres of land in Lee township, on which he intended to settle the next spring, but before being able to do so, died upon the very day he had fixed for moving. His widow, with her children, however, located upon the land in the early spring of 1857 and lived there until her death, which was caused by her clothing catching fire while trying to save her home from the burning prairie. This occurred in September, 1859, and the unfortunate woman's body was laid to rest in a grove on the homestead.

In 1863 George Wright settled on section 1. He was a native of England and immigrated to Vermont in 1856, remaining there until he came to Iowa and settled in this township.

Jeremiah Lane located on section 27 in 1865 and engaged in farming.

The next settlers in the township were the Slocums—Lee, Jones, Norman, Fitch and J. W., all of whom came about 1869. The latter

located on section 36. He was regarded as an excellent citizen and became for his time one of the leading farmers of the community.

D. C. Mott and J. N. Montgomery settled in the township in 1869, the former on section 33, where he died in 1875. His family then moved to California. Mr. Montgomery came from Illinois and grew up with the township.

J. W. Fraser was a settler in 1870, locating on section 1, where he began farming and through thrift and industry made an enviable place for himself and family in the community.

George H. Wilson came here in the spring of 1870 and settled on section 27. He was born in Du Page county, Illinois, in 1845, and received a common-school education. Mr. Wilson was a good farmer, a good neighbor and an excellent citizen. He was honored by being selected by his neighbors for several of the local offices.

H. S. Eddy located on section 26 in the spring of 1871, coming from Kane county, Illinois. He served nine months in the Fifty-second Illinois Infantry. He was a good man and citizen and held local offices of trust.

Simon Doherty did not come to the township until February, 1879. He thereupon selected a tract of land on section 22, where he took up his residence, brought his farm up to a high state of cultivation and made the place his home for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Taylor were the first couple to be married in this township, and the first religious services were held at the schoolhouse in District No. 1, by Rev. C. R. Miller, in the summer of 1876. Rev. R. L. Kenyon, a Methodist minister, was here about the same time.

The first school in Lee township was kept in a log house on section 36, and was taught by Mrs. George Wilson. A schoolhouse was built on section 35, in 1868, and was used for that purpose a number of years, when the property was sold to Jesse McDonald, and moved to section 13. A new school building took the place of the one thus disposed of.



## CHAPTER XXI

THE TOWNSHIPS CONTINUED—WISNER—RICHLAND—SCOTT—MARION  
—ROSS—MOTT—THE TWO LATTER TOWNSHIPS IMPORTANT AS  
EARLY SETTLEMENTS—MOTT WAS ORIGINALLY PART OF WASHING-  
TON IN WHICH IS THE COUNTY SEAT.

### WISNER TOWNSHIP

Wisner township was created and set off from Richland township in 1882, and the first regular election was held in October of that year at the house of G. W. Myers. The following officers were elected: J. W. Powell, John C. Shermer and Louis Ford, trustees; G. W. Myers, clerk; James Smith, assessor.

Wisner is the northwest corner township in Franklin county and is bounded on the north by Cerro Gordo county, on the east by Richland township, on the south by Scott township, and on the west by Wright county. It is congressional township 93, range 22. Its topographical feature is of a slightly rolling prairie. Originally there were large tracts of its land wet and marshy, all of which have been reclaimed since the enactment of the drainage ditch laws. About half of Drainage District No. 10 lies within this township and parts of districts Nos. 7 and 18. The land drained by these big ditches is now probably the best in the township. While thousands of dollars have been expended by the county and property owners within these districts, the outlay has brought to all interested magnificent returns. As a matter of fact, the lands outside of the district, but contiguous thereto, have been greatly enhanced by reason of the outlets afforded them by these vast improvements. At this date the greater portion of Wisner township is made up of good farming land which has been productive of the most gratifying results. Grain, oats and hay are the principal crops and the raising of livestock is no inconsiderable industry. Before the introduction of the public drainage system, Wisner was styled the prairie township of Franklin county, as there were then large tracts of wild land. The prairies

were principally used for grazing purposes but this condition has been changed by reason of the employment of advanced ideas in farming.

Settlement in the township was comparatively slow. To illustrate, as late as the middle '80s, the best house in the township was that of Charles Westaby, on the southwest quarter of section 33—a two-story frame building, 22x26 feet.

G. W. Myers is credited with having been the earliest settler in Wisner. He located on section 35, in November, 1877, and built thereon the first house in the township, into which he moved the following spring. J. W. Powell settled on section 12 in the spring of 1878 and remained there many years. The next to come into the township was J. C. Shermer, who settled on section 25. He was soon followed by James Jenson, who only remained two years and then moved to Wright county.

Charles Westaby, above referred to, was a native of England. He settled in Jo Daviess county in 1872, whence he came to Franklin county in 1876. In January, 1877, he married Mary Hanson, and in 1883 removed to Wisner township, where he became one of the leading farmers of the community, at one time owning about eight hundred acres of land. He died in the early '90s.

In 1880, the wife of J. W. Powell presented him with a pair of twins. This was the first birth in the township. The first death occurred the same year—that of a son of G. W. Myers and wife.

The first schoolhouse built in the township was located on section 11, in August, 1882, the first term of which was taught in the winter of 1882-3 by Clarence Richards.

Wisner has no towns. The Chicago Great Western railroad cuts across the extreme northwestern corner of the township.

#### RICHLAND TOWNSHIP

This is congressional township 23, range 21 west, and is in the northern tier of townships in Franklin county. Its northern boundary line is formed by Cerro Gordo county. On the east it is bounded by Ross township, on the south by Marion and on the west by Wisner township.

Some of the earlier settlers here came from Richland county, Ohio, and it was probably through their influence that the township got its name. Within its confines are 23,000 acres of choice prairie land, watered by two branches of Buffalo creek, which have a con-

fluence on section 24, the eastern border of the township. The only timber found here was in the extreme northeast and southeast corners of the township. The land is rolling and the soil rich and highly productive, especially so within recent years, or rather since those sections of it, which were low and marshy, have been drained.

In 1872 Richland was carved out of Clinton township and organized. As Richland township was at one time a part of Clinton, its early history is part and parcel of that township.

William Tharp and family were the first persons to settle in this section of the county. They arrived here in 1854 and located on the southeast quarter of section 36. After a residence on this farm of three years, the Tharps removed to Kansas.

The next settler in the township of which there is any record was John Shobe, after whom Shobe's Grove was named. He located on the northwest quarter of section 1, in 1855, where he improved a farm and was active in the affairs of the township until 1868. That year he removed to Hampton.

In 1856 E. D. Wright left his home in Medina county, Ohio, and came west to look up a location. After stopping a short time in Eldora, Iowa, where he chanced to meet J. B. Grinnell and learned through him of the good qualities of Franklin county, Mr. Wright came to Chapin and settled in Old Chapin Grove. Shortly after, John Davis, father-in-law of Wright, and his son, T. H. Davis, and wife, followed and settled on the farm now known as the E. D. Underwood place, where he died many years ago. Thomas Weston, another son-in-law of John Davis, came about this time.

J. W. Avery came to this community in 1857, purchasing land on section 25, where he lived until 1876, and then moved to Kansas City, Missouri.

Among the prominent settlers in this township of the early period was B. D. Robinson, who located near Chapin Grove. He was the first one to introduce sheep-raising in the county. He lived on the place later owned by Mrs. Doctor Cooper, just south of the Four Corners, on the site of the old town of Chapin. He brought a herd of sheep to this place in 1860. At that time J. B. Grinnell, founder of Grinnell, Iowa, was largely interested in real estate in the Old Chapin neighborhood. He bought and sent into the township several hundred head of sheep and let them out on shares to the residents there. Among those who took up sheep-raising at that time were T. C. Riddle, John Waverly and G. H. Hoyt, who lived on the place later the home of Joseph Mitchell; Henry H. Grinnell; John



Ashman, whose farm later came into the possession of John Wright. By the year 1863 there were 8,000 head of sheep in Franklin county but owing to the severe winters that followed, diseases peculiar to sheep became severely prevalent, so that the industry ceased to pay. Robinson removed from the county to Missouri in the summer of 1866, taking the remainder of his effects with him.

About 1864 Mrs. Emma Robinson, a young widow, cousin of Mrs. T. H. Davis, and daughter of E. B. Richards, came and made her home with Mrs. Davis and taught school for a while and then married W. P. Avery. Soon thereafter E. B. Richards and family arrived. About 1868 W. W. Richards and wife located in this community. Then followed William Eddy and wife and A. Eddy. S. O. Gridley came in 1875. In 1876 Harris Eddy, Seneca Eddy and family, Doctor Cooper and family and Orrin Gridley came. All were from Chatham, Medina county, Ohio, and most of them have passed away.

H. H. Grinnell located in the township in 1855, coming from Saratoga county, New York. He took up his residence on section 36. This was his home until his death in 1873. John Ashman, who died in 1867, settled on the same section about the same time as Grinnell.

John D. Leland came in 1857, remaining until 1861, when he returned to his former home in New York, and later went to Joliet, Illinois. For several years Leland was superintendent of the state prison in Joliet.

A. G. McMillen came to Franklin county with his mother and family in 1858, from Saratoga county, New York. He married Anna S. Seney in 1872.

William P. Avery, a minister of the Congregational Church, immigrated from the east and settled in Richland township. Soon after his arrival he organized the Congregational Church at Chapin and was its pastor till 1875. He also presided over the Congregational Church in Hampton for some years.

George W. Heming located on section 2 in 1861. Among others who settled in the township between 1861 and 1870 may be mentioned the following: William Moyle took up his residence on a fine farm of 160 acres in 1868. He was a native of England. P. R. Engebretson, a Norwegian, arrived in America with his parents in 1858, settling in Butler county that year. In 1869 they came to Franklin county and settled in this township.

S. M. Lovering located on section 36 and resided there until 1865, when he removed to Iowa Falls and died there in 1883.

T. C. Riddle located on section 36 and later moved into Ross township, where he died in 1879.

Robert Seney, a native of Canada, removed from Clay county, Iowa, in 1871, settling on section 23, Richland township. William J. Singer, also a native of Canada, served in the Civil war and located in Richland township in 1873. Andrew Anderson, born in Scotland, emigrated to the United States in 1849. He came here from Fayette county, Iowa, in 1876 and settled on section 11, Richland township.

Henry J. Abrams, a New Yorker and a tailor by trade, settled on a farm in Richland township in 1878. A. C. Anderson came to Richland township in 1878. C. A. Church became a resident of the township in 1877. N. B. McClintock, a native of Pennsylvania, came here in 1878. L. I. Thompson, born in Michigan and a soldier of the Civil war, removed to Franklin county from Chickasaw county in 1873 and settled on section 4, Richland township. David Vought came to Franklin county in 1878 and became a prosperous farmer. David Austin Church removed from Clayton county in 1879 and laid the foundation of a competency in Richland township.

The first birth and death in Richland township was that of Fannie Leland, daughter of John D. Leland, both of which important events took place between the years 1857 and 1858. The interment was made on section 36.

Reverend Wilcox conducted the first religious service in the county, coming once in two weeks from Iowa Falls and holding 5 o'clock service at the schoolhouse at Old Chapin. As before mentioned, Rev. William P. Avery organized the Congregational Church in 1858 and soon thereafter began regular religious services for his flock in a small shanty built for the purpose. For a time services were then held in a building which would be converted into a barn in the winter and school and church in the summer. The building belonged to John D. Leland.

John Shill married a Miss Scott about the year 1858. This was the first wedding to take place in Richland township.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The above named society was organized in November, 1858, at the house of Rev. William P. Avery. Among the first members

were William P. Avery and wife, Mrs. A. S. Ross, John D. Leland and wife, S. M. Lovering, wife and two daughters. No house of worship was ever erected at Old Chapin but services were held regularly, and the place of meeting was changed to Chapin in 1883, where also was held a Sunday school.

#### BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. T. H. Judson organized the Baptist Church in 1864 and presided over this charge until he was succeeded by Rev. L. N. Call. Among the first members were Laura L. Grinnell, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Cannam and Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Harned. The meetings of the society lapsed in 1878.

The Methodists formed a class about 1870.

The first school in Richland was taught by Mrs. E. D. Wright in 1857. This was in a log house on land owned by J. B. Grinnell.

#### OLD VILLAGE OF CHAPIN

J. B. Grinnell, founder of the college town of Grinnell, Iowa, laid out the village of Chapin in 1858, giving to the place his wife's maiden name. The place was platted on section 36, Richland township, and section 31, Ross township, but now all that remains of it is the old burial ground on section 36. A combined church and schoolhouse was built—then the best in the county. This was afterwards moved over to Ross township, and finally, in 1877, was destroyed by fire. A new one took its place on the same site.

H. C. Clock engaged in trade for a time here. He sold his stock to John Green and the latter disposed of his interests to William W. Richards, who in 1871 removed the store to the present town of Chapin.

A postoffice was established at Old Chapin in 1860. H. H. Grinnell was the postmaster. He held the position for five years and was later succeeded by A. S. Ross, and the office was removed to the new town of Chapin.

The cemetery referred to is situated on section 36 of Richland township and contains about two acres. The first body interred was that of Mr. Neff.

J. B. Grinnell was the nucleus of the settlements in and about Old Chapin. He laid out the town and bought land in the vicinity

and induced many to settle there. The first settlers were D. B. Robinson, John D. Leland, A. S. Ross, R. T. Knight, H. H. Grinnell, John W. Avery and Rev. William P. Avery, all of whom have passed away and very few of their descendants are now residents here. It is safe to say, however, that Mr. Grinnell was the direct cause of their locating here and it is also true that the large majority of those who came after were induced to do so by some of those named as the pioneer settlers.

#### EARLY DAYS AT OLD CHAPIN

In the article which follows, M. H. Ross, one of the early settlers of Franklin county, gives evidence of a happy and dependable memory. His contribution to the history of the county is interesting and valuable. It was written in 1907 and is reproduced in its entirety:

"On May 15, 1857, my father, A. S. Ross, landed in Old Chapin with his family, also a man by the name of B. C. Breckenridge and wife. Father and Breckenridge came from near Brooklyn, Poweshiek county, Iowa, through the influence of Hon. J. B. Grinnell, who laid out the town of Chapin that summer. I was the only boy in town at that time, and I want to tell you right now that every melon that was plugged and every pin that was placed in benches for people to sit on was laid to Milt Ross, and if there were errands to do I was lackey for the whole town; had to climb trees to cut grape vines for the women, with which to make hoopskirts that were coming into fashion then.

"J. B. and H. H. Grinnell and father bought a steam sawmill together. Henry went to Chicago after it and was three weeks with ox teams getting it here from the end of the railroad—at that time, I think, a little east of the Mississippi river. In the meantime other people were moving in. J. W. Avery came in the fall, and John Ashman, R. T. Knight, T. C. Riddle, W. P. Avery and J. W. Avery's family all came in the spring of 1858. Obadiah Smith did the surveying and I carried the chain when the town was laid out.

"There were several families living in and near Tharp's Grove prior to 1857: Charley Neff, a family by the name of Hogan, Elihu Tharp on the Ed Underwood farm, and A. Phinney, cooper by trade. The father of the Tharps entered the land and built a double log house at the north side of the grove. They sold out and moved

to Kansas. In that log house Mrs. Mary Wright taught the first school in Chapin.

"After the mill arrived and got in running order, there was a boom in Chapin for the next three years. In 1858 everybody was building and the sawmill ran day and night. Being a boy, I was chucked into the sawdust pile and had to shovel it into the creek, a position almost as desirable as in the straw pile behind a threshing machine. E. H. Wing and S. M. Lovering were contractors and had a score of carpenters helping build houses.

"In the winter of 1858-9 Miss Hattie Lovering taught the school in the chamber of her father's house. During that winter as we came out of the schoolroom into the woodshed, I noticed Mr. Lovering was busy making a coffin. I inquired who was dead. He said, 'No one just now, but my wife is very low, can't live but a few weeks, and I am making it to have it ready.'

"The schoolhouse was built in 1859, and the town being named Chapin, Mrs. J. B. Grinnell's maiden name, she donated a fine bell weighing 400 pounds to place in the belfry. J. W. Avery and Dr. J. S. Hurd taught school in the winter of 1859-60. That was the last of my schooling, as the war soon broke out in 1861. Of all my schoolmates of those days, there are only four living today in Franklin county: A. E. Wright, of Chapin; Mrs. Josephine Bullard, of Sheffield; and William Avery and myself, of Hampton.

"Mit Wright was the first child born in Old Chapin. He lives at Chapin at the present time.

"Barker brothers came in the spring of 1858 and set up a machine for making hardwood shingles. They did a thriving business and that fall sold out to Thomas Morris, who made shingles through summer and trapped through fall and winter. Otter, beaver and mink were plentiful for a few years.

"About this time the Watters family, Colt and John B. Woodward, also George W. Crawford and Elisha Scott moved to town. A son of Colt, who, I think, was born in Old Chapin, is now on the run from Mason City to Marshalltown as conductor on a passenger train. Herman Colt and Elisha Scott gave two sons to the Union cause in the War of the Rebellion. J. E. Boyles, who came to Tharp's Grove prior to 1857, gave three sons to the Union cause during the latter part of the war. He sold his farm to J. Mills Hoyt and moved back to Ohio.

"Hoyt and a man named John Chamberlain, with J. B. Grinnell, were interested largely in raising sheep. They had about four thou-

sand head. I heard J. B. tell my father that the wool of those sheep was all that kept him from going under financially. He said that it paid to keep several irons in the fire at a time, so that if one failed some of the others would tide him over. In his case he was a preacher, Congressman, an officer of the Iowa Central railroad, farmer and stock-raiser—about enough irons for one man to attend to.

“The winter of 1857-8 was the ‘cornmeal winter.’ There wasn’t a 50-pound sack of flour in the whole neighborhood. We spent most of the time those long winter evenings sitting straddle of a spade over a washtub shelling corn, and the neighbors would take turns and go around and gather up the shelled corn and take it to Iowa Falls and get it ground. My father was sheriff then and during the spring term of court a man drove into Hampton with a load of flour. Father paid him \$9 for one sack. Mother mixed it with the cornmeal to make it go as far as possible. The mill hands boarded at our house and they relished the change. We had to get back on wheat bread gradually.

“This brings me up to war time. Old Chapin proved herself the most patriotic town in the county. She furnished twenty-one soldiers: R. T. Knight, C. R. Boyles, D. J. Boyles, George F. Scott, W. W. Scott, John W. Brown, Clark Shobe and M. H. Ross enlisted in Capt. David M. Stump’s Company C, Sixth Iowa Infantry; John C. Avery, John D. Baker, Cyrus Boyles, Thomas Morris, John G. Neff, A. E. Phinney, C. C. Shobe, Morgan Shobe and John B. Woodward enlisted in Company H, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, Judge Reeve captain. T. H. Davis, Thomas Weston, John Shill and D. O. Waters enlisted in Company L, Fourth Iowa Cavalry.

“When I returned from the army I found W. D. F. Randolph, Lyme Harned, Jim Riddle, E. K. Frost, Rev. L. N. Call, a Baptist minister, and William Ellis.

“In 1867 E. C. Grenelle came to Chapin to visit his sister, Mrs. A. E. Ashman, and during the harvest he drove the reaper. By some means he fell off the seat in front of the sickle and his right arm was cut off. He stopped the flow of blood the best he could and sent to Hampton for Doctors Hurd and Harriman. They got to Chapin about midnight and had no instruments to operate with. Hurd was drunk and Harriman was a new beginner. Ed told them something must be done quick, as he had lost so much blood he was very weak. They took an old jackknife and carpenter saw and went at it. They sawed the bones off twice before they got it so the flesh

would cover the end of the bones. He stood the pain without anaesthetics.

"In 1868 Joseph Mitchell bought out Hoyt and William Moyle bought out T. C. Riddle and moved from Grant county, Wisconsin.

"That summer Capt. H. C. Clock came to Chapin and started a store. He expected the railroad would come here instead of going two miles east. In 1870 he moved his stock to Geneva and now has one of the largest stores in Franklin county. The railroad killed 'Old Chapin,' as it is now called."

#### SCOTT TOWNSHIP

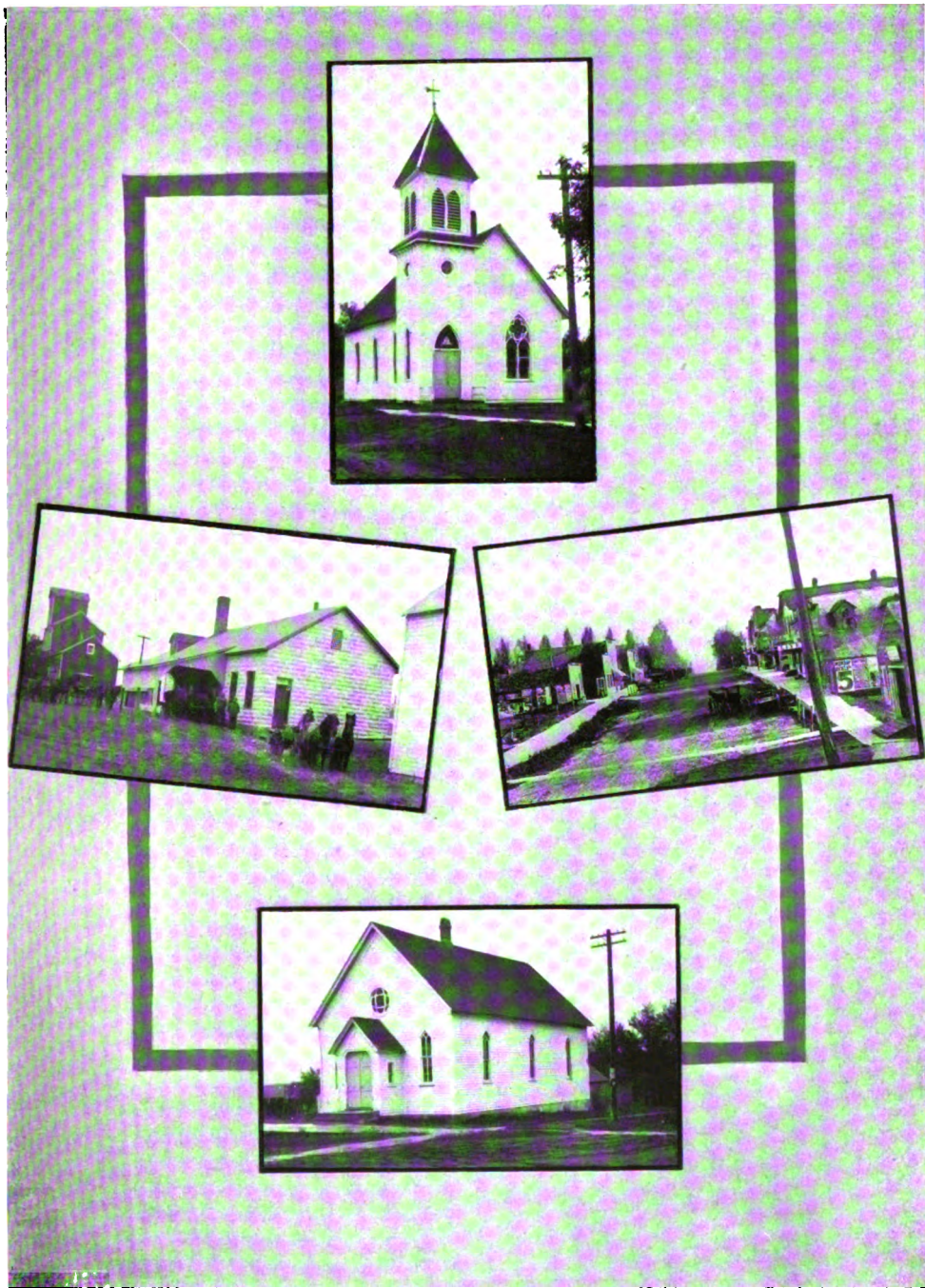
Scott township was one of the last to be organized in Franklin county. Prior to 1878 it was part of Morgan township, but that year it was set off and the first election held October 8 at the house of R. N. Meeker, when the following officers were elected: John D. Demaris, J. J. Sliker and N. Freeze, trustees; Jacob Smith, assessor; William D. Meeker, clerk; William D. Meeker and John D. Demaris, justices; William Hill and J. J. Sliker, constables. The officials for 1913 are: Trustees, F. Ostendorf, C. W. Hanson, L. Johnson; clerk, Henry Miller; assessor, Fred Kaus; justices of the peace, Paul Bobst, F. D. Rodemeyer; constables, Christ Larson and John A. Olson.

Scott lies in the extreme western part of the county, having for its western boundary, Wright county; on the north is Wisner township; on the east, Marion; and on the south, Morgan township. It comprises congressional township 92, range 22 west.

The land is of a gently undulating character and practically the entire area is tillable prairie land, producing splendid crops yearly. About half of Drainage District No. 10 lies in the northeastern part of the territory, also districts Nos. 11 and 15; parts of sections 33, 34, 35, 36 and 25 are in Drainage District Nos. 1 and 3. Lands reclaimed by these large ditches have become very productive and their market value increased accordingly.

Up to the latter '80s Scott was comparatively a new township, but little developed, with large tracts of choice land held by speculators. The splendid prairies of the township afforded fine pasturage for cattle and horses and much of it was used for the purpose, freely and without expense, by the residents of contiguous territory.





Creamery

German Reformed Church  
Methodist Episcopal Church  
ALEXANDER SCENES

Main Street





The first settler, a man by the name of Malin, came here in 1860 but remained only about two years. John Martin soon followed. He was employed to manage the Cobb farm, which was entered by Mr. Cobb in 1859. This was a tract of land containing something over five thousand acres. The owner improved it and in 1860 disposed of the property to William Wright, who that year erected a house upon it. This land afterwards went into the possession of Henry Corwith, then T. B. Scott became the owner, buying it in 1872. Large herds of cattle and horses ranged on this place and were prepared annually for the markets.

Others who came in the '60s were Mr. Dalrymple, Mr. Puffer, Jacob Lewis and R. U. Meeker.

John D. Demaris settled in the township in 1876 and the settlement was soon added to by the arrival of Peter Hanson and A. C. Peterson.

Henry Palmer located in Scott in 1879, taking charge of the Cobb farm. He was a native of Canada and became quite prominent in local affairs, holding several township offices. His death occurred in December, 1913.

Jacob P. Johnson immigrated from Denmark in 1854 and settled in Wisconsin. He came here from Grundy county, Iowa, in 1879, and became identified with the growth and prosperity of the community. He was elected to various local offices.

J. A. Green settled in Franklin county in 1876, first locating on a farm in Reeve township. In the spring of 1882 he took up his residence on section 6, Scott township.

E. B. Hill, a native of Vermont and a carpenter by trade, located in Maysville, Franklin county, in 1869. He removed to Hampton in 1871, where he worked at his trade, and in 1882 took charge of the station at Alexander, this township, where he opened a general store. The same year he was appointed postmaster.

Among the later settlers may be mentioned the following named who are of foreign birth: Christian Schomburg, Onno Suntken, John Stoffers, Ben Arends, Ludwig Jakobs, James Roosa, Paul Bobst, William P. Ammerman, L. B. Magel, Philip Seeger, N. C. Rasmussen, Christ B. Johansen, J. H. Berghefer, J. H. Tobias, Theobald Cloz, Rasmus Anderson, Peter Madsen, C. H. Muhlenbrucht, Henry Plagge, Louis Schloemer, G. W. Myers, George Muhlenbrucht, Henry Schidarck and Frank Ostendorf.

The first residents of Scott township to be married were David Keyes and Minnie Schieck, in 1878. The ceremony took place at Hampton.

The earliest birth was a son of William Wright, born in 1866.

The first deaths were two children killed by lightning at the house of J. D. Demaris. They were buried on section 1, but afterwards the bodies were removed to Sheffield.

The first schoolhouse was erected in 1880, on the northwest corner of section 28.

The Danish Lutheran Society was organized in Marion township in 1878, but many of the settlers of what was afterwards Scott township were members of the church. The first services held by the society in Scott township were at the house of J. P. Johnson on section 22, in the winter of 1881. The sermon was delivered by Rev. I. Jenson, of Cedar Falls. Among the first members of the society from Scott were Paul Erickson and wife, Jacob P. Johnson, John Larson and wife, J. C. Peterson and N. P. Johnson and wife.

#### ALEXANDER

A branch of the Central Railroad of Iowa was completed through the township in 1881 and its station, Alexander, was located on section 5. The first agent was E. B. Hill.

Alexander was laid out and platted for F. E. Carter, June 8, 1885, by W. F. Kelley, surveyor. The place was incorporated in 1902 and now has a population of 300.

But little was done in the way of improvement until 1882, when a general store was opened by E. B. Hill, who was at the same time appointed postmaster.

Soon thereafter a grain elevator was erected and today the little town is quite a busy trading point, having stores of various characters, churches, and a well attended school.

Mention should also be made of the Alexander Brass Band, made up of good musicians, several of whom are business men of the place.

The Alexander Savings Bank, a strong and conservative financial institution, was organized in 1899. It has a capital of \$16,000, and in the fall of 1913 its deposits were \$135,000. W. L. Robinson is president; G. A. Robinson, vice president; James Cook, cashier; George Dunn, assistant cashier.

The postoffice was established at Alexander, November 13, 1882. Egbert B. Hill was the first postmaster. His successors follow: A. R. Carter, December 8, 1884; Thomas B. Scott, June 7, 1887; E. L. Coldren, November 28, 1888; William A. Roberts, March 16, 1889;



CORNET BAND, ALEXANDER



Fred E. Carter, May 3, 1890; Joseph W. Hillyard, August 12, 1891; James Shaver, April 21, 1893; A. L. Refsnider, May 5, 1897; Ole Hong, December 8, 1909.

#### MARION TOWNSHIP

Marion township was originally a part of Washington township as first laid out. It was organized as a separate subdivision of the county in the spring of 1874. The first election was held at the house of John Neff in the fall of the year mentioned. The officers elected were: Trustees, John Menning, George Shaver and James Riddle; assessor, G. R. Miner; clerk, G. R. Miner.

This township is bounded on the north by Richland; on the east by Mott; on the south by Hamilton; and on the west by Scott. The land is of a rich, productive quality, gently rolling and but little of it that is not tillable. Tharp's creek and Spring creek are the natural sources of drainage. Tharp's creek rises on section 6 and taking an easterly course leaves the township at section 1. Spring creek enters on section 19 and makes its exit on section 24. There is some little timber. The township has one railroad—the Iowa Central—now controlled by the Minneapolis & St. Louis. It crosses the southern part of the township and has a station on section 19, called Latimer.

The date of the first settlement in Marion township has been lost to the historian of this locality. It is known, however, that the three families named Finney, Scheidler and Howard settled here and made the first attempt at farming in this locality. They remained a short time and left for some other part of the country.

Henry Haecker located in Marion township in 1864. His son, T. H. Haecker, came with him. The latter became prominent in county affairs; was elected county superintendent of schools in 1882 and held the office for ten years. He was postmaster at Hampton under McKinley's administration and died while in office.

Gideon Lumley was also a settler of 1864. He was born in Canada in 1847, and at the age of seventeen came to Franklin county, settling in Mott township, and upon locating in Marion township chose sections 1 and 2 for a home. In 1868 Mr. Lumley married Laura E. Riddle, daughter of one of the early settlers.

John Menning chose a good farm in Marion township and moved on to it in April, 1870. He purchased 160 acres of land on section 13, at \$7.50 an acre, which by good judgment and unlimited industry

he brought up to a fine state of cultivation. Mr. Menning became a staid and valuable citizen, holding several local offices at various times.

George Shaver came from Ackley and settled on section 12, in 1873, remaining there a number of years and making a fine farm of his purchase.

Frederick Rodemeyer, G. R. Miner and James Riddle chose Marion township for their future homes in the early '70s, and soon thereafter their neighbors increased quite rapidly. By 1876 there were over one hundred voters in the township.

James S. Riddle was a native of New York, who in 1851 got the Western fever and came to Grinnell, Iowa. The year 1864 found him in Franklin county and after living in several parts of it he finally purchased land and settled in this township. Mr. Riddle soon took a high place among his neighbors as a man and citizen.

Frederick Rodemeyer was born in Hanover, Germany. He came to America in 1865 and settled in Illinois. He found his way to Franklin county in 1874, at which time he bought and located on forty acres of land on section 34, in Marion township. Mr. Rodemeyer was a very industrious, frugal and thrifty man, and with these qualifications had no difficulty in taking a high place in the affairs of the community.

Herman Missman was born in Germany, came to America with his parents when eight years of age and settled in Pennsylvania. He was brought up on a farm in Illinois and in 1865 coming to Iowa located in Osceola township, where he lived until 1876. In that year he removed to Marion township, purchased 160 acres of good land on section 22 and made it his permanent home.

Heinrich Meyer came from the fatherland when nineteen years old, first stopping upon his arrival in the land of the free at Cincinnati. In 1876 he located on eighty acres of land on section 15, which he had purchased.

Henry Rodemeyer came from Germany to the United States in 1854 and located at Chicago. He enlisted in the Fifty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and served four years in the Civil war. He was a resident of Waterloo from 1869 until 1876, when he came to Franklin county and bought land on section 26, Marion township.

John Wohlford, with his wife, Catherine, and family, emigrated from Illinois to Franklin county in 1877 and purchased eighty



Creamery  
Scene During the Harvest Home Jubilee

Latimer Residences

IEWS OF LATIMER





acres of land on section 36, in Marion township. At the time his son, Emanuel H. Wohlford, came with him.

Ludwig F. Grassley came with his family from Germany to the United States in 1857. They arrived in Franklin county in 1877 and at that time Mr. Grassley bought 120 acres of land on section 14, this township. Mr. Grassley became a good citizen and neighbor.

Frederick Behn emigrated from Germany to America in 1871 and located in Cook county, Illinois. He found his way to Franklin county in 1877, when he bought 160 acres of land on section 11, in this township. He was a good farmer, interested himself in the affairs of the community and was always looked upon as a faithful, loyal citizen.

Johan Fredericks settled here in 1878. He was a native of Germany who emigrated to the United States in 1854, coming with his parents. Mr. Fredericks served his adopted country in the Civil war and in the year stated became a citizen of Franklin county, locating in Marion township.

H. A. Clock was a native of Ohio who moved to Illinois when eight years of age with his parents. Coming to Iowa before the war to visit a brother, H. C. Clock, who had located in Geneva, he remained in the village of Geneva as a clerk in his brother's store until 1881, when he removed to Latimer and established a mercantile establishment under the firm name of Clock & Clock.

William J. Bennington, whose native state was Illinois, settled in Marion township in 1880. In 1883 he removed to the village of Latimer, where he engaged in the farm implement business.

Henry Muhlenbruch, born in Germany, emigrated to the United States in 1873 and in 1882 settled on section 35, in Marion township.

The first school taught in this community was by George Miner, in a building erected for the purpose on section 1, in 1874. The next school building was erected on section 13, in 1877.

Reverend McCord preached the first sermon in Marion township at the schoolhouse on section 1 and soon thereafter Reverend Schmidt preached in German. For several years thereafter the various religious societies not being strong enough in numbers and for lack of sufficient funds, held their meetings in schoolhouses.

## TOWN OF LATIMER

Latimer was laid out and platted on section 19, by J. F. Latimer, in November, 1882, Thomas Kelley being the surveyor. This was about the time that the Iowa Central Railroad, now the Minneapolis & St. Louis, began operations. Latimer was made a station along the line and that year the firm of Clock & Clock, consisting of the brothers, H. A. and C. L., and a nephew, Eugene Clock, began doing a general mercantile business.

B. F. Andrews, who had been farming in Geneva township the previous ten years, settled in Latimer in the spring of 1883, and at that time, besides the Clock general store, there was a hotel conducted by Edward Vanderman. Dennis Donovan was here working in the Clock elevator. Fred Fries and his family had taken up their residence in Latimer, and Peter Damm, still working at the forge, opened a blacksmith shop. Ole Christiansen and his brother, Christ Christiansen, were the carpenters. There were no churches. A small frame building had been erected for school purposes on the site of the present school building. This was removed and now stands among the business buildings of the town. It is owned by Lewis Rodemeyer. A two-story frame building was erected on the old site in the early '90s. It has four rooms but only three are used. There are three instructors, including the principal.

## THE POSTOFFICE

The postoffice was established in Latimer in 1882, and H. A. Clock was the first postmaster, receiving his appointment September 13th of the year mentioned. He remained in the office one term and was succeeded November 17, 1886, by E. B. Hill. The date of the next postmaster's commission was April 9, 1889, Charles L. Clock being the appointee. E. B. Hill was next appointed, his commission dating April 22, 1893. Then came the present postmaster, Benjamin F. Andrews. His first commission was dated June 24, 1892. He has been in the office sixteen years.

## METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Latimer Methodist Episcopal Church was organized April 7, 1893. The present church edifice was erected in the same year and dedicated November 11, 1893, by Rev. A. S. Flanigan. The

building cost about two thousand dollars. Rev. G. P. Hathaway was the next pastor. C. L. Clock, who furnished most of the material for the building, T. E. Rick and W. A. Gamble were the first trustees. Others of the early members were Edward Stauffer, T. H. Haecker, Miss Martha Zook and C. D. Berger. This charge was for a time attached to Alexander, then for a while it was unattached. These changes took place several times, which make a gap in the church registry of pastors. It is known that Reverend Pendell was in charge here in 1898 but there is no record to fill the gaps between the first pastor's administration and 1901. In the year just mentioned C. C. Calkins was here. The names of his successors follow: Revs. C. H. Bryan, S. L. Eddy, C. R. Dix and R. C. McCoy, who is now occupying the pulpit.

Reverend McCoy also preaches at Maple Grove every Sunday. The Latimer Church now has about fifty members, while at Maple Grove there are only six members, but the church pews are usually well filled by people of the community.

#### ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN (DANISH) CHURCH

St. Peter's Danish Lutheran Church was organized in 1883. The first members were: J. C. Christiansen, N. Sorensen, John Hansen, J. Meyer, Peter Larsen, Ole Hansen, Hans Oleson, Hans Hansen, Frederick Jensen, Andrew Jensen, Andrew Hansen and Andrew Rasmussen. Most of these persons have moved away from Latimer.

Rev. N. Petersen was the first pastor. He came from Dows and helped to organize the congregation. The first regular pastor was J. Johansen, who served eleven years. His successor was L. P. Jensen, a brother of Mrs. J. C. Christiansen. He also served eleven years. Rev. H. C. Fectenbergh was the pastor eight years following. Then came S. Marckmann, who served two years. His successor is the present pastor, P. Blicher, who came to the charge January 1, 1914.

The first house of worship was built about four miles from Latimer in 1893. It was destroyed by lightning and burned to the ground. The next building was erected in Latimer in 1903, and cost \$2,300. The parsonage was built during the administration of Reverend Johansen, but has been improved several times. Between the period of the destruction of the first church and building of the second and prior to the erection of a house of worship, religious services were

held at various schoolhouses. The present membership consists of eleven families, or about fifty souls.

#### ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN (GERMAN) CHURCH

The organization of St. Paul's Lutheran Church took place March 3, 1895, Rev. C. W. Diederich presiding at the first meeting, which was held in the public schoolhouse in Latimer. Among the first members can be remembered the following: Fred Berghorn, Dick Kraegel, William Pralle, Herman Hesse, Fred Fahrman, Christ Schomberg and H. C. Weber. Before a church was built, services were held by this society in the schoolhouse until 1896, when an edifice was erected for church purposes. The congregation had previously bought five acres of land of C. L. Clock, now in California, where the building was erected, and dedicated in 1896. The structure is a substantial frame, the original cost of which was \$1,500. By improvements and changes the value of the property has been greatly enhanced. A parsonage was erected two or three years after the church building, at a cost of \$2,500.

The first regular pastor of St. Paul's was C. Westphal, who came when the church was dedicated. He resigned in 1897 and his successor was August Lutz, who remained until New Year's of 1905. The next pastor was Theodore Hanssen, who resigned in August, 1908. The present pastor, R. H. Beer, came in October, 1908.

The present membership consists of about seventy-five families or about three hundred souls. A parochial school is held in connection with the church. The instructor is the pastor.

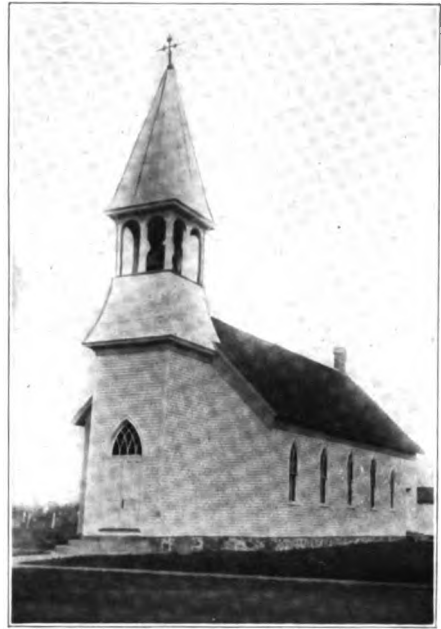
#### LATIMER INCORPORATED

Latimer was incorporated as a town in 1901 and now has a population of about four hundred. Its growth has been steady and substantial until it is one of the leading trading points outside of the county seat. It has a number of good business houses, a hotel, a town hall, elevator and the original blacksmith shop, still conducted by Peter Damm, now located in another part of town. There is also a newspaper, which is mentioned further in the chapter on the Press.

The vote on incorporation was held March 20, 1901, and carried by a large majority. The first officers were: Mayor, E. B. Hill; clerk, T. P. Johnson; trustees, T. D. Smith, P. M. Damm, P. O.



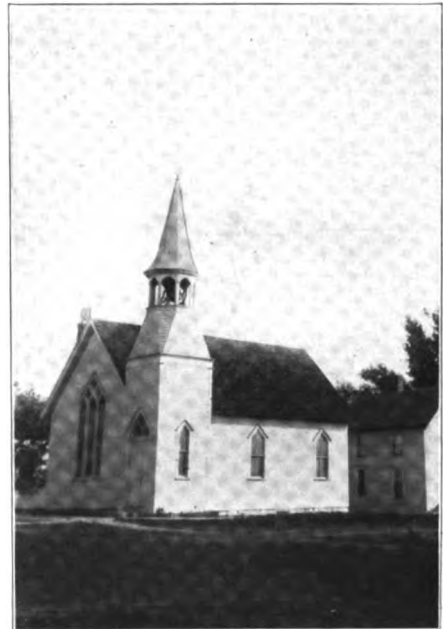
Danish Church



German Lutheran Church



Public School



Methodist Episcopal Church

SCHOOL AND CHURCHES OF LATIMER



Guldberg, Fred Rodemeyer, Ole Hansen, G. G. Kaus, K. H. Kaus. The names of the chief executives from this time on to 1913 follow: G. G. Kaus, 1903; C. P. Roberts, 1905; G. G. Kaus, 1907 and 1908; A. W. Meyer, 1909; F. H. Dohrmann, 1910; Charles Johnson, 1911 and 1912; T. P. Johnson, 1913.

In 1902 the proposition of building waterworks and issuing \$3,000 in bonds for the purpose was submitted to a vote of the citizens of Latimer. Fifty-seven votes were cast for the proposition and only seventeen against. The improvement was installed at a cost of between \$5,000 and \$6,000. It consists of a frame power house, air lift pumps, run by a gasoline engine, a storage tank eight feet in diameter and thirty-six feet in length, and a well of splendid water 155 feet in depth. This well has shown a capacity of 175 gallons per minute, without any evidence of exhaustion. The plant, which is entirely satisfactory to all concerned, was finished and in operation in 1903. P. O. Guldberg was the first superintendent.

The Latimer State Bank was organized in 1896. The present list of officials are: N. Sorensen, president; D. W. Parks, vice president; F. D. Smith, cashier; H. H. Roemer, assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$25,000; surplus, \$4,500; deposits, \$175,000. This bank is located in a well constructed and substantial brick building of its own.

#### THE VILLAGE OF COULTER

Sometime in the '80s, after the Chicago & Great Western Railway began operations, a station was located on section 31, in the extreme southwestern corner of Marion township. It is quite an interesting little trading point and now has a population of about two hundred. Its general stores carry lines of merchandise suitable to the wants of the community in contiguous territory. There is a good school and a well attended church.

The Coulter Savings Bank was established in Coulter in 1908, with a capital of \$10,000. Its deposits are about \$50,000. Of this conservative and well regulated financial concern, W. L. Robinson is president; Nels Petersen, vice president; Ole Hansen, cashier; D. O. Hansen, assistant cashier.

The postoffice was established in Coulter and George F. Propst was commissioned postmaster, April 30, 1902. The names of his successors follow: Peter Madson, November 25, 1902; Jans Peter



Jacobson, August 7, 1903; Ole Hansen, January 22, 1906; Simon N. Juhl, September 18, 1906.

#### ROSS TOWNSHIP

On petition of several citizens in 1879, Clinton township was divided and the major portion was organized into Ross township. That part left to Clinton township simply comprised sections 3, 4, 9 and 10, and a portion of 5 and 8, all of which is now coextensive with the town of Sheffield. As it now exists, the boundary lines of Ross are as follows: To the north is Clinton township and Cerro Gordo county; on the east, West Fork; on the south, Ingham; and on the west, Richland township.

This township was named after Abner S. Ross, who was the oldest settler living in the township at the time of the organization. The township contains some of the best cultivated farms in Franklin county and is made up of beautifully rolling prairie, which is watered by the west fork of the Cedar river. This passes through the northeastern part of the territory, making its exit from section 12 by Bailey creek which crosses through the township from the northwest corner to section 13, where it enters West Fork township; and by Buffalo creek, which traverses sections 19, 30 and 31, and touches the extreme southwest corner at section 32, at a point where it enters Mott township.

There were occasional natural groves on either side of the three principal streams. The soil is of a rich loam, very productive, bringing forth splendid crops indigenous to this latitude. The Central Railway of Iowa, now under control of the Minneapolis & St. Louis, runs through the central part of the township from north to south, having a station at Chapin, which is located on sections 28 and 29.

The first election in Ross township took place October 14, 1879. At that time the following officers were elected: Trustees, N. Rhusasel, M. Bird and H. Stott; justices of the peace, M. Gibbs and W. W. Richards; constables, E. C. Cook and Thomas Gibbs; clerk, William Glendenning; assessor, James Carroll.

The first person to settle in the township was Abner S. Ross, who located on section 31, in the spring of 1857. He at once put up a habitation and in the winter of 1857-58 this primitive prairie home sheltered about twenty men and women. Previous to this, however,

in the spring of 1857, the settlers hearing of the massacres at Spring Lake, being fearful of their lives, left the vicinity for a place of safety. There were some of a braver spirit who remained, among them being the Tharp family, who afterward removed to Kansas, E. D. Wright, Lyman Bailey, the Goheens and the Manns.

Abner Ross was a native of New Jersey, whence he emigrated to Cincinnati, Ohio, with his parents, who owned a farm on which part of the Queen City is now built. He lived at various other places and finally moved further west, taking up his residence in Poweshiek county, Iowa. From there he came to Franklin county in the spring of 1857 and started the town of Chapin. Mr. Ross was the third sheriff elected in Franklin county and the first school director in Chapin. He was appointed United States deputy marshal in 1863 and assisted in raising recruits for the army.

The first blacksmith shop in the township was opened by Mr. Ross and he assisted in building the first sawmill at Old Chapin, acting as head sawyer therein for four years. In 1875 this old pioneer moved into Marion township on section 28.

E. D. Wright came to the township shortly after Abner Ross. He was born in Erie county, New York. In 1835 Mr. Wright went with his parents to Jones county, Iowa. He was in the gold diggings of California in the early '50s and in 1857 located south of Tharp's Grove, in what is now Marion township. Mrs. Wright taught the first school in Chapin.

S. C. Baker came with his parents, Almon and Julia A. Baker, from Illinois, and in 1858 located on section 9, Ross township, where he lived until 1872, and then sold out and moved to Jasper county.

One of the most prominent and prosperous farmers of this township was W. H. McMillen. He was one of the first settlers in the township, having moved here with his stepfather, John Ashman, in 1858. They came from Saratoga county, New York, in 1858, and settled at Old Chapin. In 1875 he bought a farm of 320 acres just south of the village of Chapin, in Ross township. This land he bought at \$13 an acre and it is now one of the finest places in the community. This farm is now owned by Ira T. Deam.

M. D. Gibbs, whose native home was in the State of New York, came with his parents to Franklin county, Iowa, in 1862, and located on section 6. He was a good farmer, prospered, and became one of the valued men of this community.

W. D. F. Randolph, of New Jersey, settled in Ross township in 1862. He was a carriage maker by trade, which he carried on together with farming here. Being a man of more than ordinary intelligence and ability, he was often sought by his neighbors to assume the duties of local offices. He served as assessor of Ross township for a long term of years.

Simon Johnson located here in 1862 and accumulated several hundred acres of land. He held several township offices and was highly esteemed for his probity and fine neighborly qualities.

William Ellis settled on a farm of 160 acres in this township in 1863, where he devoted considerable of his abilities toward the raising of live stock. He was an excellent farmer and through industry and frugality made for himself a farm and good home, and an excellent place in the esteem of the neighborhood.

G. W. Crawford was a good farmer and citizen, who took up a permanent residence in this township in 1862, locating on a farm of 160 acres on section 20. On this place he made many improvements and always had it well stocked with horses, cattle and hogs. Later in his career Mr. Crawford formed a partnership with W. W. Richards, at Chapin, and became a dealer in grain and merchandise. Later he added lumber and coal.

J. G. Zimmerman was a leading farmer of Ross township, who came here from Clayton county, Iowa, in 1865. At the time, he located on section 16 and soon had eighty acres nicely improved. To this he added several hundred acres more, devoting his time largely to the raising of live stock.

Toward the latter '60s settlement in Ross township became more rapid. Among those who arrived here between 1869 and 1880 were George Goppinger, J. C. Witthoft, A. T. Miller, E. K. Frost, S. A. Gibbs, William Eddy, S. P. Weaver, E. M. Knight, J. E. Crawford, Matthew Bird, Henry Gerfen, George Schollian, W. R. Yelland, Jacob Heuberger and E. F. Morris.

George Goppinger was a Bavarian by birth. He emigrated to the United States in 1868 and in 1869 made a permanent settlement in this township.

J. C. Witthoft, a native of Germany, made his first settlement in this country in Minnesota, where he worked at carpentry until the spring of 1870. That year he came to Franklin county and for four years cultivated a rented farm in this township. Two years thereafter he bought a farm on sections 21 and 22, two hundred acres of

which he soon had under cultivation. Of this he made one of the best farms in Ross township.

A. T. Miller came from his eastern home with his wife and four children in 1859, and settled on section 28, in West Fork township. There he remained until 1870, when he moved to a farm of 320 acres in Ross township, which he had purchased.

E. K. Frost was born in the State of New York. He became a successful school teacher and determining to come west, settled in Wisconsin. Mr. Frost arrived in Franklin county in 1871 and settled in Ross township, where he became the most successful fruit grower not only of the township but of the county.

S. A. Gibbs, a native of New York, removed from Winona county, Minnesota, to Franklin county, and located on section 6, Ross township.

William Eddy was a native of Vermont. He served in the Civil war and in 1872 located in Chapin, where he opened the first hotel in that place, which was known as the Union House. The first building in which he entertained the traveler was a small shanty, which soon became too small for his increasing business. He then built a larger house, to which he gave a definite name.

S. P. Weaver was born in Princeton, Illinois. He was a veteran of the Civil war, came to Iowa in 1867, and in 1872 became a resident of Chapin, where he entered the business of general merchandising. He left there in the '80s and moved to the State of Washington.

E. M. Knight was a New Yorker. After living in several places, he removed to Iowa in 1865. He came to Franklin county in 1872 and the same year opened a blacksmith shop in Chapin. It is said that Mr. Knight bought the first lot sold in the town and planted the first tree.

J. E. Crawford, a New Englander, served in the Civil war and attained the rank of captain. He settled at Dubuque in 1873 and in West Fork township in 1882. That year he commenced the milling business at Chapin, in which he was engaged for many years.

Matthew Bird located on section 13, in Ross township, in 1874. He became quite prominent in local affairs.

S. O. Smedley began his residence in Franklin county in 1875, locating first at Chapin, where in company with his brother-in-law, W. W. Richards, he engaged in the mercantile business, having the first store and being the first postmaster in the town. After three

years as a merchant he took up farming in the township and was the first to import Holstein cattle into the county.

Henry Gerfen was born in Prussia. He emigrated to the United States in 1864 and in 1874 moved to Wisconsin. He came to Franklin county in 1876 and after working on different farms, bought a tract of land on section 24, in Ross township, where he soon made for himself a good living.

George Schollian was a Pennsylvanian by birth. He was a carpenter and followed his trade in Dubuque county until 1874. In 1876 Mr. Schollian located in Chapin, where he became a dealer in general merchandise. He was a veteran of the Civil war and was held in high esteem by his neighbors, who elected him to different offices in the township.

W. R. Yelland, coming from Wisconsin in 1877, was attracted by the outlook in Franklin county and settled on a farm of 160 acres of land on section 16. On this he placed several head of live stock and improved the land, becoming one of the substantial farmers of the community. The pioneer postoffice of the township, a log cabin, was standing on the place when purchased by Mr. Yelland.

W. T. Adams settled in Ross township in 1876, purchasing a farm of 240 acres. This place was splendidly cultivated by Mr. Adams, who also built some of the finest farm structures in the township. Mr. Adams served in the Civil war and filled different township offices. In 1902 he was elected county auditor, serving four years. He died November 5, 1910.

Jacob Heuberger, a native of Switzerland, first settled in the United States at Scales Mound, Illinois, where he learned the trade of wagon making. Coming to Chapin in 1879, he started a wagon shop and soon was busily employed by his neighbors. He later purchased a farm a mile north of Chapin, where he now resides.

E. F. Morris was a native of Austria and a blacksmith by trade. He came to America in the spring of 1869 and to Chapin in 1879, where he entered the employ of E. M. Knight, and after a time opened a shop of his own.

Among the first things of importance to take place in Ross was the building of a mill by Abner S. Ross, H. H. Grinnell and R. T. Knight in 1858. This mill was conducted by Mr. Ross four years and by his partners six years longer. The building was then removed.

A Mr. Neff, who was in the township a short time in 1857 and had left the county on account of the Indian scare, returned and soon thereafter died. He was buried on the hill on the line of a road. In grading the road some years afterwards a scraper struck the coffin. The body was thereupon removed and reburied in the cemetery.

R. T. Knight and Jane Gwynn were the first couple to be married in Ross township.

Florence Robinson, daughter of Dudley Robinson, was the first person born in the county. The date of her birth was in 1857.

Abner S. Ross kept the postoffice in Ross township on section 31. This was not far from Old Chapin.

The first election held in Ross before its separation from the various townships was held at Shobe's Grove, in 1858.

At William P. Avery's place the first religious services were held in a barn by Mr. Avery, who was the pioneer minister of this section of Franklin county.

In a small log cabin, Mrs. E. D. Wright taught the first school. She also taught three terms in a barn belonging to S. M. Lovering. The first schoolhouse was built in 1861 and destroyed by fire in 1877.

A Methodist Episcopal class was formed in Ross township, which was in the Rockwell charge up to 1883. Up to that time services were held at the schoolhouses. When a frame church was dedicated, the services were conducted by Reverend Crippen, of Mason City, assisted by the pastor, Reverend Will, who lived at Rockwell.

The town of Old Chapin, of which mention is made in the sketch of Richland township, was located on section 36, Richland, and section 31, Ross township. It was platted December 6, 1858, by Rev. J. B. Grinnell, of Grinnell, Iowa, who afterwards represented the Grinnell district in Congress and was also the founder of that city. But little was ever done in the way of business at Old Chapin, and upon the building of the Iowa Central Railway in 1882 a station was made on the road two miles east of this site, on sections 33 and 34, Ross township. George Beed platted what was called New Chapin, July 29, 1872, Obadiah Smith doing the surveying. The first ones to engage in business was William Avery and W. W. Richards, who formed a partnership and ran a general store. Avery sold his interest to J. E. Crawford. A few months thereafter Mr. Richards died and the business was closed.

Schollian Brothers were the next to engage in trade here. They carried a small line of hardware, together with a general stock of merchandise. Sometime afterwards a Mr. Harper opened an exclusive hardware store. S. B. Weaver was the pioneer grain dealer. He built a large elevator in the winter of 1870-71. William Eddy built and conducted the first hotel, which was called the Union House. E. M. Knight was the first blacksmith. The first station agent was W. W. Richards. For many years S. B. Weaver, who opened the first drug store, was the only one to engage in that business in Chapin.

The village is unincorporated and has something over one hundred inhabitants.

The Modern Brotherhood of America, Chapin Lodge, No. 208, a fraternal order, was organized in 1898 with sixteen members. It has grown to thirty-two members. The president of the lodge is W. E. Crawford; secretary and treasurer, L. D. Knesel.

The Chapin Savings Bank, an institution in which the people of the community have great confidence, was organized in 1905, with a capital of \$10,000. The first officials were: President, I. T. Deam; vice president, C. M. Goodyear; cashier, D. E. Kenyon; directors, H. A. Froning, J. Heuberger, G. A. Mayer, H. A. Rust, H. T. Long and J. H. Hutchins. Capital, \$10,000; deposits, \$176,700; undivided profits, \$6,748.

#### MOTT TOWNSHIP

Mott township was organized in 1879, having been erected out of Washington township. The first election was held at Maple Grove schoolhouse. E. F. Hanks, N. B. Claypool and Walter Beed were the first trustees. All the territory in Mott was formerly a part of Washington, which was one of the three original townships in the county, but being divided from time to time, Washington is now coextensive with the corporate limits of Hampton. Mott is bounded on the north by Ross township; on the east by Ingham; on the south by Reeve; and on the west by Marion.

Mott is composed principally of prairie land, somewhat broken, but it is one of the finest farming districts in the entire county. The territory is well watered and drained by three beautiful streams flowing in an easterly direction. Buffalo creek enters on section 6 and running in a southeasterly course, leaves the township at sec-

tion 24. Spring creek makes its entrance on the west line of section 19 and leaves on section 25. Mulkins creek passes through sections 30, 29, 28, 33 and 34 and makes its exit from section 35. Along the streams were found by the early settlers considerable groves of timber; none, however, of any great value, with the exception of that part of the township which became known as Mott's Grove. Here the timber was of better quality. As a matter of necessity, the railroads entering Hampton first enter Mott township.

James Van Horn located on section 21 in the fall of 1854, and is given the distinction of being the first settler in Mott township. He had a neighbor soon thereafter in the person of Isaac Miller, who stayed but a year or two and then sold to George Ryan. This is most probably part of the land which Ryan later platted for the town of Hampton.

Amon Rice became a permanent settler of Franklin county in 1854. He first located at Four Mile Grove in Geneva township, where he lived until the fall of 1855. That year he removed to section 20 in Mott township. Mr. Rice at that time was so reduced in circumstances that he had but a five-dollar bill left. He was persevering and determined, so that through well directed efforts it was not long before he had become comfortably fixed in his circumstances.

Noble Hart came to the township in 1855 and remained until the outbreak of the Civil war, serving until its close, when he returned to Franklin county and after a two years' residence removed to Kansas and there died.

Zebadiah Lathrop and Maria Thatcher Lathrop, his wife, and family emigrated from Pennsylvania in 1851 and settled in Cedar Falls, Iowa. In 1855 they came to Franklin county and located on section 17, in Mott township. At the same time L. S. Lathrop entered a farm here and built a log house and the first season broke ten acres of land. In 1873 L. S. Lathrop moved to Hampton and for a number of years was sexton of the Hampton cemetery.

James Scott settled on section 20, in 1855, and lived there six years. He then found employment in the Hansberry mill, now known as Beed's mill, where he continued until his death, which occurred in 1867.

Others who came in 1855, now remembered, were J. K. Utley, who settled on section 21, remaining, however, but a few years;



Alexander Frazer, who located on section 15; and Charles Flanagan, who also settled on section 15.

Joshua Cromwell, of Indiana, arrived here in 1858 and located on section 10. He remained a short time and then returned to his native state.

Walter and William G. Beed, natives of England, settled in Franklin county in 1858, choosing Mott township for their home. They were practical farmers and became prominent in the community. In 1872 Walter Beed married Mary L. Haecker.

C. J. Mott, who with his brothers, was probably one of the largest landowners at one time in Franklin county, came to this township in 1859, with a brother-in-law, and purchased 780 acres of land near Hampton. This place made one of the finest stock farms in Iowa. The Mott family became very prominent as landowners and stock men, and a complete sketch of its members will be found in the second volume of this work.

J. E. Hunter settled here in 1860. He was a native of Vermont. In 1846 he emigrated to Wisconsin. Soon after his arrival in the county, he bought the Hampton House, which he presided over for ten years. He then engaged in farming in this township.

Daniel Wheeler was a Franklin county settler in 1855, first living in Geneva township, where he entered a farm partially improved. In 1862 Mr. Wheeler removed to Mott township, where he became the proprietor and manager of a large farm.

Joseph Bobst arrived in Franklin county in 1862 and became one of the active and prosperous citizens of this township.

Milo Rose, a Buckeye by birth, settled here in 1863 and later was the owner of a farm on section 24. Mr. Rose became prominent not only as a farmer but also as a man of affairs pertinent to the interests of his community. Among other offices he held was that of county supervisor.

In Mott township are many citizens of German ancestry, mostly present or former members of the Evangelical Association. They either came from Dane or Sauk county, Wisconsin, or followed on the trail of someone who did. The late Henry Haecker, father of E. D. and Dr. L. E. Haecker, was a pioneer of this township. Mr. Haecker came from Dane county, Wisconsin, with his family, in 1864, locating about two miles north of Hampton, just east of where the Mott schoolhouse stands. He was induced to come by Henry Meyer,

Sr., who had resided at that time about eight years in West Fork township, coming from Sauk county, Wisconsin.

Lucius Loss, now deceased, was a near neighbor of the Haeckers in Wisconsin, and upon Mr. Haecker's return to his native state to settle up some business affairs, he induced Loss to return to Franklin county with him, and while here Loss bought the farm on section 10, now owned by David Vought, in Mott township. Soon after Loss' arrival, D. W. Hinman and Warner Marble arrived in the county. The latter bought the farm adjoining Loss' place on section 15. These settlements were made in the eastern part of Mott township, in the early '60s.

About this time John A. Messelheiser arrived here from Dane county, Wisconsin. He bought the farm which corners on the plat of Hampton, later owned by his son, Adam Messelheiser.

Casper Wolf, Mr. Messelheiser's son-in-law, was here in the early '60s. He bought the farm conducted by his son A. W. Wolf. Abraham and Henry Wolf, brothers of Casper, came about the same time.

Henry Scott, of Ohio, came to Franklin county in 1865 and opened a blacksmith shop in Hampton. Three years thereafter he took up farming in Mott township, on section 35.

E. F. Hanks was from the Empire state. He settled in this township in 1865, on a farm of 160 acres in section 17. Part of this land was also on section 1, in Marion township.

John Nowell emigrated to the United States from England in 1851. After a short residence in New York, he came west and in 1866 settled on section 36, Mott township. He was a veteran of the Civil war. Aaron Church was a settler of 1864. His death occurred October 24, 1901.

Jacob Wire became one of the large landowners of Franklin county. He was a Pennsylvanian, who located on section 36, Mott township, in 1867. Mr. Wire was not only a large farmer but an extensive stock breeder and dealer.

George W. Pease was born at South Bend, Indiana. He enlisted in a Wisconsin regiment and served in the Civil war, rising to the rank of second lieutenant. In 1868 Mr. Pease settled on a farm one mile east of Hampton, where he practically failed and removed to Idaho. Returning to Franklin county in 1881 he bought another farm and through good judgment and unlimited determination finally succeeded in his endeavors.

I. B. Wheeler settled on a farm in this township in 1868. He had purchased the property in 1864.

J. B. Peck located on a farm two miles east of Hampton, in 1868. He was one of the leading agriculturists of this section of the county during the period of his activity.

J. W. Cummings and A. B. Cummings located here in 1869 and took up farming as a livelihood.

Henry Burmester came from Germany to the United States in 1869 and almost immediately settled in Ross township, where he farmed two years and then located in Chapin. In 1876 he purchased 240 acres of land, which he made one of the best farms in the locality.

J. A. Atkinson was born in Dubuque county. He settled on section 27 in what was then called Washington township and soon became extensively engaged as a stock farmer.

John McNeill was one of the large farmers and stock-raisers of Mott township, coming here in 1870.

Jacob Klinefelter became a resident of Mott township in 1870. He was a native of Pennsylvania.

William Crawford removed from Canada, his birthplace, to Michigan in 1865, and in 1870 to Franklin county, locating in Mott township.

Fred Paulhus first began farming in Mott township in 1870. He was a native of Germany and immigrated to the United States in 1854.

D. J. Patton was one of Mott township's leading farmers, arriving here in 1870. Later he located in Ingham township, whence he returned to Mott township and bought a farm of 380 acres on section 3. Mr. Patton served as a member of the State Legislature for four years. He died March 16, 1910.

Benjamin F. Brown located on section 36, Mott township, in 1870. He was born in Yorkshire, England, and upon coming to this country with his parents settled in Wisconsin. Mr. Brown became quite prominent in the affairs of the township and held various local offices.

James M. Snyder became an extensive landowner of Mott township, after taking up his residence here in 1870. He became largely interested in live stock. Mr. Snyder was a cavalryman in the War of the Rebellion and served his country faithfully. As secretary of the Franklin County Agricultural Society he did valiant service.

Christopher Fink settled on section 21, this township, in 1871. He was a native of Germany and came to America in 1865, first locating in Cook county, Illinois.

S. A. Davis located on section 1, Mott township, in 1874. Mr. Davis was a Pennsylvanian by birth and served in the Civil war. He became a valuable acquisition to the settlement in Mott township.

A. K. Waters settled here in 1875; Jacob Miller in 1879, on section 11; David Wolf, in 1877, on section 11.

In 1858 the marriage of Thomas Newell and Ellen Lathrop took place. This was the first ceremony of the kind performed in Mott township.

The first birth was that of a child born to Mrs. Charles Knowles.

Mrs. Ryan lost her life by being frozen to death in the winter of 1856-7. This was the first death to occur in the township.

James Van Horn built a small log house on section 21, in the spring of 1854, the first to be erected in Mott township.

The first school was taught at Mott's Grove in a log cabin, in the winter of 1857. Mr. Fairbanks presided over the next school, which was taught in 1858. In 1859 a frame building was erected for school purposes on section 20, and served the township for twenty years.

The first religious service held in Mott township was at the log schoolhouse mentioned above, in 1858, Rev. Thomas K. Hansberry presiding.

In 1873, the Evangelical Lutheran denomination organized a church and held service in the schoolhouse until 1883, when it erected a church edifice on section 19.

The Evangelical Association in Mott township was first organized at Hampton in 1869. Meetings were held in the country at the schoolhouse until 1881, when the society erected a church edifice situated in the valley of Buffalo creek, in the heart of one of the finest rural districts of Franklin county. The building stands on the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 24 and cost about two thousand dollars. It was dedicated December 19, 1881. The first pastor in the new building was Rev. O. F. Roll. The first members of this society were J. A. Messelheiser, Adam Messelheiser and wife, Casper Wolf and wife, William Wolf and wife, Henry Wolf and wife, Jacob Klinefelter and wife, Jacob Miller and wife, Christian Fink and wife, Catherine Klousia and Conrad Roemer and wife. The pastors have lived in Hampton, having charge of the church at this place. The present pastor in charge is Rev. J. Haehlen.



## CHAPTER XXII

### CLINTON TOWNSHIP AND THE TOWN OF SHEFFIELD—SECOND TOWN OF IMPORTANCE IN FRANKLIN COUNTY—WHEN FOUNDED AND BY WHOM—BUSINESS ACTIVITIES, SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, ETC.

The history of the town of Sheffield includes that of Clinton township, the territory of the town being coextensive with that of the township.

Clinton township was originally a part of Washington township. It was divided in 1879, to make Ross township, leaving to Clinton that territory which is now under the jurisdiction of the town of Sheffield. Or, in other words, sections 3, 4, 9, 10 and a part of sections 5 and 8, which are within the corporate limits of Sheffield.

The first persons to settle on Clinton's rich prairies were L. W. Bailey, S. E. Baker, John Goldsberry and John Goldsberry, Jr.

L. W. Bailey, an Ohioan, located on section 9 in 1856. S. E. Baker, from Illinois, also took a part of section 9, in 1857, and made his home there until 1874, when he sold his interests in the land and moved from the county.

John Goldsberry and his son, John, settled on section 9, in 1857, but both left the county before the Civil war.

A. F. Crosby, of the Buckeye state, settled on the northwest quarter of section 9, in 1859, where he farmed and ran a blacksmith shop. He sold the land and moved into the main part of the village, where he opened a blacksmith shop in 1874. He died at Sheffield June 4, 1905. It should be noted that the pioneers, whose names have been mentioned, located on section 9. What is also worthy of note is the fact that section 9 is part of the town site of Sheffield.

Other early settlers in Clinton were H. D. Abrams, Joseph Perrin, John H. Richer, B. R. Tilton, A. H. Bird, D. Loomis, J. Bender, James Green, Christopher Green and John L. James. D. Loomis was a native of New York. He came to Franklin county in 1870 and settled on section 16, West Fork township, and later moved to Sheffield. J. Bender, after living in Hampton two years, moved on

to a farm in Clinton township in 1875. James Green came in 1876 and engaged in business at Sheffield. Christopher Green located in the township in 1879 and purchased a farm. John L. James came in 1881.

The village of Sheffield is located on section 4, in Clinton township, and was laid out for Charles C. Gilman and platted by Albert G. Gilman in February, 1874. The plat was filed for record, March 2, 1874. Mr. Gilman was president of the Central Iowa Railway and lived at Marshalltown. He named the new village Sheffield in memory of a friend, who lived in Dubuque.

The railroad company started building operations in Sheffield by putting up a frame depot and soon thereafter, James Thompson erected a small frame house, in which he placed a small stock of merchandise.

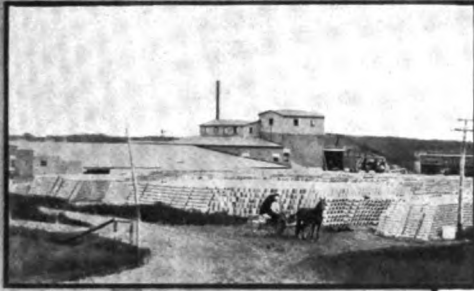
In the spring of 1874 Elias Whitney added to the growth of the place by building a frame house, which became the initial hostelry of that trading point. A second hotel was built by John Bolton the same year and was conducted by him for many years. M. Linchrist was the first person to engage in the hardware business in Sheffield, opening a store in 1875. After a period of one year he sold his stock to Culver Brothers, who later disposed of their interests in the goods to W. B. Barney & Company. S. E. Spaulding was Sheffield's pioneer furniture dealer. Mr. Spaulding displayed a stock of goods to patrons in 1876 and continued in the trade until 1878, when he sold out to R. D. Churchhouse.

Joseph Perrin opened a blacksmith shop here in 1874. He was a veteran of the Civil war and settled in the township in 1870. A. F. Crosby started wagon making in 1874 and continued in the work a number of years.

Dr. J. M. Potter was the first physician to practice his profession in this section of the county, coming to Sheffield in 1875. He opened the first drug store in the town, in 1875, which he sold to the firm of Anderson & Nichols in 1880.

#### SHEFFIELD INCORPORATED

The town of Sheffield was incorporated in 1876 and on May 13 of that year an election was held for municipal officers. The result of the poll showed that W. S. Bowen was elected mayor; M. Crawford, recorder; R. Wilde, H. K. Phelps, S. E. Spaulding, P. A. Pope, G. A. Culver, trustees.



Two Scenes at the Plant of Sheffield Cement and Tile Block Co.  
Main Street  
Public School  
Methodist Episcopal Church

SCENES IN SHEFFIELD





By this time the township and its principal town had grown slowly but substantially. Sheffield probably had reached a population of 175, but three years later the citizens had increased to about two hundred and fifty, according to L. B. Carhart, who set up his stakes in the town that year and who, recently, talked interestingly on the subject of his splendid little town, in an interview accorded the writer. He said:

"I came to Hampton in the spring of 1873, and with T. B. Taylor started a book and music store, afterwards purchasing Taylor's interests. I conducted the business there until the fall of 1877, then selling out, went to Grinnell, where I engaged in the lumber business with my father and brother for two years. In the latter part of December, 1879, I located in Sheffield, finding here a small town not very well developed. The business houses were frame buildings, nearly all one story in height. There were, however, two or three two-story structures, the upper part of which were used as living rooms. The population at that time was about two hundred and fifty as near as I can judge. The business men who were here at that time as near as I can remember were about as follows: General merchants, James Thompson, William Combellick and Thomas Brothers; a harness shop, conducted by J. W. Winship; two grain elevators, one controlled by Thomas Brothers & McKenzie, and the other operated by S. B. Elder; Winchell Brothers, steam gristmill; one of the boys was named C. D. Their mill burned down a few years later and was never rebuilt. There were two blacksmith shops, one owned by Joseph Perrin and the other by Samuel Brugger. The postmaster was W. S. Bowen, who afterwards became proprietor of the Sheffield Press and later moved to Brookhaven, Mississippi. There were two frame hotel buildings. The landlord of one of the hotels was John Bolton, and the other was conducted by E. G. Schaefer. About this time F. P. Morgan started the Sheffield Press. One hardware store was then in existence and was run by Culver Brothers. There was also Doctor Potter, who kept a drug store. I remember of there being a furniture store but the proprietor left just after I came. Doctor Potter also left shortly after I located here. There was a restaurant, the name of the proprietor of which has escaped me. One Beatty kept a livery barn and A. F. Crosby had a wagon shop. The lumber and coal yard belonged to Richard Wilde. Incredible as it may now seem, there was a saloon in the town, which was closed shortly after my arrival.

"There were no churches and the children gathered in an old frame schoolhouse for instruction. This building had two rooms, accommodating probably seventy-five pupils. When the people desired to meet for religious exercises, this schoolhouse served for church purposes until the summer of 1880, when the Baptists erected a house of worship, and the following summer the Methodists also built a church. I remember that when I came here Rev. F. M. Coleman, a Methodist Episcopal minister, held services, preaching once in two weeks at the schoolhouse.

"At the time of my coming to Sheffield, the best farms in the vicinity were selling at about twenty-five dollars per acre for improved lands, and unimproved land, at a little distance from town, could be had for from six to ten dollars, which today is quoted at from one hundred to one hundred and seventy-five dollars per acre.

"The town has had two very severe fires, burning out nearly all of the old original section. At one time twenty-three buildings were destroyed. The first conflagration occurred in 1889, and the second in 1894, the latter causing a loss of \$60,000, and obliterating practically the whole business part of Sheffield. The loss was about half covered by insurance."

After the last fire mentioned by Mr. Carhart, building began with energy and a determination to give Sheffield a class of business houses of a more substantial and better appearing character. The result shows plainly to the most casual observer. On the main street are buildings most pleasing to the eye. They are built of pressed brick and many of them are two stories in height. The stores are well stocked with a class of goods that express and meet the demands of their patrons. The school building, churches, elevator, creamery and hotel are all typical of a well put up little rural city. The latter is especially to be noted, as it is a two-story pressed brick structure, which cost Judge Vermilya, of Mason City, \$9,000 to build, in 1899. This hotel was run by Thorne Vermilya, a son of the judge, for some years. Thomas Thomas, a pioneer merchant of Sheffield, has been the boniface for the past several years.

#### POSTOFFICE

Shobe's Grove postoffice was established in 1861 and October 8. of that year, John Shobe was commissioned as the presiding officer. His successors were: Lorenzo Jones, February 6, 1864; John Shobe,

April 24, 1865; C. R. McKenzie, July 15, 1867; J. H. Richer, June 22, 1868; W. S. Bowen, March 15, 1871.

On March 27, 1874, the name of the office was changed to Sheffield and at the same time W. S. Bowen received his appointment as the first postmaster of the embryo village. N. J. Drown was the next postmaster, his commission being of date April 28, 1875. The names of subsequent appointees to this office follow: W. S. Bowen, April 20, 1877; Anthony Daily, December 3, 1884; W. S. Bowen, January 25, 1886; L. S. Bullard, May 9, 1889; E. E. Morehouse, July 13, 1893; L. S. Bullard, June 9, 1897; Josephine Bullard, June 26, 1902; John R. Bell, August 30, 1909.

### SCHOOLS

In the winter of 1859-60, a young lady, Miss Hoit, taught the first school in Clinton township and the place where teacher and pupils met was a very primitive and, to say the least, not a very inviting one. The building was none else than an old log smoke house, which had been erected on section 1, by an early settler. However, Miss Hoit had but two pupils and these were transferred to a new school building, erected on section 9, the following spring. This building was eventually moved over into Ross township.

The first building erected in Sheffield for school purposes was built in 1875, which answered all requirements for some years. Public meetings, festivals and religious services were often held in this old building. The first instructor in this building was A. O. Hemming and many others have followed him. The present principal is C. B. Wahl, who began his duties in 1910.

The present school building has outlived its usefulness and is entirely inadequate for modern methods and ideas of convenience. However, a good heating and ventilating system has been installed, drinking fountains, laboratory, library and steel playground apparatus, the latter being placed in the summer of 1913, at a cost of \$285.

Six teachers are employed, but another is sadly needed and will be supplied. One room is given over to the high-school course, in which thirty-seven pupils are enrolled. The total enrollment is 172.

Recently a Parents-Teachers' Association was organized, which has been very helpful to the school and its instructors. The mem-

bers meet once a month, at which time discourses pertinent to the advancement of children on educational lines and kindred subjects, are features of interesting programs. This society is now making strenuous efforts to create the requisite sentiment favoring the issuance of bonds for a Twentieth Century school building.

#### RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES

##### First Baptist Church

On November 28, 1863, A. F. Little and wife, A. F. Crosby and wife, B. H. Gibbs, and wife, R. Knapp and Olive Gillett met with Elder T. H. Judson at the home of A. T. Little and organized the First Baptist Church of West Fork. The first meetings were held at the homes of the members and at schoolhouses. In 1864 the society was admitted into the Cedar Valley Association. Elder Judson served as pastor until 1866, when C. A. Smith became pastor and served for several years.

In January, 1878, the meeting place was changed to the schoolhouse in Sheffield, and in February of the same year the name was changed to the First Baptist Church of Sheffield and the society was incorporated as such in September, 1880. Elder Button was at that time in charge and under his administration a church building was erected in May, 1881, at a cost of \$2,300. A parsonage was built and completed in 1888. After many years' service this building was sold and the money held in trust until the fall of 1897, when lots were purchased and a new parsonage erected.

The church building was remodeled in 1909 and the society is now in a flourishing condition. It has a membership of 120, sixteen of whom are non-residents.

The names of the ministers who have served this charge follow: C. A. Smith, who remained several years; Elder Button, 1879-82; T. J. Bryant, 1882-85; Elder Hunt, 1885-87; Reverend Carey, March, 1888-September, 1888; Elder Houghton, November, 1888-November, 1890; Elder Shadwick, May, 1891-April, 1892; Elder Lewis, 1892-94; Elder Tucker, December, 1894-October, 1895; Elder Williams, May, 1896-1899; Elder Sloan, August, 1899-February, 1901; then for several years there was no regular pastor, but in 1907 P. C. Nelson became pastor, serving for one year, when in 1908 he was succeeded by Reverend Jacobs, who remained from the fall of 1908 until August, 1910. Elder Longson had charge from

1910 until the fall of 1913, and on the 25th of October of the latter year, Rev. J. M. Whisler took charge.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

It appears from the records that this church first belonged to the Rockwell charge, which was cut off from what was called Union Ridge circuit in 1870. It was first supplied by Rev. Gideon Lyman, who had five appointments: Rockwell, Lyman's schoolhouse, Old Chapin, Owen's Grove and Shobe's Grove, now McKenzie. The name of Union Ridge first appears in the minutes of 1869 and was supplied by J. Darwin. In 1871 it was supplied by William Gough, and when the Northwest Iowa Conference was organized, all that part of Rockwell that lay within the bounds of that conference was cut off and the circuit then consisted of Rockwell, Sheffield, Chapin and a schoolhouse east of Chapin. In 1888 Sheffield and Chapin were taken from Rockwell and the charges were changed that year to Sheffield but they were not divided until 1891.

Sheffield Methodist Episcopal Church had been organized in November, 1880, with a membership of forty. In 1882 a house of worship was erected at a cost of \$2,250, and in November of that year was dedicated. The first regular pastor in charge was Rev. F. M. Coleman.

An addition to the east part of the church was built during Reverend Bishop's administration and the church was rededicated January 27, 1907, by Rev. W. F. Pitner, presiding elder. At that time he raised over \$4,000 and freed the society from debt. In the winter of 1913 a beautiful residence for the pastor, of stucco construction, was built at a cost of \$4,000. It stands on the lot west of the church. The old parsonage was sold, which stands on the north side of the church.

The present membership is now about two hundred. There is a Sunday school, Ladies' Aid Society, Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Woman's Home Missionary Society, Epworth League and Ladies' Guild, as auxiliaries to this church.

The pastor preaches at Chapin every Sunday afternoon, where there is a membership of about fifty. Here the society has a small frame church building.

The names of the pastors who have served this charge are as follows: W. S. Darwin, 1869-70; William Gough and G. C. Lyman,

1870-71; W. H. Miller, 1871-72; Ed Hoskyn, 1872-73; A. J. Griswold, 1873-74; G. B. Crinklaw, 1874-76; M. W. Robinson, 1876-77; O. H. Sproul, 1877-78; F. M. Coleman, 1878-80; E. A. Hawn, 1880-81; C. H. Gramly, 1881-82; E. Will, 1882-84; J. N. Fawcett, 1884-86; J. H. Hayward, 1886-91; Adam Holm, 1891-92; C. A. Hawn, 1892-95; Henry E. Wilcox, 1895-97; J. R. A. Hammer, 1897-1900; H. J. Bowder, 1900-04; A. T. Bishop, 1904-06; F. C. Witzigman, 1906-09; J. S. Delong, 1909-10; Thomas Carson, 1910-13; A. B. Soule, the present pastor, since September, 1913.

#### GERMAN BAPTIST CHURCH

The German people of the Baptist faith established a church organization in Sheffield in 1896, having at the time eighteen members. Rev. Jacob Jordan was the first pastor. Services were first held in the schoolhouse and occasionally in other churches, but in 1900 a commodious church building was erected. The membership now numbers seventy souls. The pastors who have been in charge are as follows: Revs. Jacob Jordan, F. Jerger, William Paul and C. F. Dallmus. The latter came in 1907.

#### ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

This is a mission and was founded in 1889, consisting of the following appointments: Sheffield, West Fork and Steinblock's. Before this time Sheffield and Steinblock's belonged to Belmont Mission and West Fork to Hampton. H. S. Butz was the pastor in Sheffield and his successor was F. Belzer. The church in Sheffield was built in 1888, when D. S. Staebler served the work from Belmont, and the following year he built the parsonage. H. Sassman served this charge from 1892 until 1893. In the latter year thirty-three souls were converted and the church at West Fork erected. In 1894 Reverend Sassman and P. Held served this charge. In 1895 Rev. G. Youngblood came, and in 1896 M. Knoll was appointed, serving two years. In 1899 B. R. Wiener was sent to Sheffield and served four years. H. C. Schluter came in 1902, remaining four years, and his successor, in 1906, was J. M. Krafft. He was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. David Lang, who is now serving his third year, having taken charge in the spring of 1911. The present membership is fifty-three.

Reverend Lang also preaches at Salem Church, located in West Fork, every Sunday alternating the morning and evening services with the church at Sheffield. Here there is also a membership of fifty-three.

#### FRATERNAL SOCIETIES

##### Grand Army of the Republic

Mulligan Post, No. 102, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized Oct. 20, 1882, the charter members being mustered in by Capt. R. S. Benson and other members of McKenzie Post at Hampton. The name given the organization was that of Col. James R. Mulligan, of the Twenty-third Illinois Regiment, who was shot down at the head of his command at the battle before Winchester, which took place on July 24, 1864. The first officials were: J. S. Barney, commander; C. D. Johns, senior vice commander; R. J. Churchhouse, junior vice commander; G. R. Miner, adjutant; John Richer, chaplain; William Combellick, quartermaster; Joseph Perrin, officer of the day; Samuel Esslinger, officer of the guard; I. I. Thompson, sergeant major; B. R. Tilton, quartermaster.

The charter members were B. R. Tilton, H. R. Floyd, James D. Abrams, C. D. Johns, Joseph Perrin, I. I. Thompson, D. F. Ross, Ed Esslinger, Emanuel Esslinger, Samuel Esslinger, Hiram Chase, C. Webster, William Parks, Asa Bailey, R. J. Churchhouse, Jonathan Bender, G. R. Miner, William Combellick, F. W. Kimball, R. Cook, J. S. Barney, R. Wilde.

The membership of Mulligan Post had reached forty at one time but fourteen of the original members have answered the last roll call, five have moved away and only two, Samuel Esslinger and C. Webster, remain. The present membership has dwindled down to eight.

In the great fire of 1894 the headquarters of the post were burned and the records destroyed. Shortly thereafter, by various means, the post secured sufficient funds to purchase a lot, upon which a tastefully built frame structure was erected. This is the Grand Army Memorial Hall, where the remnant of the old guard meets. It is also the meeting place of the Masonic and Odd Fellow lodges.

##### MULLIGAN RELIEF CORPS

Mulligan Relief Corps, No. 303, was organized February 20, 1895, with twelve charter members. This organization meets in G. A. R. hall.



## ODD FELLOWS

Sheffield Lodge, No. 422, I. O. O. F., was established October 20, 1881. In the fire of 1894 its charter was destroyed and if a duplicate has been issued, it is hidden away, as it is not hanging upon the walls of the Odd Fellows hall. It has a membership, however, of about fifty, and the present officials are: N. G., Butler Throssel; P. G., Albert Leider; secretary, W. P. Ormrod; treasurer, D. E. Runtton.

White Lily Lodge, No. 137, Daughters of Rebekah, was established October 22, 1897. This is an auxiliary society to the Odd Fellows.

## MASONS

Sheffield Lodge, A. F. & A. M., was organized in 1880. The charter officers were: W. M., T. Winchell; S. W., William Thomas; J. W., A. A. Allen; secretary, J. M. Potter; treasurer, Joseph Perin; S. D., Thomas Thomas; J. D., A. Bally.

Sheffield Chapter, No. 87, Order Eastern Star, was established October 23, 1895.

## KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

Argyle Lodge, No. 182, K. P., was organized August 15, 1895, with the following charter members: H. D. Hocking, W. C. Hocking, W. H. Thompson, William Nettleton, C. S. Barney, A. B. Carter, B. Throssel, A. W. Knesel, F. I. Aborn, H. G. Newhouse, F. M. Mansfield, A. H. Ellitt, F. A. Woodford, George Wilde, E. J. Heffner, R. F. Sullivan, W. D. Brotcher, J. T. Wilde, C. J. Alderson, W. E. Nichols, R. S. Shanks, G. C. Barney, C. P. Francisco, A. C. Whitney.

## SHEFFIELD PRESS

The Sheffield Press was established in 1880 by F. P. Morgan, a brilliant newspaper man, who soon turned the office over to a successor. The paper, a six-column quarto, is now edited by Chester E. Yelland. A more extended sketch of the press will be found in a chapter devoted to that subject.

## HOTELS

The first hotel was built and conducted by Elias Whitney, in 1874, and a second hotel was built by John Bolton in the same year and conducted by him for many years. A third hotel was opened in 1880 by E. C. Schaefer, which was called the Galena House, and in 1883 William Hartswell was running a hotel here. The first building put up on real hotel lines was built about 1899 by Judge Vermilya, of Mason City, for his son, Thorne Vermilya, who was its landlord a number of years. He was succeeded by the present proprietor, Thomas Thomas, one of the pioneer merchants of Sheffield. The hostelry is now called the Thomas House. It is a modern two-story building with its two sides facing the streets, of pressed brick, and it contains sixteen bedrooms. The hotel is on the corner of Railroad and Gilman streets.

## ELECTRIC LIGHTS

Among the public utilities enjoyed by Sheffield is a town hall, and fire engine house, where is installed apparatus and appurtenances for an energetic fire company which has long been organized. The streets and many of the business houses and residences are furnished lights by the Sheffield Electric Light & Power Company, organized by H. L. and C. C. Carhart, in 1909. At that time they put in a dynamo at their brick and tile factory, erected poles and strung wires throughout the town and have been giving the citizens practically a continuous service. This company has also made connection with Rockwell, a town of 850 people, seven miles north in Cerro Gordo, and is furnishing its lights. The franchise for this purpose was secured in 1913. It might be also mentioned that a number of farm residences are using lights furnished by the Carhart Company. Some time since H. L. Carhart retired from the electric light company and that concern is now in full control and under the management of C. C. Carhart.

To guard against fire the town authorities some years ago dug several wells which are depended upon for a sufficient supply of water in case of fire. The only means the volunteer company has of elevating the water is by a hand pump. This safeguard, however, is not sufficient for the growing needs and dangers of the town and

it will not be a great while before Sheffield will have a modern system of waterworks.

#### FINANCIAL

The first bank to be established in Sheffield was the Sheffield Bank, a private financial institution, which began business January 1, 1880. This was a partnership affair, the members being T. B. Taylor, and W. D. Evans, of Hampton, and L. B. Carhart, Mr. Carhart assuming full management. In 1898 Mr. Carhart secured control of his partners' interests and has been carrying on the concern to the present day. About 1902, H. L. Carhart, a son, came into the bank as assistant cashier and still retains that position.

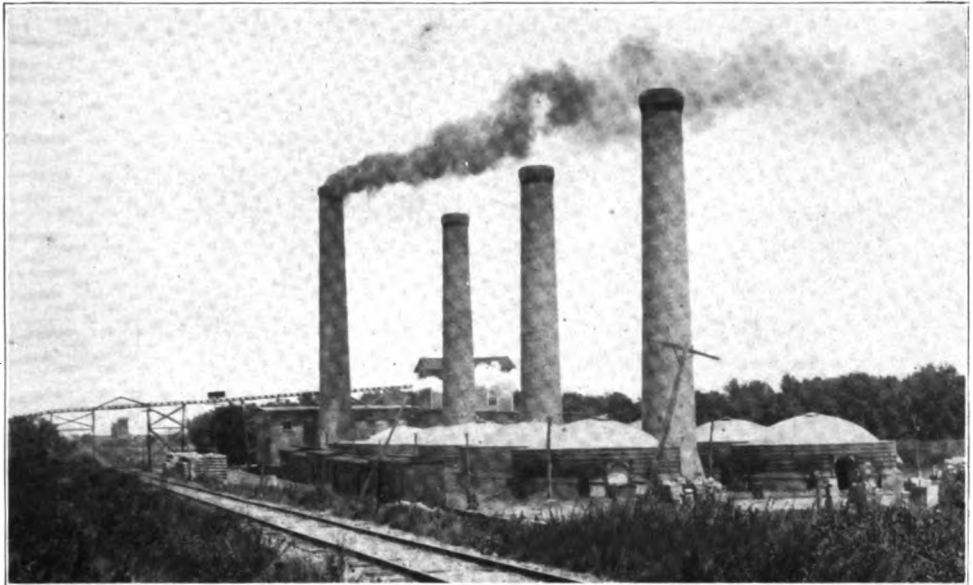
The Sheffield Bank not only does a general banking business but also has an insurance, real-estate and loan department. In 1890 a home for the bank was erected on the corner of Gilman and Second streets. It is a two-story brick structure, the first building to be made of brick in the town. It is the most attractive business block in Sheffield. The bank is capitalized at \$25,000, and in December, 1913, had deposits amounting to \$200,000.

Another private financial institution is that of the Citizens Bank, of which C. F. Johnston is the proprietor. This business concern was organized in 1891 by G. A. and C. F. Johnston. In 1910, G. A. Johnston died, since which time C. F. Johnston has been sole proprietor. Being conducted in a conservative manner, the Citizens Bank is considered one of the most substantial financial concerns in Franklin county. It does a general banking, real-estate and insurance business. Since 1911, W. H. Reynolds has been the cashier. The responsibilities amount to \$75,000.

The Farmers and Merchants Bank is a private institution, organized in 1900, with a capital of \$10,000. The officials are: William Storck, president, who is the principal owner; C. J. Le Valley, vice president and cashier; C. C. Storck, assistant cashier. The Farmers and Merchants also do a general banking business, together with insurance, loans and real estate.

#### SHEFFIELD BRICK AND TILE WORKS

The most important and largest industrial concern in Franklin county is located at Sheffield. Reference is made to the Sheffield



**SHEFFIELD BRICK AND TILE COMPANY**



Brick & Tile Company, which was incorporated in 1908, with a capital stock of \$150,000. The incorporators were L. B. Carhart, C. C. Carhart, H. L. Carhart and C. L. Smith.

In 1908 the Sheffield Brick & Tile Company purchased the interests of E. P. Fox in thirty-five acres of land which he owned, part of which had been converted into a brick and tile yard, together with all machinery then in use. This property is situated about a half mile south of Sheffield and contains an almost inexhaustible supply of a splendid quality of clay for commercial purposes. The new company discarded all the old machinery and immediately commenced building an entire new plant on modern lines. A main building, 189x167 feet, was erected, in which is installed the machinery. Here also are the drying sheds. Eight circular, down-draft kilns, with inside diameter of twenty-six feet were built. Two more were put up in 1909, two in 1910 and four in 1913, making a battery of sixteen kilns. The machinery is the latest improved. There are three 150-horse-power boilers, one 400-horse-power Allis-Chalmers Corliss engine, and a large steam shovel is used for excavating clay and loading it on cars for transportation to the mixing machines.

The concern employs from forty-five to fifty-five men the year round and in the year 1913 shipped 1,300 cars of brick, drain tile and building blocks to outside customers. For the local trade 750 wagonloads of the company's products were disposed of. Outside shipments are made comparatively easy, as there are two spurs of tracks of the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad, 2,200 feet in all, running to the yards.

The officials of the company are: President, C. L. Smith; vice president, L. B. Carhart; secretary and treasurer, C. C. Carhart. Products: Drain tile, hollow building blocks and common brick. Capital stock, \$150,000.

#### GROWTH OF SHEFFIELD

Sheffield began to grow apace as soon as it was platted and continued so to do until 1877, at that time almost every branch of business being represented. Then came a stagnation period, which continued till the year 1880, when the town took on renewed energy and began a forward stride unchecked up to the present. The town is splendidly located, has good transportation facilities in the Central Iowa Railroad and the St. Paul & Des Moines. Most of its busi-

ness houses are constructed of brick and are modern in architecture. The streets, though unpaved, are kept in good condition and lighted by electricity. The residences have settings of nicely kept lawns and many of the homes will compare very favorably with those of much larger cities. The men who have contributed to this happy consummation will be here given a passing notice:

John Bolton, who in 1874 built the first hotel in Sheffield, was a native of Knox county, Ohio, and was reared on a farm. Coming to Iowa in the spring of 1865, he settled on a farm in Mahaska county and in 1870 removed to Franklin, entering the livery business at Hampton. He then removed to a Washington township farm, whence he came in the early '70s and bought a third interest in the Sheffield town plat, then owned by Thompson, Gilman and Bolton. He put up a frame building, 22x26 feet, and engaged in the hardware business, but the demand was so great for a hotel that he abandoned his store and opened the Gilman House, a two-story structure, 26x36 feet. Mr. Bolton was landlord of the Gilman House for a number of years and in the meantime took an active part in the upbuilding of the village. He was one of the school directors when the first schoolhouse was built, helped finish the building and hired the first teacher.

Robert F. Sullivan left a farm in Jones county in the fall of 1868 and bought 160 acres in Ross township. To this he added 200 acres. In 1881 Mr. Sullivan moved to Sheffield, where he engaged in the implement business. Going to Phoenix, Arizona, in the hopes of regaining his health, he died there December 9, 1905. His remains were brought back to Sheffield for interment.

Mention has already been made of those who first began business in Sheffield. Those who came later will now be noticed.

C. S. Barney left Michigan for the West in 1875 and located at Hampton, where he worked at the tinner's trade. In 1879 he secured the business of Cresler Brothers, extended the store building deeper and filled it up with a well selected stock of tinware and kindred articles of merchandise.

Richard Wilde was the pioneer lumber merchant of Sheffield, coming here in 1874 at about the time the town was laid out. He opened up a lumberyard and continued in business until 1881, when he retired. Mr. Wilde was a good citizen and had a splendid Civil war record. In 1883 he bought the Thompson and Gilman interests in the town plat, put up a number of buildings and was instru-

mental in furthering the growth of the town. His successor in the lumber business was the firm of Thomas & Lawrence. L. Lawrence, the junior member of the firm of Thomas & Lawrence, was born in Wisconsin. He located in Sheffield in 1881 and with his partner bought the Wilde lumber interests. Mr. Wilde died May 6, 1902.

Joseph Thomas took up his residence in Sheffield in 1878. He became a partner in the lumber business with L. Lawrence and in 1882 married Julia Lawrence, a sister of his associate in business.

In 1881 J. T. Wilde and William Parks formed a partnership and engaged in the lumber and coal trade. In 1875 H. D. Abrams opened an agricultural implement warehouse, which he sold to R. F. Sullivan in 1878. Another concern handling implements was started in 1882 by William Parks.

H. D. Abrams was one of the settlers of 1866, coming that year from Lee county, Illinois, and settling on section 5, Clinton township. Part of this land afterwards was within the corporate limits of Sheffield. Mr. Abrams built the first frame house on the north side of South Fork. He lived on the farm until the spring of 1875, when he removed to Sheffield and became one of its influential citizens.

William and Thomas Thomas, under the firm name of Thomas Brothers, engaged in the general merchandise business here in February, 1879. They had a two-story building, 24x60 feet, and were among the busiest men in Sheffield.

Later merchants were O. P. Thompson and H. A. Tompkins, who did business under the firm name of Thompson & Tompkins. They carried a general line of goods, opening the first store in 1883.

H. D. Hocking and J. Slade formed a partnership in the fall of 1882 for the purpose of doing a general merchandise business. They began in a small way and soon had a large establishment.

A. H. Bird was a dealer in general merchandise in Sheffield in 1882, forming at the time a partnership with William Combellick. He bought out his partner's interest in 1883 and conducted the business alone.

B. R. Tilton opened the first exclusive grocery establishment in 1882.



E. E. Morehouse had begun a grocery business in 1881 but he also carried a stock of boots and shoes. At the time he took into partnership H. Morehouse.

S. E. Spaulding opened a furniture store in Sheffield in 1876. In 1878 he sold out to R. J. Churchhouse, who at the time erected a two-story business building.

Wesley Hall was the first to engage in the livery business and the second was William Ritter, who opened a stable in 1880, and the year following sold to Ford & Gear.

Abner S. Abrams in 1882 opened a harness shop.

In 1879 John Treganza removed from Hampton to Sheffield and engaged in the wagon-making business.

C. E. Wilhelm established a restaurant here in 1878. He was succeeded by J. W. Hall in the winter of 1882-83. O. C. Zimmerman opened a billiard hall in Sheffield. One of the early druggists was William E. Nichols, who located in the town in 1880 and in company with a Mr. Anderson bought out the Dr. J. M. Potter drug store.

A. B. Carter opened a barber shop in Sheffield in 1878, first building a small shop. He was one of the charter members of the local Odd Fellows lodge.

About the first contractor to locate in Sheffield was A. C. Whitney, in 1878, who formed a partnership with L. S. Bullard. This firm put up a great many of the houses in the thriving little city.

About this same time J. W. Bruce and D. E. Bigg formed a partnership for contracting and building.

John L. Borst, who had been a Franklin county farmer for five years, located in Sheffield in 1881, at which time he opened a coal yard.

W. F. McKenzie was a grain dealer here as early as 1878.

John H. Richer, a veteran of the Civil war, settled in Clinton township and later removed to Sheffield. He presided over the Shobe's Grove postoffice in 1868. He engaged in business in Sheffield in company with H. Morehouse in 1881 and was one of the charter members of Mulligan Post.

John Borst came to Clinton township from Wisconsin in 1877 and made heavy investments in land. He removed to Sheffield and put up a fine residence in 1877, and in 1882 a business block which cost him \$7,000. He became the possessor of several other busi-

ness houses and residences and was very active in building up the town. He platted Borst's addition to the village.

Joseph Gilchrist was an early settler of Ross township. He learned the trade of shoemaking, which he followed a number of years. In the year 1861 Mr. Gilchrist removed to Franklin county and in 1862 located on section 10, Clinton township.

W. S. Bowen, the first postmaster and first mayor of Sheffield, and also one of the early editors of the Sheffield Press, removed from Clayton county, Iowa, to Franklin county, in 1867, and located on section 5, Clinton township. When the town of Sheffield was laid out he removed to the village. He was elected mayor in 1876, at the first election held in the incorporated town of Sheffield, and remained in office several years. His successors as near as can be gathered from the records remaining after the fire of 1894 were as follows: S. B. Elder, Thomas Thomas, L. B. Carhart, Thomas Thomas, C. F. Johnston, H. D. Hockings, G. A. Johnston, John Treganza, G. A. Johnston, G. R. Miner, L. S. Sullivan and the present incumbent, A. J. Froning.







Reeve Street, North from Fourth  
Park Fountain  
Public Library

Bird's-Eye View, Northwest  
From Court House  
Bird's-Eye View, Southeast  
From Court House

VIEWS OF HAMPTON

## CHAPTER XXIII

THE COUNTY SEAT—LAID OUT AND PLATTED IN 1856—JOB GARNER AND GEORGE RYAN, FOUNDERS—GROWTH OF THE VILLAGE—INCORPORATED AS A TOWN IN 1871—INCORPORATED AS A CITY OF THE SECOND CLASS IN 1893—THE BUILDERS OF HAMPTON—PUBLIC UTILITIES—MODERN IMPROVEMENTS—BUSINESS HOUSES, ETC.

In writing the history of Washington township, the historian's scope is limited to and embraces that which pertains to Hampton. As has been heretofore related, Washington was one of the first three townships created by the county court, from which, from time to time other townships were separated and organized, namely: Ingham, Mott, Marion, West Fork, Clinton, Ross and Richland. By the disintegration process all left to Washington township are sections 27, 28, 29, 32, 33 and 34, all of which are coextensive with the corporate limits of the city of Hampton.

Hampton is situated two miles east of the center of the county, is surrounded by as good farming land as lies out of doors, with well kept thoroughfares leading into it and having railroad facilities that should attract manufacturing enterprises to her doors. The business buildings are many and substantial and the residences are splendidly built and attractive. Hampton people have an eye to the beautiful, numerous evidences of which lie in the homes, lawns, paved streets, boulevard lamps, modern churches and school buildings, parks and a general appearance of thrift and thoroughness.

Job Garner and George Ryan were the founders of Hampton, platting the land on which the city now stands in 1856, and giving to the county forty acres, that by the sale of lots the new subdivision of the state might have the means of building a courthouse and make other necessary improvements. In March, 1856, Hampton was made the seat of government for Franklin county. On the 2d day of June, 1856, H. P. Allen, county surveyor, finished his survey and platting of the village of Hampton, and on that day the plat was recorded, thus carrying out a contract made by the county with the town's

projectors that it would be responsible for all costs of the survey and platting. Those who assisted Mr. Allen in the work were Asa Platt, who hauled the surveyor's stakes and received \$1.75 for his work. Allen Garner, chainman, was paid \$4.35; William Esterbrook, chainman, \$3.12; S. B. Jackson, chainman, \$4.37; S. K. Freed, chainman, \$1.25; Matthias Garner, chainman, \$5.87; Allen Garner, for stakes, \$4.50. Matthias Garner hauled the stones set up at corners for markers. He and Allen were sons of Job Garner, and Freed was a son-in-law. Jackson was a young lawyer, who had come west to "grow up with the country;" Platt and Esterbrook were probably land seekers.

Benjamin was the name chosen by both Garner and Ryan for the new town, and it was so known at the time of the first location of the county seat. But R. F. Piatt, the first person to assume the practice of law in Franklin county, and who took a prominent part in its formative period, objected to the name and, probably through his influence, Judge Reeve was induced to name the town Hampton. Orson G. Reeve maintains that the reason the change in names was made was owing to the fact that there was already a town in the state called Benjamin.

When Job Garner located on the town site of Hampton, he put up a log cabin within the limits of the town, in the grove on Squaw creek, near a flowing spring. He moved into the building in September, 1855, and this was the old pioneer's home for some time thereafter. The cabin performed its duties as a home for many years and tenanted several different families.

The first building to be erected in Hampton after the town was platted was put up by T. T. Rawson and his brother-in-law, Frank Geiger. The building was constructed of logs, a story and a half in height, and stood on lot 5, block 1. It was finished June 1, 1855, and here was installed a stock of merchandise, consisting of groceries, dry goods, hardware and whiskey. This was the first store in Hampton and was kept by Frank Geiger until 1857, when the stock was sold to Isaac N. Dodd, who was considered but little more than half-witted. In a short time Dodd and his store ceased to be identified with the place, and Frank Geiger, who had been its first manager, removed to Muscatine.

In June, 1856, a very necessary addition to the growing little trading point was that of a blacksmith shop, built by Jacob Shideler. The structure was a very primitive affair, but for a time answered

its purpose. A shack about ten feet square and built of poplar poles, was the extent and character of this shop, and it stood on a lot north of the early residence of William G. Beed. Shideler sold out in 1858 to a blacksmith named Clark, and removed to Colorado, where he prospered in the cattle business.

James Thompson, who became one of the foremost men in the county, arrived in Hampton from Vinton in June, 1856. He had made arrangements early in the spring with Everett Keyes, a Vinton merchant, to look up a business location, but upon his arrival in Hampton he was told by R. F. Piatt and Isaac Miller that all the business lots had been disposed of. Discouraged, he went to Mason City and other places on his quest and not being successful returned to Hampton and managed to buy one lot. Repairing to Vinton he bought two wagonloads of lumber, which in August of the same year he brought to Hampton and put up a frame building 16x24 feet, one story in height. This modest structure long stood on its original site, on South Main street, opposite the present city park. But Mr. Thompson's troubles were not over with the completion of his building. The stock of goods for the store had been purchased before the merchandise arrived, however, Mr. Thompson was in New York city and shipped before the building was finished. appalled upon receipt of the intelligence that his partner, Mr. Keyes, had met his death in a sawmill accident at Vinton. He also learned about the same time that his stock of goods had been destroyed by fire while in transit on the lakes. At this angle of his misfortune, Mr. Thompson about despaired of accomplishing his purpose. But Amory Keyes took the place of his son in the arrangements. The insurance received on the merchandise with added capital bought new goods and on September 1, 1856, the firm of Thompson & Keyes opened its store to the public. In 1859 Mr. Thompson purchased his partner's interest in the venture and William G. Beed became a member of the firm, which assumed the name of Thompson & Beed. Eventually, the building was enlarged and the business was carried on by the firm of Beed Brothers, James Beed being the new member after the retirement of James Thompson.

In 1855, and soon after the organization of Franklin county was completed, A. Freetoe located in Hampton. Bringing with him machinery for a steam sawmill, he put up a good building on a five-acre plot of ground lying just east and adjoining the northeast corner of the town plat, which had been given him by George Ryan



for the purpose. This was the first mill erected in the county and the equipment could not have been better in those days. With an engine and circular saw, the mill had a capacity of 3,000 feet of lumber per day, and the settlers for a time patronized it quite liberally. The patrons of the industry were too few, however, to make it profitable, so that after a year's hopeful, but discouraging, operation, the building was dismantled of its machinery and the latter moved to Horse Neck, in Butler county.

George Beed, Andrew D. Cannam, James H. Beed, D. W. Mott and Charles Beed came to Franklin county in 1856 and settled in or near the future county seat, and all became prominent in the affairs of the community.

Among the arrivals in 1857 were Chauncey Gillett and J. D. Thompson. Gillett that year put up a building on the corner of Fourth and Main streets, which became part of the Phoenix Hotel, and in the fall of 1859 formed a partnership with George Beed. They erected a gristmill west of near the northeast corner of the town plat, the material being of stone. A boiler was purchased of Jesse R. Dodd, then in Oakland, and with engine, three run of stone, and circular saw, the mill was equipped not only to take care of the settlers' grist but also to turn out about two thousand feet of lumber a day. The Beed & Gillett mill started operations in 1859, but it could not be said to have been a paying institution. Prices were low but fuel comparatively high. Water power was tried as a saving venture, a crude ditch having been dug, through which an unsatisfactory supply of water flowed. The mill was run until 1863, when Mr. Gillett died. The property was then sold to W. R. Jamison, of Union Ridge, Butler county, who took away the machinery and left the building to its fate.

J. D. Thompson was district judge in 1857; in fact, he was the first jurist to preside over the court in Franklin county. He came to Hampton in 1857, having bought an interest in the town site, and erected a story-and-a-half grout, or concrete and stone, building on Reeve street. For some little time, Judge Thompson made this his residence and then returned to Eldora, his former home.

George Beed was born in Devonshire, England, June 25, 1832, and at the age of sixteen years was employed as clerk in a large importing house in London. In 1856 he came to America and settled in Hampton, Iowa, purchasing the tract of land now owned by Adam Messelheiser in Mott township. In 1858-59 he was engaged in

a sawmill at Hampton, which proved a failure financially, taking all his means. In 1860 he was appointed deputy county treasurer and recorder, and in 1862 he was elected treasurer and served as such eight years. In 1870 he went out of office and devoted his entire attention to handling real estate, in which he had invested largely. In 1875 he organized the Citizens Bank (now the Citizens National Bank) and was its president for a long term of years. Mr. Beed died in January, 1897. George Beed was without doubt the most public-spirited man that Hampton has ever had. He, more than any other man, was instrumental in bringing the first railroad to the town. He was always willing and ready to help build up Hampton. Every industry started received financial aid from him. He was the heaviest stockholder in the Hampton Plow Works, the Aluminum-Alloy Metal Company, both of which proved failures, through no fault of his, but to his serious loss. In the '80s George Beed was accredited the wealthiest citizen of Franklin county. He died comparatively poor in purse but left a record filled with good deeds.

William G. Beed located at Hampton in 1856, coming from England. In 1862 he entered upon the mercantile business and in 1865 admitted his brother, James, as a partner and the firm for a long term of years was known as William G. Beed & Brother. In 1864 he purchased the Franklin Flour Mills, and for a period of forty-five years devoted his time, energy and money in constantly improving the mill. He had unbounded faith in the business and spent a large fortune in keeping up the property, and but for the decline in wheat raising and discrimination in freight rates, would have realized his expectations. He kept the mill running until the winter of 1887-8, when the business became so unprofitable that he was compelled to close the doors. It is said that no worthy person ever approached William Beed asking for succor and was turned away empty handed. He thought everyone honest and the dollars due him from unpaid book accounts would in the aggregate make a modest fortune. He died January 2, 1912.

James H. Beed was one of the early county recorders, pioneer merchants and leading men of Hampton. He served his country in the Civil war and returning to Hampton became active and prominent in his home town.

O. F. Kitchell was a native of Bridgeport, Vermont. In 1858 he arrived in Hampton and for a home remodeled a barn belonging to Chauncey Gillett, into which he moved his family. The build-

ing subsequently burned down. Kitchell remained in the county several years and then returned to his former New England home.

The Franklin Mill was erected on section 20, Mott township, in 1859. It was a stone structure with original ground dimensions 36x36 feet, one story high, containing one run of stone sufficient for the work of those early days. The mill made a good reputation from the start and ground the grist for settlers who came from many miles away by horseback and ox teams. T. K. Hansberry built the mill at a cost of \$4,000. It was purchased by William G. Beed in 1864 and enlarged to a two-story building, with an addition, also an elevator 20x36 feet. In 1882 the roller system was installed, the mill being equipped with three run of buhrs and twelve sets of rollers. Later Mr. Beed built another elevator 28x50 feet and a warehouse 26x50 feet. A splendid description of the mill and the times will be found in another article in this work.

T. B. and H. H. Carpenter, merchants of Cedar Falls, established a branch store in Hampton in February, 1859. Their building was erected by John E. Boyles and stood on the northeast corner of Reeve and Fourth street, now the site of the Rule Hotel. It was a little frame structure, 16x24 feet. J. T. Stearns was the manager of this branch establishment.

S. M. Jones and M. S. Bowman came from Vinton to Hampton early in 1859 for the purpose of establishing a newspaper, which they founded and named the Franklin Record. The home of this initial paper was on Fifth street, where the Baptist Church now stands, in a little frame building containing one room and that unplastered.

In 1859, James Thompson erected a small frame building just east of where the Methodist Church now stands. It was 24x36 feet in size and was built almost entirely of native timber, sawed here, and finished with black walnut.

A schoolhouse was erected by F. A. Denton and E. A. Evans in 1859. It was 24x36 feet in size and here not only gathered teacher and pupils, but the building was also used for religious meetings, dances and everything else. That same year Rev. John Gilliland built a home on Reeve street, which was afterward known as the old A. Gillett house.

D. W. Dow, still living in Hampton, came here in 1859. He bought the Steve Jones printing office building, put it on a sled and moved it to another part of the town. After some remodeling

it was used by N. B. Chapman as a law office and residence. Mr. Dow boarded a year with Chapman and that winter taught school. The house afterwards became the residence of G. M. Spencer.

Tracey Beed early in 1859 put up a double log house, just west of where the Congregational Church now stands. The first grand jury empaneled in Franklin county met in this building. J. I. Popejoy was the foreman, and J. T. McCormick clerk.

Norman Lisk erected a building just south of Thompson's store in 1859 and during the same year John Harlan built a log house and two other similar structures were built by other parties.

In 1859 W. G. Beed built a residence on the corner of Reeve and Third streets. A log house was moved in from the country, remodeled and became the home of George Beed. M. Dodge built a home in 1859 south of the Hampton House, on the opposite side of the street, and about 1860 there were probably twenty buildings of various kinds in the town, and about eighty people. The male members of the community were: James Thompson, F. J. Geiger, James T. McCormick, George Beed, D. W. Dow, I. N. Dodd, A. J. Cannam, Chauncey Gillett, Charles De Lamater, O. F. Kitchell, Perry Hoyt, I. M. White, I. Justus, Jacob Shideler, Thomas Shideler, G. W. Eckley, W. N. Davidson, Isaac Jones, J. D. and G. W. Thompson, A. Gillett, Rev. John Gilliland, Norman Lisk, S. H. Vankirk, John E. Boyles, J. T. Stearns, Dr. J. S. Hurd, R. F. Piatt, Job Garner, T. T. Rawson, S. M. Jones, Russell Freed, Jack Newell, Charles Noll, Riley Howe, Judge A. North, Lee and C. Sharpe, James Vanhorn, Mr. Kohlhoff, F. M. Rother, Judson Knapp, John Harlan and J. H. Van Nuys.

From 1860 to 1865 Hampton grew but very little. It was the period of the war and many of the able-bodied men were at the front fighting for their country. Immigration had practically ceased. Money was scarce and business stagnant. At one time there was not a store in the place but after the war was over a change for the better began to be observed and from that time on Hampton grew and prospered.

In 1861 A. G. Walker and John Nixon opened a general store in the old James Thompson building but not successful in bringing trade to the doors, they soon went out of business.

The same year Nial McDonald established a general mercantile store in the building on the corner of Fourth and Reeve, formerly occupied by the Carpenter Brothers. They also soon had to quit.

J. T. Stearns and S. M. Jones put up a frame building 22x36 feet on the site afterwards occupied by the National Bank building. The structure was afterwards moved near the Hampton House.

The firm of Kohlhoff & Rother opened a brick yard north of the bridge in 1861.

Of the merchants who established themselves here since the decade already noticed mention will now be made. Isaac Robinson located in Hampton in 1869, when he bought one of the two stores then existing in Hampton, became very successful and acquired a large amount of property. He died several years ago but his sons are following in his footsteps, being energetic, conservative and thrifty business men.

W. J. Stonebraker began his business career in Hampton in 1872. He was a successful merchant, devoted to his town. He served as postmaster under Cleveland's last administration. Mr. Stonebraker passed away in February, 1909.

The firm of Stearns & Finch were at the head of the first hardware store established in Hampton. This concern carried on business in a building erected near the Beed house in 1867. The firm dissolved in 1869 and J. T. Stearns, the senior member, took into partnership Austin North, the firm name becoming Stearns & North. This association of interests continued three years, when it was succeeded by the firm of Miner & Max, then came Beebe & Nye, and later R. J. Nye conducted business alone in a building located in the Empire block.

I. F. White erected a building in 1872 just west of the Franklin County Bank, in which he installed a stock of hardware, the second store of the kind to be established in Hampton. White eventually sold to Charles Schabacker, who carried on the business in a building erected by himself and S. M. Jones.

Charles Beed bought a stock of hardware from J. D. Parks, in 1876, and carried on the business. Mr. Beed was born in England, emigrated to the United States in 1857 and soon afterwards settled on a farm in Franklin county, where he remained until 1873 and then moved to Hampton, where he still lives.

Charles Schabacker was born in Germany, came to the United States when seventeen years of age and located at Galena, Illinois, there learning the blacksmith's trade. He arrived in Hampton in 1876 and entered into the hardware business. He moved to Kansas City, Missouri, in 1893.

The firm of Gold, Baum & Company was first to open an exclusive dry-goods store, which began business in 1882, in a building owned by Mary Murphy.

The first clothing store in Hampton was opened by Henry and Jonas Schlesinger, in a building owned by E. A. Norton. The Schlesinger clothing establishment is still in business and is managed by Sam and S. W. Schlesinger, sons of Jonas Schlesinger.

The firm of Grinnell & Ives opened the second clothing store in a building where the State Savings Bank was later erected. The successor to this firm was Henry Osborne, who in turn sold to Capt. R. S. Benson. The stock of goods bought by Captain Benson was finally moved to Clear Lake.

Frank Speicher & Company opened a clothing store in the Empire block in 1879.

The first exclusive grocery in Hampton was opened in 1867 by Josiah Phelps, who afterwards took in O. F. Sweet as partner. Mr. Phelps sold his interest to O. F. Sweet, who in course of time moved his stock of goods to a brick building on the corner of Third and Reeve streets, which was destroyed by fire in 1910.

A. Cowan opened the second grocery store in 1868 in a building erected by himself. He continued in business until 1880, when he sold out to J. R. Medley.

The firm of Carbaugh & White opened a grocery in 1870 in a building which stood on the site of the present Franklin County Bank. They retired from business in 1872.

Nathan Parker had a grocery store in Hampton in 1878 in a room adjoining the Franklin County Bank.

Phelps Brothers opened their grocery in 1880 in the Beed block.

In 1882 Frank Devault established a grocery business in the Empire block and the same year sold to the firm of Farmer & Hoxie.

Since then numerous groceries have been established in Hampton and many of them have vanished also.

Oney Foster Sweet, one of the pioneer grocers, came to Hampton in 1869. He was a veteran of the Civil war. Mr. Sweet married Helen M. Coon in 1869, and one of his sons, Oney Fred Sweet, is now one of the noted feature writers for the Chicago Tribune.

Josiah Phelps, one of the early grocers, came to Iowa from Ohio in 1843. He served in the Civil war and in 1869 located in Hampton and engaged in the grocery business.

Matthew Parker, another of the first grocery merchants, was born in Barnstable county, Massachusetts, and at fifteen made two trips on a whaler. He dug gold in California in the '50s and in 1878 began business in Hampton.

Dr. O. B. Harriman started the first drug store in Hampton in 1870 in a building on Main street east of the courthouse square. Before the end of the decade he built the Harriman block on the corner of Main and Fourth streets, then one of the most imposing structures in Hampton. The upper floor was fitted up for a hall and the block itself is still known as Harriman's Opera Hall.

U. Weeks established in 1867 the first furniture store in Hampton. He carried on business in a building which stood near the Harriman Opera Hall block, finally destroyed by fire.

The firm of Murphy & Johnson established the second furniture store in the old Murphy building.

A. J. Cannam and H. Osborne opened a furniture store in 1879 in the northwest corner room of the Harriman block. Cannam sold to Osborne, who erected the first building south of the Empire block. Here he installed his goods and soon afterward the firm became Osborne & Bell.

G. M. Spencer was the pioneer dealer in boots and shoes. He opened a store in the McKenzie building in 1870. Frank Snyder was the next. Then came Cyrus Roberts, F. L. Faatz, Frank Wire and several others.

Mrs. Clara Davidson was the pioneer milliner of Hampton. She started a business at her residence and afterwards opened a store in the Harriman Opera House block.

The firm of Hoffman & Heckel started the first barber shop in Hampton. Then came John Buckingham, now a resident of Washington. One of the early proprietors of the tonsorial art is still in business. His name is Frank Bailey.

Lewis Worth was the first jeweler to locate in Hampton, coming in 1871 and opening a stock of goods in the William Raymond building. He afterwards removed to the Empire block. He has had numerous successors, among whom were Benjamin Illingsworth, Sam E. Hall and Fred W. Sweet.

H. D. Williams about this time opened the first restaurant and confectionery establishment in Hampton in a building he put up for the purpose.

Charles Rogers was the first baker and G. H. Bröck kept the first book and stationery store.

A. R. Carter came to Franklin county in 1862 but only remained a year and returned in 1874 and a few years afterward opened a book and music store.

Kratochvil & Ott established the first cigar manufactory and cigar and tobacco store in Hampton. Mr. Kratochvil is still in business and has figured quite largely in local public affairs and has served as mayor of the town three terms.

John Lambert & Son began to make wagons in Hampton in 1861. They were the pioneers in the business. The second was Spencer Coon, who came in 1867. Then came J. C. Inman, S. S. Coon, C. S. Hobbie, Lloyd Hamilton, E. F. Smith and others.

James Thompson prepared and opened the first set of abstract books in Franklin county. The books eventually came into the possession of T. C. McKenzie, then C. S. Guilford had a set of abstract books, also King, King & Street. There are several now in business, which seems to be more than well divided.

J. T. Stearns was the first insurance agent. G. G. Clemmer was a close second. Others of the early members to engage in this business were Taylor & Evans, King, King & Street and C. S. Guilford.

Among the early draymen was W. H. Morrison, who commenced hauling goods for pay in 1883. Among his immediate followers were J. W. Stalker, T. Freeman, John Atkinson and S. A. Holmes.

Among the early grain dealers in Hampton were Abner Hall, W. G. Beed, E. A. & A. N. Smith, W. H. Crawford, G. H. Wilcox, Parr & Elder, W. E. Atchinson & Company, Northey & Harrison, S. M. Alderson and Jacob Pohl.

John Beed, a pioneer of Franklin county, was born in Colyton, England. At the age of fifteen he came to America and stopped a short time in Illinois. In 1857 he arrived in Hampton, here joining his brother, George Beed. He purchased land northeast of Hampton and there made his home until 1871, when he moved to Hampton and engaged in the grain business for about twelve years. He died here in March, 1907.

In 1868 John Bolton had the first livery stable in Hampton. It was located on the lot north of and adjoining the Rule Hotel. Mr. Bolton sold his stock and quit the business in 1870. His successor was William Ward, who opened his stable to patrons in 1871, and in 1873 sold out to John Shobe. John Bolton removed to Sheffield,



built the Gilman House and ran it for a long term of years. Ward removed to Texas and Shobe to Nebraska.

W. D. F. Randolph was the first painter in Hampton and did most of the work of this kind for many years. He moved to Chapin and died there in 1910.

A. J. Cannam, Isaac White, I. Justus and J. B. Bates were the pioneer carpenters. Major C. W. Boutin located in Hampton in 1869 and for many years was a contractor and builder. He was a veteran of the Civil war and took a prominent part in matters pertaining to local politics, and was county auditor for four years. He was appointed custodian of the capitol and grounds and died at Des Moines in 1912, while in office.

A. E. Rogers started a harness shop in a little building on Second street during the war. Among those of his followers were W. L. Burres, E. E. Alexander, Ott Brothers and J. W. Bailey.

I. W. Benson established a lumberyard in the '60s, and soon after W. P. Smith had one opened for trade.

R. I. Smith was the first photographer, coming in 1864.

In 1874 Robert Jeffers established himself in the implement trade, and in 1877 T. H. Coble opened an implement depot and established a large business.

Dr. M. H. Ross located in Hampton in 1867 and opened the first dental office. Others who soon followed him were M. L. Jones, L. E. Douglas, V. B. Pool and F. C. Musser.

Stephen Murphy was the first tailor, coming in 1860. A. M. Bailey located in Hampton in 1872.

W. G. Beed opened a feed store in 1875, in a building on Fourth street, but moved over on Reeve street in 1877. For many years he conducted the only flour and feed store in Hampton.

Among the early live stock men and dealers in Hampton were George Hansell, David Church, G. W. Soper, E. L. Clock, J. E. Cannam, D. W., C. J. and A. M. Mott.

The first regular meat market was opened in 1868 by a Mr. Newton, and the first express office was established here by the United States Express Company in 1870. T. H. Chance was the first agent. The American Express Company opened an office in 1880 at Baldwin & Hutchins' drug store. W. T. O. Rule has been in the meat business in Hampton continuously for thirty years.

## RETROSPECTIVE

Fifteen years after Franklin county was organized—a comparatively short period of time when the growth of a community is being considered—the premier historian of the county, whose name often appears in these pages, wrote of Franklin and its progress. He gave a short resume of its earlier history and then described the advance made in opening farms, and the steady influx of settlers. Hampton and other towns were growing; schoolhouses were becoming numerous and church edifices were dotting the land hither and yon. Hampton's first railroad was approaching her borders and the outlook was pleasing and encouraging to all. Some talk had been heard of incorporating the county seat as a town. A substantial stone courthouse had been built and thus the maintenance of the seat of government of the county had been assured to Hampton. The population of the chief city had reached 600, and feeling strong in numbers the bustling little city became ambitious and desirous of having control over its own destinies and municipal affairs. Realizing these things, Mr. Raymond wrote of them at a very interesting period of Franklin county's existence. In 1870 he indicted for publication the salient features of the young bailiwick's career as given below:

“We have mentioned J. B. Reeve as one of the very first settlers; and his election by his neighbors to the first office in the county upon its organization, and his reelection, subsequently, to the same office, furnish evidence that he was held in high esteem by his fellow citizens. The winter of 1856-57 was very severe, and many of the people became short of provisions in midwinter and were also destitute of money. It is related of Judge Reeve that in this emergency he purchased and hauled from Marion, Linn county, a large quantity of flour and sold it to his neighbors on credit, thus relieving many who must otherwise have suffered. Such acts of noble generosity are still gratefully remembered by many now in the county. When the rebellion came on, Judge Reeve was past the age when subject to military service, but he raised a company for the Thirty-second Regiment of Iowa Volunteers in 1862, serving faithfully in the line of duty until he died of disease contracted in the service, at Fort Pillow, Tennessee, in 1864. He was thoroughly patriotic and a man of noble and generous impulses. He left a widow and family of children surviving him.

"Of the first elected officers of the county, only Mr. Leggett remains in it. Isaac Miller, twice elected treasurer and recorder, and Solomon Staley, the first sheriff, both removed to Ponca, Dixon county, Nebraska. Dr. S. R. Mitchell, the first clerk, now resides at Ottumwa, and Henry Shroyer, school fund commissioner, went to Mahaska county and served there as county judge. Q. A. Jordan, the coroner, went to Missouri.

"This county, like many others, has passed through its contest over the location of the county seat. The commissioners made the original location about two miles south of the present town of Hampton, but this did not give general satisfaction, and the people asked the privilege of voting on the question of removal to the new town of Benjamin, subsequently changed to Hampton. April 7, 1856, a vote was taken and resulted in favor of removal. This place being near the center of the county, will doubtless remain the permanent seat of justice. In 1867, a fine stone courthouse was finished at a cost to the county of nearly fifteen thousand dollars. It is 48x72 feet in size. The lower story is divided into offices of convenient size, and the upper part into court and jury rooms. The building stands on a public square set apart in the central part of the town for the purpose, and is enclosed with a board fence.

"The following are the names of those who will serve in the several county offices after January 1, 1870: R. S. Benson, auditor and clerk of the district and circuit courts; Henry Meyer, recorder; A. B. Hudson, sheriff; A. T. Reeve, treasurer; J. C. Whitney, superintendent; O. Smith, surveyor; C. W. Walton, coroner; and Henry Thompson, drainage commissioner. The last named is a colored citizen of Hampton.

"The following persons will next year represent their respective townships as members of the board of supervisors: Thomas E. B. Hudson, West Fork; Lyman Hunt, Clinton; C. J. Mott, Washington; W. H. Hoxie, Ingham; P. Salisbury, Osceola; A. Andrews, Geneva; E. L. Clock, Reeve; R. E. Train, Morgan; John I. Popejoy, Oakland; R. L. Kenyon, Iowa.

#### THE PRESS

"S. M. Jones was the pioneer newspaper man of Franklin county. In April, 1859, he commenced, at Hampton, the publication of a paper called the Franklin Record. He issued it regularly for a

year and a half, and after that, at intervals up to the summer of 1864, when it was finally discontinued. Mr. Jones is still a citizen of the county.

"In 1866 J. C. Whitney purchased the office of the Record and commenced the publication of the Franklin Reporter, issuing the first number May 1, 1866. It was at first a twenty-four column sheet, but in May, 1867, was enlarged to twenty-eight columns. The Reporter is one of the live local papers of this part of Iowa, and its enterprising editor and proprietor has just been elected to the office of county superintendent of schools. We were sorry to find Mr. Whitney confined to his room, in consequence of an injury recently received in a sawmill.

"On October 1, 1869, the first number of the Hampton Free Press was issued by L. B. Raymond as editor and proprietor. It is a twenty-eight column sheet, of the republican political faith. Mr. Raymond just retires from the office of county superintendent, which he has held for two years, giving place to his contemporary, Mr. Whitney. The Free Press is a spirited local paper and we are indebted to its editor for a great portion of the information contained in this article." Mr. Raymond spent much time in collecting the early history of the county, and was thoroughly advised in regard to all that pertains to its resources, growth and development. [Ed.]

#### PRODUCTIONS

"The northern counties of the state are better adapted to wheat than the southern, but corn does not flourish so well. Oats, too, is almost invariably a sure and abundant crop, often yielding in Franklin and other counties in this part of the state as high as eighty bushels per acre. Of wheat, a yield of thirty bushels is not an unusual crop. The soil is also well adapted to corn, grass and all the productions common to other parts of the state. All kinds of garden vegetables grow to great size and perfection and yield abundantly.

"Very little attention has been given by the farmers here to the cultivation of tame grasses, but several experiments fully demonstrate the fact that they will succeed well. Wild grass of excellent quality being so abundant, is the chief source for hay.

"Some attention is now being given to the raising of the various kinds of tame fruits, and we hear of several orchards that are begin-

ning to bear. All of the small fruits yield well, and as soon as the county attains age, there is no good reason why the people should be without fruit of their own raising.

"Plums, crabapples, grapes and all the various wild fruits common in Iowa are plenty. Hazel nuts, hickory nuts, walnuts and butternuts are common in the groves along all the principal streams.

"Franklin county is preëminently adapted to all agricultural pursuits, as nearly its entire area of surface is susceptible of cultivation. So far, wheat has been the leading crop, but farmers are beginning to turn their attention to other kinds of grain and stock. For grazing purposes, there are many advantages. Cattle fatten during the summer season on the wild grass of the prairies, and thus grow into value, with little expense. They are easily and cheaply wintered on hay procured at no more expense than that of cutting and stacking. All kinds of stock have a healthy appearance at all seasons.

"Several farmers are engaging extensively in stock-raising. Among those in Franklin county who have been eminently successful in this business, we mention John I. Popejoy, who is known in this part of the state as the 'Cattle King of the Iowa River Valley.'

#### RAILROAD FACILITIES

"The Dubuque & Sioux City Railroad crosses the southeast corner of the county and passes west only a short distance from the south line, in Hardin county. There are three shipping points on the line of this road convenient to at least the south portion of the county, to wit: Ackley, Iowa Falls and Alden. In the spring of 1868 a company was organized, called the St. Louis & St. Paul Railway Company, for the purpose of building a railroad from Ackley north, via Hampton, Mason City and Northwood, to the Minnesota line. Most of the grading is done on this line from Ackley to Hampton, and much between the latter place and Mason City. This road will undoubtedly soon be completed and will be of immense value to the people of that portion of the state through which it will pass, but to none more than to those of Franklin county. At Owatonna, Minnesota, it will connect with the Minnesota Central, and thus form a connection with the lumber region, while its southern connections will open this portion of Iowa to the great coal fields of the state. It will also afford competing markets for the surplus produce of the county and hasten the speedy develop-

ment of its immense agricultural resources, wherein consist its prospective wealth and greatness. In its railroad advantages, as soon as this line is finished, Franklin county will be highly favored. Before the close of another season, there is every reason to believe the work will be accomplished, and the whistle of the locomotive will be heard announcing its approach to Hampton, and two or three other young cities yet to spring up on the prairies of Franklin county.

### SCHOOLS

“There are in the county about fifty sub-districts, with an aggregate of forty-two schoolhouses. Of these thirty-five are frame, four stone, two brick and one log—all valued at \$43,700. The stone schoolhouse in Hampton was finished in 1866, at a cost of about \$8,000. It has four large rooms and is two stories high. The village of Maysville, in Reeve township, also has a fine stone schoolhouse, built at a cost of about six thousand dollars. The schoolhouses generally in the county are of a good class, and many of them new.

“By the October report of the superintendent, it is shown that the whole number of persons between five and twenty-one years of age, is 1,564, being an increase of 375 in the last year. The whole number in attendance at the public schools during the year was 1,209, against 973 last year, being an increase of 236, all of which shows a prosperous and healthy condition of the schools.

“The number of applicants for teachers' certificates examined during the year was 111, and the number receiving certificates, 82. The aggregate amount paid teachers during the year was \$10,147.73. The average wages of men as teachers were \$8.65 per week, and of ladies, \$7.27. During the month of November a Teachers' Institute was held by Professor J. Piper, with an attendance of about forty of the teachers of the county. Under the judicious management of L. B. Raymond, as superintendent, during the last two years, the grade of teachers has materially improved, and the schools generally prospered. The development of the county, facilities for procuring building material and other favorable circumstances, have also contributed to awaken among the people an increased interest in educational matters. Every neighborhood has its neat and comfortable schoolhouse, in which schools are maintained at least six months in the year.

## POPULATION

"The present population of Franklin county is about 4,500. The first census was taken in 1856, when the number was 780; in 1859, it was 1,159; in 1860, it was 1,309; in 1863, it was 1,448; in 1865, it was 1,899, and in 1867, 2,321.

"Politically, the county has always been largely republican. At the last presidential election the republican electors received 516 votes, and the democratic electors, 78 votes.

"Most of the people are from Ohio and the eastern states. There is likewise a considerable German element and a few foreigners of other nationalities.

"The people are generally intelligent and enterprising. All of their improvements are of a good and substantial character, considering the disadvantages of a new country. We noticed many good farm and village residences, several of which are built of stone obtained in the county.

## CLIMATE—HEALTH

"The climate is delightful through spring, summer and autumn, while the winters are cold, but not unusually subject to sudden changes, or rain, or mist. The climate is conducive to the health both of man and beast. In respect to health, we have evidences that Franklin county will compare favorably with any other in our proverbially healthy state. The pure air, good water and excellent drainage are among the causes which contribute to this result.

## GAME—FISH

"The prairies abound with wild chickens, while ducks are found along the streams. Various other kinds of feathered game may also be found. An occasional deer is still sometimes started up about the groves of timber, though they are not so plentiful as formerly. The streams are generally too small for fish of large size, but the smaller kinds are found in most of them. In Iowa river, however, there are fish of large size and excellent quality.

## REAL ESTATE

"Wild prairie land is held at various prices, ranging from \$2 to \$20 per acre. The higher prices are for lands favorably situated near Hampton or Ackley. In the southwest part of the county the best prairie may be purchased for \$8 per acre. The prices are generally higher in the eastern portion, on account of the better supply of timber, as well as the more advanced state of improvement. Timber land sells at various prices, ranging from \$12 to \$60 per acre, depending upon location, quality and quantity.

"In view of the early completion of the St. Louis & St. Paul Railway, property in Hampton has advanced rapidly in value. Good business lots are held at from \$500 to \$1,000 each. We call attention of non-residents, and those who may contemplate becoming residents of this county, to the leading real-estate agencies.

"James Thompson is one of the oldest citizens of Hampton, has served both as county judge and treasurer, and is fully identified with all the interests of the county, as well as thoroughly familiar with every part of it. He has long been engaged as a land agent, and is now devoting his entire time to this business in all its branches. He has a complete abstract of all titles—the only one in the county.

"George Beed has been county treasurer eight and recorder six years. He is also devoting special attention to this business—pays taxes, makes collections, examines titles and buys and sells real estate on commission. He is one of the old and substantial citizens of the county, fully acquainted with the character and situation of the lands.

"Reeve & McKenzie Brothers is a prominent law firm, as well as real-estate and collection agency. Col. A. T. Reeve, of this firm, devotes all his time to the real-estate branch of the business and being one of the oldest citizens of the county, no man in it has better opportunities for becoming acquainted with the quality of its lands, as well as their situation and value. J. W. and T. C. McKenzie attend especially to the legal business of the firm and are rapidly rising to high positions in the profession.

"We mention also among the attorneys of Hampton the names of N. B. Chapman, W. N. Davidson, D. W. Dow and Capt. M. A. Leahy, all as we learn, in excellent standing in the legal fraternity.



"E. A. Howland, of Otisville, Franklin county, is also devoting special attention to the land business, buying and selling on commission, paying taxes, examining titles, collecting, etc. He also gives his attention to the adjusting and settling of tax titles. He has been located at Otisville about eleven years and has acquired a large business and an extensive correspondence. Being located near the line of Wright county, a large part of his business pertains to lands in the eastern part of that county. In addition to his business as a real-estate agent, Mr. Howland is the postmaster at Otisville, keeps the only hotel and also carries on farming.

"We take pleasure in referring parties interested in lands here to any of the above named agents, as they are all reliable men and competent to give any information that correspondents may desire.

#### AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

"The Franklin County Agricultural Society was organized in 1859, and has generally been in a flourishing condition. The society has purchased a fine tract of twenty acres, immediately west of Hampton, for a fair ground. The leading farmers and stock men of the county take great interest in promoting the prosperity of the society and it may be considered one of the permanent institutions of the county. Besides this county society, Franklin, with Butler, Grundy and Hardin counties, have organized a District Agricultural Society and hold annual exhibitions at Ackley, near the corner of the four counties comprising the district, where they own ample fair grounds, fitted up in good style."

#### HAMPTON INCORPORATED AS A TOWN

The above article was written in January, 1870, and during the summer a petition was circulated and signed by many of the citizens, praying for an order from the circuit court for an election, at which the question of incorporating the village should be submitted. Granting the prayer of the petitioners, Judge S. L. Rose thereupon appointed D. W. Dow, M. H. Leahy, Nial McDonald, George Beed and N. B. Chapman, commissioners to call an election and submit the question of incorporation to a vote of the people. Pursuant to instructions an election was called by the commissioners and

held on Saturday, November 19, 1870. The proposition carried by a ratio vote of six to one, and at once maneuvering began for the make-up of the municipal tickets.

Several anxious weeks elapsed before notices were posted for an election to choose the future village officers. The men qualified to issue the call were either indifferent, negligent or diligently grinding axes of their own or of friends. The people wanted a village government, so that they could do things, regardless of the township to which they were attached and they were becoming impatient of the silence and inactivities of the election commissioners. Finally, being no longer able to contain himself, the editor of the Reporter published the following item in his local columns, in the issue of January 18, 1871:

"When is our incorporation election to be called? We have voted by a large majority to incorporate the village, all the necessary preliminary steps have been taken, and now nothing remains but to elect the necessary officers and we are unable to see any reason for delaying the election. Gentlemen commissioners, when are you going to order the election? An answer would be received with pleasure by a large number of our fellow citizens."

No progress was made in Hampton's laudable ambition until Monday, March 6, 1871. On that day the first election of the incorporated town of Hampton was held and the first officials elected. For the offices of mayor and recorder there was no opposition; but for trustees considerable scratching of tickets prevailed. There were 126 votes cast, of which William Raymond, candidate for mayor, received the whole number. For recorder, S. M. Jones got 123 votes; trustees, C. W. Boutin, 124; W. P. Smith, 118; D. G. Carbaugh, 99; A. T. Reeve, 79, and D. W. Dow, 77. On some of the tickets the names of George Beed, U. Weeks and L. N. Call were substituted for some of the nominees, which accounts for the diminished vote of certain of the regular nominees.

At the time Hampton was incorporated the town was pictured by L. B. Raymond in these words:

"This, as we have seen, is the county seat. It has a pleasant location on rolling prairie, near the center of the county. Squaw creek, a beautiful stream, bordered with fine groves of timber, passes eastward about three-quarters of a mile north of town. It is in the midst of a rich portion of the country, with the advantages of timber, stone and water power convenient. The present population

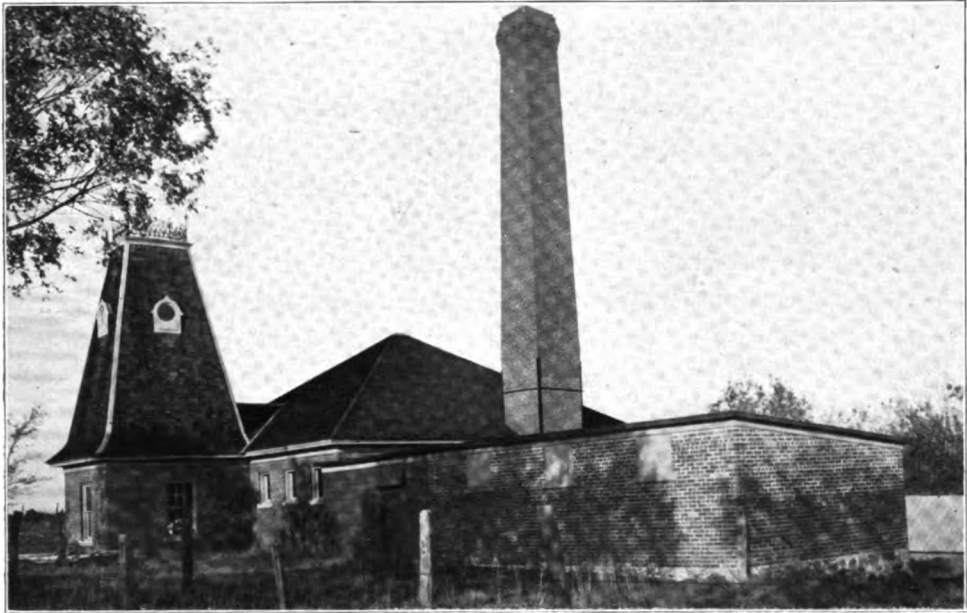
is about six hundred, and both the town and surrounding country are improving rapidly. The recent improvements are of a neat and substantial character, both in the way of business houses and private residences. Among the improvements under way, we noticed a church belonging to the Baptist denomination, now almost completed. Hampton, situated as it is, on the line of a north and south railroad, with a thriving and enterprising population, has a flattering prospect of becoming an important town.

"Hampton has three general stores, two family groceries, two drug stores, one fruit store and restaurant, one hardware store, one harness shop, one tailor shop, two weekly newspapers and printing offices, two hotels, one furniture store and manufactory, two millinery stores, one shoe shop, three blacksmith shops, one wagon shop, two physicians, three real-estate agencies, seven attorneys, etc.

"The following are leading and enterprising business men of the place: W. G. Beed and Tuttle & Nelson, dry goods and general merchants; J. Phelps and H. D. Williams, dealers in family groceries; Stearns & North, hardware merchants; Dr. J. A. Norton and Dr. O. B. Harriman, druggists; U. Weeks, dealer in furniture; and C. P. Vigen, proprietor of restaurant and fruit store.

"Few of the small towns of Iowa are favored with as good hotels as Hampton. There are two of them—one of them we have tried, and of the other we have a good report. J. E. Hunter is the proprietor of the Hampton House, and we found him an obliging landlord, always looking out for the comfort of his guests. His house is well furnished and kept to the satisfaction of the traveling public. E. S. Stiles, an experienced landlord, holds forth at the Phoenix Hotel, and we learn gives satisfaction to all who favor him with their patronage. We found his house presenting the appearance of neatness and comfort. The people of Hampton may well be proud of their hotels.

"The religious organizations of Hampton are Methodist, Congregational and Baptist, all having regular services and organized Sabbath schools. The Masons have a flourishing lodge, known as Anchor Lodge, No. 191. There is a lodge of Good Templars and also a post of the Grand Army of the Republic. Among the associations of the place, we must not omit to mention the cornet band, which has dispensed its music to the citizens for the last year or two.



PUMPING STATION HAMPTON WATER WORKS



WINDSOR THEATRE, HAMPTON



“Among the early settlers of Hampton, we mention the names of Job Garner and George Ryan, who each gave the undivided half of eighty acres of land as a consideration for the location of the county seat thereon, in the spring of 1856. Both of them removed to other parts—Mr. Garner to the central portion of the state and Mr. Ryan to Missouri. Dr. J. A. Guthrie, a member of the Iowa Legislature from Butler county, and R. F. Pratt, who served as deputy in several of the county offices, but recently a member of the Territorial Legislature of Idaho, were among the early settlers. Hon. Chauncey Gillett, who served as a member of the Legislature in 1860, died of consumption in 1862. James Thompson is the oldest citizen of the place and came from Vinton, a distance of 120 miles. S. M. Jones, formerly publisher of the Record, and the Beed brothers came soon after, and are still among the active citizens of the place. J. T. Stearns, of the hardware firm of Stearns & North, is the post-master of Hampton.”

#### HAMPTON GETS CITY CHARTER

On January 20, 1893, in accordance with section 509 of the Code, as amended by Chapter 52 of the Public Acts of the Fifteenth General Assembly, Gov. Horace Boice granted a charter for a city of the second class. At that time the population of the newly created city was 2,539. It was divided into four wards and on the first Monday in March of that year was held an election and E. S. Patterson was the choice for mayor.

#### WATERWORKS SYSTEM

A short time prior to the advancement of Hampton to the city class a wave of improvement struck the fancy of her citizens. The streets needed paving, a system of waterworks was clamored for and a sewerage system was also demanded. The first improvement to be started was that of waterworks. At a special election held on July 7, 1890, the people plainly showed where they stood on the propositions of building waterworks and issuing \$15,000 in bonds to pay for them. There were 292 votes cast at that election. Two hundred and two votes were for waterworks and the bonds and ninety-five votes against.

As soon as the building of waterworks was settled a site for wells and pumping station was next to be considered. There were numerous offers of alleged convenient and available tracts of land, among them being the site finally selected, belonging to H. A. Harriman, in the east part of the city. Mr. Harriman offered the city "sufficient land, free and exclusive use of the spring thereon, with right to dig wells and pipe the water from the south to the north spring, with sufficient land for the waterworks," so long as the land should be used for the purpose, in consideration of the city of Hampton erecting a fountain between the northeast corner and the center of the north side of the public square, with drinking faucets and watering troughs for horses, to be supplied with water from the Harriman springs. The fountain was also to contain a tablet with the following inscription: "Pure Spring Water. Drink and Water Your Horses. Presented to the Citizens of Hampton and the Children that will soon take our places by H. A. Harriman." This gift was declined, although Mr. Harriman agreed to pay any additional cost of the fountain over \$300. However, the city purchased the land, paying \$600 for about five acres. Here, a deep well was dug, reservoir and power house erected and machinery installed; and on the south side of Fifth street, midway between Reeve and Main and between the courthouse and city parks, was erected a steel stand-pipe over one hundred feet in height, costing \$3,516. In April, 1891, the waterworks was completed and in full running order, and with the mains then laid stood for an expenditure of \$15,584. Since then miles of mains have been laid and with other necessary additions and changes the cost of the improvement has been considerably increased. But the outlay has been justified by the benefits derived and Hampton has a system of waterworks that gives security to her citizens—as a safeguard against fires, as a menace to malarial diseases, and a helpful factor in all sanitary endeavors, both of a private and public nature.

#### SEWERAGE

From a sanitary viewpoint no system of waterworks is complete and satisfactorily available without sewerage. This proposition was realized as an axiom by the city authorities and property owners of Hampton and as soon as the waterworks question had been solved and the improvement made a concrete fact, a sewerage system was

established by resolution of the city council. Early in the year 1902 a contract for building sewers was let, to O. C. Kringle, for \$14,166.50, and excavation work commenced in August. The main sewer pipes laid were of 15, 12 and 8 inch diameter. These mains have been extended, many laterals built, and today Hampton fears no epidemic that could arise from improper drainage and discharge of waste matter from the homes, business places and thoroughfares. But to be doubly sure of desired results, in 1910 a disposal plant was installed and now all refuse going through the sewers is caught by this ingenious mechanism and practically annihilated.

#### PAVING

Another improvement inaugurated in the '90s was that of street paving. In May, 1892, an ordinance was passed for the paving with brick of Fourth street from Reeve to the Iowa Central depot. From time to time other paving was done. In 1910, considerable concrete paving was laid and more brick paving was done in 1911. In 1912, forty-two blocks of concrete paving and curbing were laid in Hampton, at a total cost of approximately \$65,000. This was a big undertaking, meaning the outlay of a large sum of money. But the improvement was magnificent, changing the general appearance of the little city completely. It takes no stretch of imagination to maintain that Hampton surpasses any city of its size in the State of Iowa for its many handsomely paved streets, splendid system of waterworks, brilliantly lighted streets and sanitary arrangements.

#### ELECTRIC LIGHTS

The city does not own a system of lighting for her streets, but on August 26, 1892, the question of the city granting a franchise for the erection and maintenance of an electric light plant was submitted to a vote of the people and was carried practically unanimously. Thereupon a franchise was granted to E. Buck of the Hampton Light & Power Company and that year the plant was erected and put in operation. The property has passed from hand to hand, never having been owned by local people. However, a fairly good service—continuous—has been given patrons. In the fall of 1913 fifty-six electroliers of five-globe standards were placed on



Reeve street, from Third to Sixth; on Fifth from Main to Reeve; on Fourth from Main to Maple street, and the result is continuous bands of brilliant lights, that illuminate the district almost as perfectly as the orb of day. The effect is intensely pleasing and gives the streets a very civilized tone of character.

#### GAS PLANT

Hampton has a gas plant which is furnishing good light and service. A franchise for the manufacture of gas was granted to John Howie, T. H. J. Leckband and others, of Brooklyn, Iowa, August 15, 1905, and in the fall of 1906 the plant was in full operation, under the management of T. H. J. Leckband.

#### CITY HALL

The caption to this paragraph would indicate that Hampton has a public building of its own. But it has nothing of the kind, unless the name is given an engine house or city bastille, which really do not count for much. Be that as it may, there is a volunteer fire company, several hundred feet of hose and carts for the latter. But the council room is a rented office of the mayor's and in the same building, which stands on Reeve street, are the offices of the city clerk and superintendent of waterworks, the two offices being represented by one and the same person. A city hall is badly needed and will probably be the next thing asked for by the authorities. Hampton has a beautiful block of ground, however, that is the love and admiration of her citizens. This was given to Franklin county by Job Garner and George Ryan and turned over by the county to the city. This is the city park, whose grounds are nicely kept and are further adorned by a large fountain, donated to the city by a social organization known as the Yankee Doodle Club.

#### POSTOFFICE

The methods of doing things have changed wonderfully since 1855, when Franklin county was organized. At that time there was not a road in the community, scarcely a horse or other beast of burden, and when the settler desired to hear from friends, he either trudged on foot or went on horseback to Cedar Falls for his mail.

or entrusted the errand to a neighbor who might be going that way. Two-cent postage stamps were then an unknown quantity; even the modern envelope had not come into vogue. The sheet of writing paper would be folded in a certain way and made secure with sealing wax. This was addressed to its destination, and the person receiving it was often called upon to pay as high as twenty-five cents for the letter. The advent of the steel rail and iron horse changed all this and within a few short years every town of any consequence had a postoffice of its own, with first, mayhap, a delivery of mail weekly, then semi-weekly and at last, daily.

During the first few years of Hampton's existence, mail was obtained at Cedar Falls. In 1857, when a postoffice was established at Maysville, most of the mail for Hampton citizens was obtained there. The office at Hampton was established in 1857 and on the 19th of December of that year, Robert F. Piatt was commissioned postmaster. He was succeeded November 2, 1858, by James Thompson, the pioneer merchant, who held the office until March 14, 1860, when George Ryan, one of the founders of the city, took charge. Chauncey Gillett was commissioned postmaster April 9, 1861. He was the first republican postmaster to be appointed at this place, receiving his commission at the time herein mentioned. While on a trip to Chicago, in September, 1862, Mr. Gillett succumbed to the ravages of consumption, and on November 4th, following, his wife, Harriet Gillett, was appointed to fill out the unexpired term. She later became the wife of E. S. Stiles.

The next person to hold the office of postmaster in Hampton was John T. Stearns, whose commission was dated May 1, 1866. He remained three years and was succeeded, July 12, 1870, by Nial McDonald. Stephen M. Jones, founder of the Recorder, first called the Franklin Reporter, was commissioned postmaster at Hampton, December 5, 1870. He served until 1886, when his successor, in the person of Dr. O. B. Harriman, was commissioned April 21, 1886. July 9, 1889, was the date of L. B. Raymond's commission as postmaster. It is hardly necessary to say anything of this official, as his personality and activities are so often mentioned in this volume. His successor was W. J. Stonebraker, who received his commission December 14, 1893. Then followed T. H. Haecker, November 26, 1897, who gave way to his successor, the present incumbent, Thomas W. Purcell. His first commission is of date June 20, 1905. Mr. Purcell is the editor of the Hampton Chronicle.

The business of the Hampton postoffice has been increasing from year to year, until it is now a public convenience of no little importance. But the business was not extensive for many years after its establishment and even during the time that T. H. Haecker was postmaster, his salary and clerk hire was only about \$2,000. In the last year, however, Postmaster Haecker had increased the business sufficient for the department to raise his salary to \$2,000 and clerk hire to \$1,000. Since the incumbency of T. W. Purcell, there has been a gratifying increase in the receipts of the office, which shows that Hampton has more than kept pace with the advancement and progress of other towns of the state. For the year 1912 the number of transactions of this office amounted close to \$70,000, and for the past year 1913 the salaries of the postmaster, clerks and carriers amounted to about \$13,000.

The Hampton postoffice was made a money order station in 1869. The first order was issued by Stearns & North, payable to Westfall & Hines, of Dubuque, Iowa, amount \$50. The first order paid was presented by George A. Lambert, of Iowa Falls, amount \$50. At the inauguration of rural postal routes, several were established in the county, Hampton being the main office at first, and for several years past the city has had a free delivery system.

#### HOTELS

The inn or tavern, always early set up for the convenience of the wayfarer, was a prime necessity in the pioneer towns of this great country of ours. The prospector and land seeker needing shelter would always find the latchstring on the outside of the settler's cabin door, which meant a welcome and a place to stay over night or as long as his business detained him; and this without any compensation to his host. For the stranger from the outside world was looked upon as a grateful gift, sent by Providence, to retail the happenings in the east. Mayhap, he came from the settler's own state, and best of all, his neighborhood. Little sleep would be indulged in by the household until the wee small hours of the night. Every word of the stranger was considered as a letter from home and the tales would be absorbed with avidity by his audience, eager for any intelligence from the homes they left behind them. The traveler might be an adept in story-telling. This made him a guest of the

family and on his departure he was given Godspeed and a hearty invitation to come again.

When villages sprung up one of the first buildings to be erected was for the traveler and frequently given a high sounding title; at times the hostelry was known by the name of the landlord.

The first hotel in Hampton was built by John E. Boyles, a story-and-a-half frame building which stood on Fourth street, between Reeve and Main. The carpenter work was done by Andrew J. Cannam and James Hogan in the spring of 1857. Boyles was the cheerful and accommodating boniface of this inn for a while, and in the years of its existence following there presided over its destinies and the creature comforts of its guests James Guthrie, A. J. Cannam, Mordecai Dodge, J. E. Hunter, Abner Adams; then again J. E. Hunter, A. J. Cannam and lastly, John Collony, whose administration was cut short in 1876, when the historic old building was destroyed by fire.

Andrew J. Cannam was the landlord of Hampton's second hotel. He was a Franklin county pioneer, coming to the county seat in 1856, where he followed the carpenter's trade until 1864. He was known far and near as one of the most popular hotel men in the state and became one of the successful men of the town. He first opened a hotel in what was known as the Barger building, in 1864. In 1875 he put up a large frame structure on South Reeve street, opposite the city park, in which were thirty-one rooms. Here he held forth for four years, when he disposed of the property and retired, only to again take charge of the hotel in 1881, remaining as its landlord until 1883, when J. H. Rule took charge. The Cannam House some years ago was changed in name and is now known as Hotel Hampton. There have been many landlords at this old hostelry; the present one is J. T. Stephens, who serves his patrons as well as the facilities of a primitive house will permit.

The Phoenix Hotel was opened in 1865, by E. S. Stiles, in an old frame building that had been moved from its original site to the corner of Fourth and Main streets, and gave way, in the spring of 1912, to the new and handsome Windsor building. The original Phoenix had for many years served as the residence of Chauncey Gillett, and from time to time after its removal was accommodated with additions that spread the hotel over the ground to a considerable extent. The Phoenix was a very popular hostelry and lasted longer than any of its predecessors.

The largest and most pretentious business block ever erected in Hampton is the Rule block. This structure was built in 1880 at a cost of \$50,000 by a local corporation under the name of the Hampton Building Association and was named the Beed block in honor of George Beed, who was president of the company and owned a majority of stock in the building. The Rule block stands on the corner of Reeve and Fourth streets and in dimensions is 132x120 feet, three stories with basement, and is built of brick. The first story contains a bank, six store rooms, barber shop and bath rooms. The second and third stories are used for hotel purposes. At the time that this block was erected it was one of the finest and best business blocks to be found in northern Iowa and had the distinction of being the only building in the state north of Marshalltown heated by steam. The first landlord was D. P. Simpson who was in charge only three months; next came Frank L. Taylor, who remained for three years; then came A. J. Cannam, who managed the hotel for several years, and he was succeeded by John H. Rule, now of Belmond, who was successful during a several years' lease of the property. In recent years the hotel has changed landlords frequently.

#### HOUSES OF ENTERTAINMENT

There have not been many buildings in Hampton put up for public use. Probably the first one of this character was the old Methodist frame church building, which was purchased in 1893 by A. M. Bailey and moved onto the lot adjoining and east of the Public Library site. This was known as Bailey's Hall and conducted as a place of amusement several years. The building was finally bought by a stock company, comprised of local men. That part of the building used by the church as an assembly room was detached, placed to the rear of the main part and converted into a stage. A horse-shoe gallery was built, and when the remodeling had been completed Hampton had a fairly presentable theatre (known as the Olympic), which existed ten years and was then dismantled.

Harriman's Opera House was built by Dr. O. B. Harriman in the '70s and still stands on the corner of Fourth and Main streets as a monument of his enterprise. This is a brick building, stretching and facing a long distance on Main street. The hall is in the second story and still is used on occasions for entertainments.

In 1912, a modern, splendidly constructed and handsome opera house was built and is a part of the Windsor block. This building was made possible by members of the Knights of Pythias lodge, who formed a stock company and sold shares to any purchaser who desired to become identified with the improvement. The Windsor was finished, in 1913, on the site of the old Phoenix hotel and is the finest structure in the city. The material is pressed brick with stone trimmings and dimensions 66x128, two stories in height, with basement. On the first floor, on the Main street entrance, is the opera house, having a wide and deep entresol to the doorways of the auditorium, which has installed opera chairs. On the north end of the hall is the stage and scenery; a horse-shoe gallery is on the south. Here one sees as pretty, convenient and comfortable a little playhouse as can be found in the state. Its seating capacity is about six hundred and fifty.

Above is the home of Windsor Lodge, Knights of Pythias, built and arranged after plans selected by members of the lodge. These rooms are charming and attractive in their appointments and are so arranged as to meet almost any purpose desired by those concerned.

On Fourth street is a lobby, which incloses the entrance to offices and the basement. In the latter the Franklin County Recorder took up its home in May, 1913, and no country newspaper in the state is more comfortably located than the Recorder. East of the entrance is a store room. The Windsor building cost in the neighborhood of \$40,000.

The Knights of Pythias is a fraternal organization and this is an era of fraternalism. Men, and women too, for that matter, realize that they can be mutually helpful by cooperation and affiliation. Fraternities are "night schools," if you please. Men meet together in their various societies for a common purpose and believe in certain common principles. Reference is made, of course, only to such societies or fraternities as respect the law, reverence God and love men. Such institutions are a benefit to society. The members are better citizens, better husbands and better men. They are improved mentally. Fraternities bring members of the different classes of society together on a common level, which tends to remove prejudices and jealousies and make men more contented and happy. Their ceremonials cause them to forget their sorrows for the time being, and all believe that it is better to whistle than to whine and better to laugh than to cry.

The order of the Knights of Pythias has been represented for thirty-one years in this city by Windsor Lodge, No. 71. The lodge was instituted in 1882, by A. E. Menez, S. D. G. C., assisted by Grand Chancellor E. H. Hibben, of Marshalltown; J. E. E. Markley, Duncan Rule, O. R. Hall, D. J. Stewart, and J. H. Hawkins, of Cerro Gordo Lodge, No. 70, of Mason City; E. L. Swift, of St. Almo Lodge, No. 55, of State Center; E. R. Jones and B. J. Statler, of Cosmopolitan Lodge, No. 38, of Marshalltown. The charter members consisted of seventeen persons: F. L. Taylor, N. W. Beebe, D. W. Henley, B. S. King, W. A. Church, C. S. Guilford, J. B. Gray, S. M. Stephens, E. Harmon, Jr., J. H. Neff, I. L. Stuart, J. T. McCormick, John McNeill, S. E. Hall, John M. Hemingway, H. L. Harrison and S. M. Jones. Of this number thirteen are living today, although but three—Messrs. Beebe, Hemingway, and Stuart—are now residents of Hampton. Windsor Lodge has a membership of 200.

#### FRATERNAL BODIES AND SOCIETIES

In 1866, Anchor Lodge, A. F. & A. M., was granted a dispensation and under its authority the lodge was organized with the following charter members and officials: J. T. Stearns, W. M.; G. W. Nash, S. W.; James Thompson, J. W.; J. F. Robbins, treasurer; H. C. Graves, secretary.

It will be seen by a glance over these names that the early members of the Hampton Masonic lodge were of that class of men who took a prominent part in building the town and shaping its course.

On June 6, 1867, the lodge was granted a charter, taking the number 191. The officials selected to complete the permanent organization follow: J. T. Stearns, W. M.; E. S. Stiles, S. W.; Dr. O. B. Harriman, J. W.; U. Weeks, treasurer; H. C. Graves, secretary.

The first meeting place of the lodge was in an upper room of the old stone schoolhouse which stood on Reeve street facing the public square, and for some years past its headquarters have been in the Meyers building.

A dispensation was issued to Anchor Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, July 22, 1873, and its first regular convocation was held December 31st. R. S. Benson was the first high priest; Nial McDonald, secretary. A charter was issued to Anchor Chapter, No.

69, Royal Arch Masons, October 21, 1874, at which time R. S. Benson was elected high priest; and Nial McDonald, secretary.

Franklin Chapter, No. 77, Order Eastern Star, was instituted November 29, 1889. Its first officials were: Mrs. J. H. Hutchins, W. M.; E. S. Patterson, W. P.; Mrs. Dora B. Parks, A. M.; E. V. Baldwin, treasurer; M. L. Tidd, secretary; Mrs. Joanna Upson, C.

Hampton Lodge, No. 218, I. O. O. F., was chartered by the grand lodge, October 19, 1871. Albert Pickering, George A. Lambert, Robert Jeffers, John Bolton, Charles D. Mattock and M. G. Rogers were the initial members, who chose for the official body: Albert Pickering, N. G.; Robert Jeffers, V. G.; Charles D. Mattock, secretary; M. G. Rogers, treasurer.

The lodge now numbers about eighty members and has an auxiliary chapter of the Daughters of Rebekah. Hampton Encampment, No. 78, was instituted May 7, 1875.

Hampton also has a lodge of Modern Woodmen, which has a strong membership.

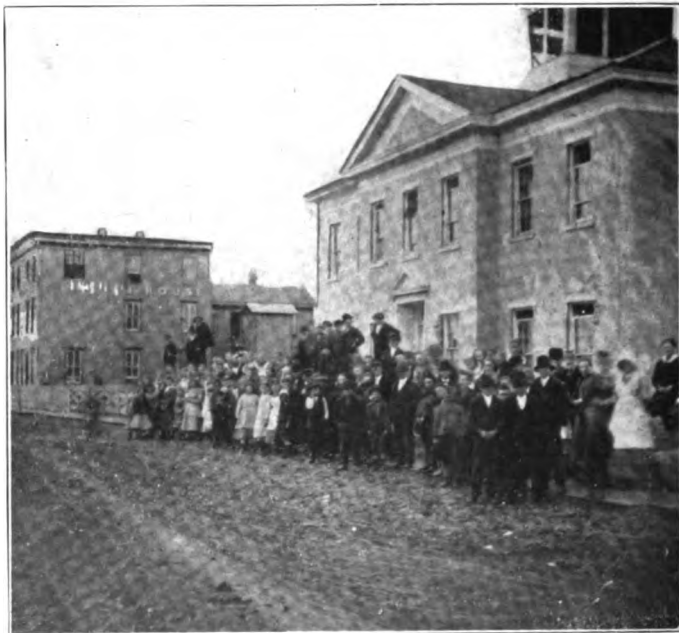








THE HAMPTON CHRONICLE BUILDING  
Erected in 1904 on Fourth Street



SECOND HAMPTON SCHOOL BUILDING  
Erected in 1865 on South Reeve Street

## CHAPTER XXIV

### EDUCATIONAL—SCHOOLS OF HAMPTON AND THEIR ADVANTAGES— FIRST SCHOOL TAUGHT AND THE SCHOOLHOUSES—PRESENT SCHOOL BUILDINGS—DISTRICT SCHOOLS AND THEIR PROGRESS.

In the winter of 1856-7, S. H. Van Kirk, a man of education and refinement, taught the first school in Hampton, in a small building which stood on the corner of Reeve and Second streets. The few pupils were given instructions for about three months, their parents having subscribed a certain amount of money for that length of time. Mr. Van Kirk became well known throughout the community and for several years served the county as its official surveyor. The improvised school building later went into commission as the Whitney House, a hostelry well patronized in the early days.

The first schoolhouse erected at the county seat was ready for occupancy in the spring of 1857. The building was not much more than a shanty and cost a little over one hundred dollars. There were no desks. The absence of all the conveniences known to the present generation was one of its salient features. An old drum stove, stuffed with knots of wood, in a measure gave to the diminutive room cheer and comfort, but the lack of comfortable seats, sufficient light, blackboards and the like was not conducive to comfort and general satisfaction. However, the children acquired the rudiments of an education and were fitted for better things that were coming their way. A young lady, Clara Wyatt, still in her teens, taught this primitive school.

The second schoolhouse was built in 1858 and paid for out of public funds. It was a small frame affair, built on Third street, and it is the prevailing impression that the frame of this building became a part of the residence of B. F. Kline, which still stands on Fourth street, one block west of the high school. At any rate, the old structure stood on the site of the Kline residence.

In 1865 Hampton had outgrown the old schoolhouse and a grout (concrete and stone) building, two stories in height, containing

four rooms, was erected on the ground now occupied by Gray's and the Robinson buildings on Reeve street. It was thought at the time that Hampton would never be large enough to fill the four rooms with pupils; therefore, the south half of the schoolhouse was rented—the lower room to the county and the upper room to the Masonic lodge. However, long before another building was erected it became necessary to rent extra rooms for school purposes.

In 1876, a splendid tract of land was purchased by the city near the foot of East Fourth street, on the southwest corner of which a three-story brick building was erected at a cost of about \$20,000. The lower four rooms in the building were not intended to be occupied by pupils, but it was only a few years until it became necessary to finish them and use this space for school purposes, although they were never comfortable or convenient on account of the large furnaces that were in them. To relieve the pressure on the accommodations of this building, a schoolhouse was erected on the west side in 1883, which now is filled to its full capacity.

The east side building, in September, 1892, was repaired and with apparatus installed brought the cost of the property up to about \$25,000, all of which was lost by fire, the building being practically destroyed February 15, 1893. Fortunately, the sum of \$16,200 insurance placed on the building and fixtures was recovered and formed a substantial nucleus for a new structure.

The present school building which took the place of the burned structure was dedicated Friday, January 19, 1894. Work on its construction commenced in the fall of 1893. The contract price was \$27,000. It is a brick edifice consisting of two stories and a basement, the latter being four feet below the surface and six feet above. The lower story has a thirteen-foot ceiling and the upper is sixteen feet in height. There are three large rooms in the basement, six on the first floor above the street and four beside the high-school room on the upper floor. The ground dimensions are  $88\frac{1}{2}$  feet, fronting on Fourth street, and 103 feet in depth. The height is 42 feet from the ground to the cornice, and the tower 110 feet. On the two street sides the material is of brown pressed brick with stone trimmings. When finished the total cost of this splendid building amounted to \$32,000. This includes fixtures.

And now in this year of grace, 1913, the school authorities are facing another problem similar to those which have been met by their predecessors. Although Hampton has not very appreciably grown in

population, it seems the number of school children and modern plans adopted for their advancement in rudimentary lines of education and advanced ideas, apparently have made it necessary to increase the space and facilities for carrying on the school work in a manner commensurate with the present scientific methods of instruction. The extension course of study in the high school and the addition of new subjects in the curriculum have necessitated more room and special equipment. The high school is much more complex than formerly and in order to be modern and progressive it is necessary, so it appears, to make more room and acquire more equipment to meet these changing conditions. To further this end, an election was held on January 2, 1914, for the purpose of voting on the proposition and issuing bonds in a sum not to exceed \$60,000 for the purpose of constructing and equipping a new high-school building. A further sum of \$7,500 to be issued in bonds was before the voters for acceptance or rejection, to be used in rebuilding and equipping the east side school building, and \$2,500 for the purpose of rebuilding and equipping the west side schoolhouse. The proposition was carried by the following votes: For issuing bonds in the sum of \$60,000 for new high-school building, 359; 140 against; for issuing bonds in the sum of \$7,500 for the purpose of rebuilding and equipping east side schoolhouse, 383; 99 against; for issuing bonds in the sum of \$2,500 for the purpose of rebuilding and equipping the west side schoolhouse, 392; 87 against the proposition.

As will be seen all three propositions carried. This was the first election held here in which women voted and, although the weather was stormy, 171 of them went to the polls and cast their ballots, 151 favoring the issuance of bonds and 20 voting against their issuance.

The approximate enrollment in the Hampton schools is six hundred pupils. About one hundred and forty of these are students in the high school, the remainder being enrolled in the various grades and the kindergarten. The kindergarten is at present held in the basement of the public library building, the work being conducted by one teacher and an assistant. In the west side building there are five grades maintained and as they are much smaller here, three teachers only are necessary for the work. In the east side building there is a separate teacher for each grade from the first grade to the eighth, inclusive. These grades will average forty or more pupils. The first and second grades occupy rooms in the basement of the building, the remaining grades

being provided for on the first floor above. The upper floor of the building is used entirely by the high school for assembly and recitation rooms, with the exception of one small room, now used for the school library, and another for the superintendent's office. There are five full-time teachers in the high school, and the superintendent also teaches some classes there. There are also four teachers of special subjects, who devote part of their time in work among the high-school students and the remainder with the grades. Altogether there are twenty-two teachers besides the superintendent.

In the grades the common branches are taught complete, and in addition thereto a good course is offered in vocal music, drawing, penmanship, manual training and domestic science. The first three mentioned subjects are taught to all grade pupils in the regular grade rooms and all pupils are required to avail themselves of these advantages. The two latter subjects are taught in the grades, fifth to eighth, inclusive, in specially equipped rooms in the basement of the east side building. Boys are required to take the manual training, and girls domestic science, which in the grades consists largely of plain sewing.

Three courses are offered in the high school and the student is free to elect whichever course he prefers. The college preparatory course requires two years' work either of Latin or German, and four years' work in Latin is offered. This course is designed more especially for those who desire to enter college, with the expectation of adopting a liberal arts course. Some students, however, select this for its general practicability. A normal training course was organized in 1912 and is designed to prepare students for teaching. The school receives from the state \$500 yearly for maintaining the normal training department, and the Hampton high school was one of the first in the state to be appointed for this work. Graduation from this course grants to the student a first class certificate without further examination. Agriculture as a branch study was also introduced in 1912 and much benefit to the student has already been accomplished.

#### RURAL SCHOOLS

One of the first things to occupy the attention of the early settler after he had built his cabin and gotten a foothold in his new possessions, was the employment of a teacher to instruct his children in at least the three Rs. The first schools maintained were more on the

order of private institutions, the persons presiding over them being paid by voluntary subscriptions of the parents. These pupils were taught in a room set apart for the purpose in the cabin of a settler. Then, maybe, an abandoned building would be in a way prepared for the reception of teacher and pupils, and finally came the schoolhouse and the division of each township into school districts.

From the time of the first development of the county and the organization of the first school district, the number of districts increased very rapidly and educational facilities became more and more efficient. Every decade that passed showed a marked contrast to the preceding one. In 1870 there were 1,889 persons in Franklin county between the ages of five and twenty-one years, 985 males and 904 females, and of these 1,129 were enrolled in the schools of the county, of which there were fifty-six, one being graded. There were two brick, four stone and thirty-eight frame schoolhouses at that time. Male teachers received an average wage of \$36 a month; the average wage of the female teacher was \$27.

The first person to teach a class of pupils in Franklin county was Miss Octavia Smith, who afterward became the wife of H. J. Mitchell. In June, 1854, the settlers of Reeve township had decided to have a school, so they hired Miss Smith to teach, and for her services she received the munificent stipend of \$1.50 a week. At the time she was a miss of sixteen summers and instructed her pupils in a small log building, which was torn down, removed to Maysville, rebuilt and converted into a blacksmith shop.

In 1855, the settlers in Reeve township got together and put up a schoolhouse of logs they had themselves gotten out of the woods. The building stood near the old Reeve cemetery on the farm of Benson Toll. William Boyles taught that school in the winter of 1855, and among his pupils were Orson G. Reeve, Martin B. Jones, now a citizen of Hampton; David Creighton and his sister Margaret, who became the wife of J. S. Mulkins; and William Shroyer. In the following summer, Miss Octavia Smith taught here and had among her pupils Orson G. Reeve and two of his sisters. The building itself was a very primitive affair. When William Boyles first appeared as the pedagogue, he brought a set of maps. He also had a list of the names of state capitals, their population and the principal rivers of the country; these were set to music and sung by the pupils—a primitive, though effective, way of impressing the children's minds with the geographical attributes of their own country. By looking at the



histories of the various townships, the reader will find some interesting details relating to the various pioneer schools of the county.

For many years past Franklin county has expended vast sums of money for educational purposes. The townships all have their district schools, good buildings, some of which are well equipped with facilities for advanced students. There are now twelve school townships, eight city, town and village districts, thirty rural independent districts and one hundred joint districts. The average number of months taught to the district is 8.2; number of teachers employed, 267; average compensation, \$46.88; total number of pupils enrolled in 1912 was 3,656; average daily attendance, 2,508. There are 144 schoolhouses in Franklin county, valued at \$133,985. The value of apparatus is \$8,574; and number of volumes in the various libraries, 6,492.

#### SCHOOL FUND COMMISSIONERS

When Franklin county came into existence in 1855, the office of superintendent had not been created. The only school officer was the school fund commissioner, who merely had charge of the school funds to a certain extent as has the board of supervisors today. He had authority to make loans of school funds to private parties upon sufficient security. In his day the school directors hired the teacher, examining those whom they wished to employ. Public examinations were unknown.

#### COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The office of school fund commissioner was abolished in the spring of 1858 and the office of county superintendent of schools created. The duties of this official were then the same as at the present day: Visiting schools, holding examinations and looking after the interests of educational matters in general. By an act passed by the General Assembly of Iowa in 1873, the county superintendent was required to convene and each year hold a teachers' or normal institute at some convenient point in each county for the instruction of those who were teachers or were preparing themselves to enter the profession. From that time to the present normal institutes have been held in the county, most, if not all, of them at Hampton, upon which occasions practically every teacher and would-be teacher in the county has been in attendance.

## CHAPTER XXV

HAMPTON PUBLIC LIBRARY—DIFFICULTY IN THE WAY OF ESTABLISHING THE INSTITUTION—INTERESTING DESCRIPTIVE STORY BY ONE WHO KNEW—THE CARNEGIE GIFT OF TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS—DEDICATION OF THE LIBRARY BUILDING.

The Hampton Public Library building, made possible by a handsome benefaction of the iron king, Andrew Carnegie, was opened to the people of this community Friday, October 6, 1905. Impressive and interesting dedicatory services were held at this time and the late Col. Levi B. Raymond read a sketch, in which he depicted the many ups and downs of the library and its final triumph in the massing of a valuable collection of books and the acquisition of a handsome, commodious and modern library building. Mr. Raymond's pen was facile and strenuous and when employed covered its subject substantially and fully. The article follows:

When Abraham Lincoln was asked, after being nominated for the presidency, for a sketch of the early history of himself and family, he replied that it could very briefly be told in one sentence: "The short and simple annals of the poor." With the early history of the Hampton Public Library it is shorter and simpler; if any attempt is made to go back to its inception, it would be only a review of the failures of a score of years.

Every community has one or more individuals in its midst who are classed either as progressive and enterprising citizens, or as cranks. The difference between the two classes lies in the measure of success that attends their efforts. If successful, they are awarded a place in the first class mentioned; if unsuccessful, they are promptly relegated to the second class. And so it may be proper to say that it was only after about twenty years of efforts by "cranks" that the Hampton Public Library was born.

If memory and scanty records are not at fault, the first attempt to establish a public library in Hampton by voting a tax for its support was made in 1869. It failed, and in the light of subse-

quent events and developments, it is probably just as well that it did. During the next twenty years two other efforts were made to carry a tax for the same purpose, but they were also unsuccessful, and the records accessible are silent as to the figures of the elections, but that the proposition was decisively voted down each time was freely admitted.

It may not be amiss to state that under the old school law of the state, school districts voted a tax for district libraries. In the winter of 1889, to be exact, February 12th, at a meeting of the school board of the Independent district of Hampton, the conversation turned upon the necessity of a public library in Hampton, and the proposition was made to ask the electors of the school district to vote a tax for that purpose. The motion prevailed, and accordingly when the call for the annual election was made, it was announced that the proposition to vote a one mill tax for "the purchase of a public library" would be submitted to the electors. It was agreed by the board that the less agitation concerning the matter, the better the prospect of success, and that what "electioneering" was done, should be done quietly and unostentatiously. Fortunately there was no contest over directors at the election held March 11, and the library proposition "slipped through" by a vote of 97 to 76. It was duly certified to the board of supervisors, and that body very obligingly, and without asking the opinion of their legal advisor, levied the tax, which brought in about three hundred dollars. Of course before the tax became available it was necessary for the board to again submit the question of another tax, which was voted on March 10, 1890, but it carried without attracting general notice or material opposition by a vote of 65 to 23. Again the board of supervisors kindly levied the tax, and the Hampton Public Library was fairly born.

There were seven of these school directors who took the chances of this violation of law, if such it was, and as we think that the statute of limitations has now run, we will give their names: G. G. Clemmer, W. P. Smith, B. F. Ferris, E. M. Funk, Henry Proctor and L. B. Raymond. In March, 1890, Mr. Smith was succeeded on the board by G. C. Hayes, who thereby became equally responsible with the balance of the board for what was done, for it need not be said that whatever was done, was done unanimously. In other words, there being no objection, the rules may have been said to have been suspended. Of these seven, Messrs. Clemmer, Smith

and Hayes have paid the last great debt, and are beyond your praise or censure, while the other four are yet among you, subject to your blame or blessing, as you may choose.

And yet, while the library was born, proper provisions had not been made for its sustenance. It had been born in the wrong family for that, and its adoption by the city was necessary. Meantime about three hundred dollars' worth of books had been purchased, and some donated, and taking advantage of an unexpired lease in the basement of the (then) Beed block, quarters were secured for the books at a nominal rental, and the library may be said to have had a local habitation and a home.

From the very start, the patronage of the library amply justified all that the most ardent friends of the project had ever claimed for it, and its growth in popular favor encouraged its friends to get the child regularly adopted into the family properly chargeable with its support, and accordingly, the proper notice having been published by Mayor J. M. Hemingway, at the election held March 2, 1891, the question of the permanent establishment of the library was submitted and carried by a vote of 97 to 38. It was generally conceded that without the object lesson in the shape of the meager library in the basement of the Beed block that the project would have been defeated.

Under the law as it then stood, five trustees were appointed by the mayor; of that number two, B. F. Ferris and L. B. Raymond, were members of the school board who were responsible for the inception of the library, and it may be stated that their membership on this board has been continued ever since, they being the only two present members of the body who were of the original appointments.

I desire at this point to mention briefly another of the original members of the board, whose service terminated only within the last few months by his removal from our community, Thomas B. Taylor. His services as a practical business man, as a careful financier, as a member of the building committee during the protracted period of our building operations, and as a man of absolutely correct ideas as to the management of a public trust, could not have been bought with money, and a debt of gratitude and a high degree of obligation is due him from every citizen of Hampton. His labor and services were given absolutely without money and without price, and it is proper here to say that no trustee has ever received one dollar for any services rendered, or even recompense for expense incurred in the

service of the Hampton Public Library. The board has visited other libraries and incurred other minor expense, but in every instance no allowance, even for expenses, had been asked or allowed.

On the 28th of January, 1892, a contract was made by the trustees with the board of supervisors of Franklin county for the room in the southwest corner of the basement of the courthouse for the use of the library, the lease to be for eight years from July 1, 1892, and for which the rental of \$162 was paid in advance. This amount was expended in finishing off and plastering the room, it having previously been in an unfinished condition. This room having been found inadequate for the needs of the library, in 1896 a further contract was made with the board of supervisors for the use of the adjoining room on the east, on condition that it should be finished off without expense to the county, which was done at a cost of about one hundred dollars. This room was used as a reading and reference room, and it gave to the library far better quarters than its most sanguine friends had ever hoped for. These rooms were occupied by the library up to August 1, 1905, when they were vacated by the removal into the library building without any additional expense except electric light. It may never have occurred to the library trustees or to the patrons of the library to make any formal acknowledgment of the liberality of the board of supervisors in this matter, but I desire now to give public recognition of the favor, and to ask that the public spirit manifested by the board in freely making this important gift be not forgotten by this community.

I trust that anything I have said in regard to the difficulties attendant upon getting the library established in public favor will not be construed by any one as a criticism upon the intelligence or public spirit of our community. It must be remembered that public libraries twenty-five or thirty years ago were almost entirely confined to large cities or to educational institutions. It is probable that of the population of our town in the '70s and '80s not over 10 per cent had ever resided in any larger town, and probably 75 per cent of the inhabitants were from farms, not necessarily less intelligent than other people, but with more limited facilities for observation. The times were close, almost every man was in debt, we were building our schoolhouses, public buildings, bridges and making other expensive improvements, so that taxes were often oppressive, and when a taxpayer was in doubt as to where the money was coming from to pay his taxes, he was naturally careful not to add

to the amount any more than absolute necessity called for. It is possible that in all these years a campaign of education was going on in reference to libraries, and other public utilities, which taught us how to care for all these things and enjoy the full benefits thereof after they came to us. Hampton is one of the most generous places of which I have any knowledge, and I trust that nothing said here at this time will leave any other impression.

Early in the year 1901, the attention of those directly interested in the library was drawn to the benefactions of Hon. Andrew Carnegie, and an effort was made to secure his attention to the fact that Hampton would be very glad of a place in the list of those favored. It seemed for several months that we would be unable to get any answer through any avenue by which we could approach him, but finally, on the 14th day of March, 1902, we were notified that our request would be granted upon the usual terms and conditions. Let me say right here that it was owing to the good offices of Senator Dooliver, whom we had hoped to have with us on this occasion, that we reached Mr. Carnegie's ear when we did, so that while it may be too much to say that to the Senator we are indebted for our gift from Mr. Carnegie, it is not too much to say that it would not have come to us at the opportune time that it did, had it not been for our Senator's good offices. Our city council acted promptly in the matter of a site and in furnishing the necessary guarantee of future support, and the present site was selected, it being in accordance with the sentiment of the inhabitants of the city, so far as known. The action of our city council was in accordance with the liberality and public spirit the body has always manifested in its dealings with the library board, and they freely and without being solicited gave over the entire responsibility of all matters connected with the proposed library building in the hands of the trustees, and have universally and at all times been ready to second their labors and assist in every way possible. What has been true of one council has been true of all since the library came under the control of the city, and it is fitting, Mr. Mayor, that I make, on behalf of the library trustees, this public acknowledgment of the fact that not only they, but our citizens generally, should not forget the hearty cooperation of the body you represent, and your predecessors, in behalf of the Hampton Public Library.

The difficulties and delays experienced in the construction of our library building are too recent in the minds of this community

to justify any extended comment at this time. During the two years that the building was going on, the library board were freely criticised, and from the standpoint of view of the average citizen, not without reason. Suffice it to say that the peculiar conditions of the matter were not generally known, and the board felt that it would be detrimental to the best interests of the community to have any public discussion of matters. Briefly, it may not be out of order to state that the library board felt that it was due to Mr. Carnegie and to the citizens that the entire \$10,000 donated by Mr. Carnegie should all be put into the building, leaving the furnishing, heating apparatus, electric light fixtures, etc., to be provided from other funds. The board, too, were from the first up against the proposition of trying to get a \$12,000 building for \$10,000, and felt that the contractor, who had allowed local pride to induce him to take the contract at a losing figure, should be allowed all possible latitude and leniency, so far as delays were concerned. More under this head need not be said, and all the board claim is, that if they did make mistakes, their action was guided by what was their best judgment. And here I must be excused if I pay a brief tribute to my associates of the library board. No set of men of whom I have ever had any knowledge worked more faithfully and unselfishly, and it is enough to say that that board never had a disagreement that was not amicably adjusted in five minutes.

While the building committee have made their report to the board, and some portions of the same have been published in the reports of the board to the city council, it is proper, that now the building is complete, there should be made at this time a complete report to the people direct of the entire cost of the edifice and furnishings, that the city of Hampton now owns, free from encumbrance.

Andrew Carnegie's donation .....	\$10,000.00
City of Hampton, paid for site.....	3,660.60
Paid architects .....	270.00
Grading and filling in lots.....	60.00
Cement sidewalks and approaches.....	170.00
Electric light fixtures.....	170.00
Heating plant .....	1,515.00
Kalsomining interior walls.....	170.00
Water and sewer connections.....	50.00
Window shades .....	50.00

Window and door screens.....	52.50
Furniture .....	818.25
	<hr/>
Total .....	\$16,916.35

In concluding this sketch of our library, it will be apparent that we are at the close of the creative period, so to speak, and that its interests have been almost entirely dependent upon those who have had control of matters connected with it and its material welfare. That period now closes and the future and prosperity of this library no longer depends upon a few individuals, but upon the community at large. No person is so obscure or so lacking in influence that he or she does not share in this responsibility, and that every one may realize the full measure of their obligation in this respect and act accordingly is the best wish that can be offered for the future of the Hampton Public Library.

The Carnegie Public Library is a valued institution of Hampton and is well patronized by a class of people, refined in their tastes and selection of reading matter. The report of the librarian for the fiscal year 1912 shows that the library issued that year 8,850 books, and that the public has a collection in the library of 5,000 volumes from which to make a choice.

Since the Carnegie library opened its doors to the public, the following have served as librarian: Carrie Barker, Bertha B. Barker, Helen Sweet, and the present incumbent, Pearl Glazier. The present members of the board are: President, B. F. Ferris; vice president, T. J. B. Robinson; secretary and treasurer, O. W. Maxwell; E. P. Andrews, A. W. Beed, T. E. B. Hudson, Charles Krag, Mrs. Julia Evans, and Miss Indie Reeve.





## CHAPTER XXVI

HAMPTON'S FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS—BANKING A BUSINESS OF GREAT ANTIQUITY—EARLY BANKS IN THE COUNTY SEAT—DEPOSITS IN HAMPTON BANKS OVER TWO MILLION DOLLARS—INDUSTRIAL HAMPTON.

The business of banking is of great antiquity and in its simpler forms no doubt was understood and practiced by the Assyrians, Babylonians and Athenians. As the taking of interest for money lies at the root of all banking and furnishes the chief motive for it, wherever a people were sufficiently advanced to loan money for hire there would naturally spring up many of the practices and methods of modern banking. The transfer of credits was undoubtedly known among the ancients. They used checks and bills of exchange, but for all that they were very far from having the confidence in credit business that has since been fostered by modern banking methods. They used gold and silver coin and other commodities then in use as standards of value and media of exchange and had not invented representative money. It is more fanciful than correct to ascribe to the Romans the invention of modern banking. The business carried on by their money lenders and dealers was similar to that of the Jews of the Middle Ages and the Lombards.

When gold and silver were deposited, it was more in the nature of a special deposit to be kept until called for. There have always been money lenders but banks for lending money are of comparatively modern origin. The Bank of Venice, which originated in 1171, may be pronounced the forerunner of modern banking. It was followed by the Bank of Genoa, 1320; Bank of Amsterdam, 1609; Bank of England, 1694; Bank of France, 1716; and others at later dates. In the United States there have been private banks and chartered banks and of the latter some have derived their powers from State Legislatures and some from the Federal Congress.

The National Bank Act, which became a law early in 1863, was modelled largely after the free banking laws of New York, Ohio

and other states; and the distinctive principles which underlie it are government supervision of the operations of the banks and a circulation based directly upon the securities and guarantee of the Government. The original act has undergone many modifications, some of them of considerable importance, and while in its operations it has proved of great value to the commerce of the country, it is undoubtedly capable of improvement and further changes may be expected in it in the not distant future.

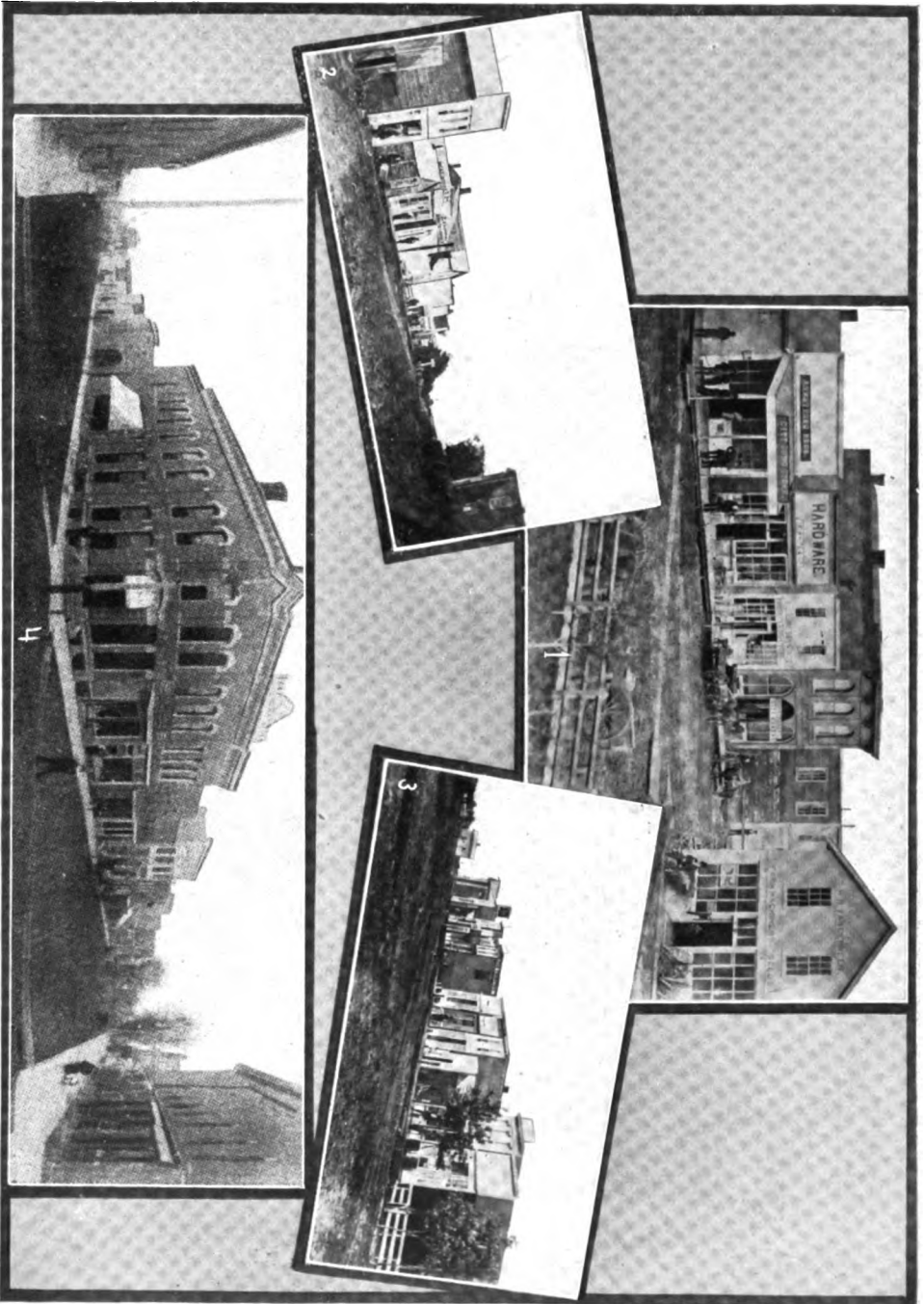
#### FRANKLIN COUNTY STATE BANK

The first attempt at banking in Franklin county was by J. F. Latimer and A. G. Kellam, who pooled their interests and established a private concern in 1871, under the firm name of Latimer & Kellam. Their place of business was on the east side of the courthouse square in a frame building, where they continued to remain for some years. At a period during the Latimer-Kellam regime, Capt. R. S. Benson and G. C. Hayes, both since gone to their last reward, became actively interested in the institution. Sometime thereafter, Latimer sold out his interests and the firm name was changed to Kellam, Benson & Hayes. This continued for a period, then Kellam disposed of his interest to the remaining partners. Benson finally withdrew and D. B. Parks was taken into the firm.

It was while Benson and Hayes were connected with the institution that they erected the two-story brick building on the northwest corner of Reeve and Fourth streets, where the headquarters of the bank was maintained for a number of years.

In 1891, A. W., G. F. and B. C. Beed secured full control of the bank and conducted the institution until 1905, when they became possessed of the equities and appurtenances of the Bank of Hampton, successor to the First National Bank of Hampton, and incorporated the two concerns under the banking law of Iowa as the Franklin County State Bank, with a capital of \$75,000. The first officials selected by the directors of the Franklin County State Bank were: President, A. W. Beed; vice president, G. F. Beed; cashier, H. L. Harrison; assistant cashier, N. A. Inglis.

Previous to this, however, the bank had moved into the Empire block on the northwest corner of Reeve and Fifth streets, where it remained until about 1880, and then occupied its own home.



1—North corner Reeve street in early 70's showing Court House fence on Fourth. 2—Fourth street between Reeve and Main street in the early 60's. 3—Reeve street in early 60's between Fourth and Sixth street. 4—Franklin County Bank.

VIEWS OF HAMPTON



The condition of the Franklin County State Bank in June, 1913, was as follows: Capital, \$75,000; surplus, \$25,000; undivided profits, \$23,000; deposits, \$673,000. Officials: President, A. W. Beed; vice president, J. C. Powers; cashier, N. A. Inglis; assistant cashier, F. H. Ridgeway; directors, A. W. Beed, N. A. Inglis, G. F. Beed, F. J. Scantlebury, B. D. Hunt, George D. Patterson, Dr. J. C. Powers, Jacob Pohl, C. F. Showalter, F. D. Smith and A. W. Wolf.

#### THE FIRST NATIONAL AND BANK OF HAMPTON

The First National Bank of Hampton was established late in the '70s, and was finally absorbed by the Bank of Hampton, which had at its head the late J. F. Latimer and D. D. Inglis. It was recognized as a very conservative banking institution and the policy adopted by Latimer and Inglis was followed faithfully by their successors, H. L. Harrison and N. A. Inglis. This course gave them the entire confidence of the public.

#### THE CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK

A strong and influential financial institution is that of the Citizens National Bank of Hampton. It is the only national bank in Franklin county, and was organized as a state bank in 1875 by George Beed, G. G. Clemmer, D. W. Mott, Isaac Robinson and C. J. Mott. The first home of the bank was in a little frame building that stood on the corner of Reeve and Fourth streets, facing south. The present headquarters of this institution is on the same corner in a large brick building erected in the winter of 1880-81 by the Hampton Building Association. For years the upper floors have been used for hotel purposes and it was first known as the Beed House and later the name was changed to the Rule Hotel. The property passed into several hands and for some years past has been owned by the Robinsons, members of the bank. The first officials of the Citizens National Bank were: George Beed, president; D. W. Mott, vice president; G. G. Clemmer, cashier.

The Citizens State Bank was reorganized September 1, 1905, and received its charter as the Citizens National Bank. It was then capitalized at \$100,000. Those prominent in the organization of the new institution were: Thomas J. B. Robinson, Nathaniel W. Beebe, W. L. Robinson, Abraham R. Carter and Albert M. Mott. The

first officials were: T. J. B. Robinson, president; N. W. Beebe, vice president; W. L. Robinson, cashier; Walter T. Robinson, assistant cashier. The capital of the bank is \$100,000; surplus, \$35,000; undivided profits, \$20,000; deposits, \$759,000.

#### ROBINSON BROTHERS BANK

The Robinson Brothers Bank, a private financial concern, was established in 1887 by T. J. B. Robinson, now president of the Citizens National Bank. In 1894 he took into partnership his brothers, G. A. and W. L. Robinson, and the firm name of Robinson Brothers was adopted. The business included abstract, real estate, insurance and farm loans. I. B. Robinson was made a member of the firm later, and in 1906 the business name of the concern was changed to the Robinson Brothers Bank, which has been for the past several years owned by G. A. Robinson, his brothers having retired from the firm.

#### STATE SAVINGS BANK

The above institution was the last bank to be organized in Hampton, receiving its charter in 1904, and having a capital of \$40,000. The promoters were C. D. Williams, J. J. McGuire, Dr. J. H. Hutchins, Casper Wolf, Christ Witthoft, J. W. Bailey, C. M. Goodyear, O. F. Myers. The first officials selected were: C. M. Goodyear, president; Casper Wolf, vice president; J. J. McGuire, cashier; O. F. Myers, assistant cashier.

The State Savings Bank commenced business in its own building in the block on Reeve street between Third and Fourth streets. The headquarters were moved in 1906 to the southwest corner of Reeve and Fourth streets.

C. M. Goodyear retired from the presidency in 1905, and was succeeded by Doctor Hutchins. In 1911, Doctor Hutchins gave way to Casper Wolf, who was succeeded in the vice-presidency by S. T. Blain. Mr. McGuire retired from the cashiership in 1906 and at the same time O. F. Myers took up the duties of that position. The latter was succeeded as cashier by O. W. Maxwell, the present incumbent of the office.

During its comparatively short life, the State Savings Bank has grown in strength and found its way into the confidence of a large

and increasing clientele. Its capital stock is \$40,000; undivided profits, \$5,000; and deposits in the fall of 1913, \$190,000. The officials are: Adam Messelheiser, president; S. T. Blain, vice president; R. M. Harrison, second vice president; O. W. Maxwell, cashier; D. C. Wolf, assistant cashier.

#### INDUSTRIES OF HAMPTON

Hampton is far from being a manufacturing town. It is more to be classed as a busy mart for inland traders and merchants, depending on a magnificent farming community as shippers and buyers.

In this prairie country the first effort at manufacturing has always been the making of lumber and flour. That means the mills; and in these Hampton early was blessed with good ones, where much of the lumber for her pioneer homes was made and flour and cornmeal ground. Then came the blacksmith and wagon maker and in the latter activity was the firm of John Lambert & Son, who opened a shop here in 1865. Others followed but in 1875 came C. S. Hobbie, who died April 15, 1901. His son, L. M. Hobbie, succeeded him, is still in business, and making a specialty of the sale of automobiles.

#### ALUMINUM-ALLOY METAL ROOFING

In 1892 a company was organized in Hampton for the manufacture of an aluminum-alloy metal roofing. The Hampton Plow shops—old frame buildings—were purchased and everybody anticipated big things of the enterprise. Certain of the citizens contributed of their money to the capital stock and the following officers were elected: President, E. S. Patterson; vice president, J. W. Hutchins; treasurer, Charles Beed; secretary, George Beed; assistant secretary, W. J. Wilder, the patentee. Directors: E. S. Patterson, G. G. Clemmer, Charles Beed, J. H. Hutchins, E. V. Baldwin, George Beed and W. J. Wilder.

The Aluminum-Alloy Metal Roofing manufactory did not begin to meet the expectations of its friends and within a short period of time after beginning operation the plant was closed down and another fond hope of the city went glimmering.



When the Hampton Foundry & Machine Company was organized, the citizens of the community began to have some hopes that the city certainly would become a manufacturing center of no little importance. A splendid building was erected, in which was placed machinery of the latest pattern, all costing \$35,000, and from eighteen to twenty men were given employment in making castings, manure spreaders, steel gates, and power hammers. Orders came in quite briskly for a time, the header barge, an attachment for harvesting machines, and the power hammer leading in the products sold. But through causes known and unknown, the industry failed to meet the expectations of all concerned and in the month of November, 1913, the shops were shut down and an effort is now in progress to reorganize the company and again open the factory.

J. A. Steele, of Hutchinson, Kansas, was the promoter of this industry, and with C. F. Roemer, T. P. Weinhart and O. F. Myers, incorporated the concern in 1912, with an authorized capital of \$50,000, divided into shares of \$100 each, nonassessable. About \$25,000 of the stock was paid in. The officials were: President, J. A. Steele; vice president, C. F. Roemer; general manager, T. P. Weinhart; secretary and treasurer, O. F. Myers.

J. A. Steele managed and superintended the factory until March, 1913, when he retired and was succeeded by L. G. Fuller, who gave way to J. W. Barry in August, 1913.

#### LARGE POULTRY CONCERN

"Chickens is chickens" these days, so are eggs and butter, and the handling of these commodities has become an important industry at Hampton. A number of years ago the firm of Rogers & Smith started a poultry depot in a large frame building on the corner of Fourth and Maple streets, which in the '80s had been built for the Hampton Plow Company, where for a while plows were made and sold directly to the farmers. The business failed, owing to stringency of the money market at that time. Later this building was secured by the Aluminum-Alloy people and they soon "went up the flume." Then the firm of Rogers & Smith got possession and engaged in buying and selling poultry and eggs. About five years ago the W. F. Priebe Company, which already had an interest in the

establishment, secured control and have since built up a large industry in packing poultry and eggs for the eastern markets. In 1912 this firm secured control of the creamery just west of it, which was built by the Galers, of De Kalb, Illinois, who later sold to local parties, the latter disposing of the interests to W. F. Priebe & Company. This concern in the winter season employs about thirty-five people and about fifteen on an average throughout the year. The last three months of 1913 there were shipped from the establishment 540,000 pounds of dressed poultry and during the year an average of two carloads of eggs per week were sent to the markets.

The W. F. Priebe Company is incorporated and has the following official list: W. F. Priebe, president; G. G. Jeck, manager at the Atlantic plant, vice president; C. C. Tatham, treasurer; W. F. Priebe, Jr., secretary. The company has charge of plants in several of the states. In Iowa they have establishments at Atlantic, Humboldt, Manning, Algona, Burt, Dayton, Butler, Guthrie Center, Stuart and Hampton. One of the largest feeding stations belonging to the corporation is at Bushnell, Illinois. They have another at Moberly, Missouri. The main office is maintained in the city of Chicago.

#### THE HAMPTON-KELLEY CANNING FACTORY

For many years it had been realized by residents of Hampton that one of the greatest needs of the place, in order to bring to the knowledge of the people of the state generally the importance and enterprise of the city, was a factory of some kind—one that would furnish employment to those who heretofore have been unable to find it here and have sought it elsewhere; an industry that would be sending out its product to all parts of the country and, in a manner, advertise the city of Hampton. Besides this, a desire had been prevalent that a desirable class of laboring people might be induced to take up their residence in the community, provided sufficient employment could be furnished.

Early in the year 1910 a beginning was made looking to the establishment here of a large and modern canning plant, and the buildings for the same were completed, and the machinery installed before the summer had waned.

A large amount of the credit for the bringing to Hampton of this factory is given to the members of the Hampton Commercial

Association. In February, 1910, the association was successful in getting Messrs. C. M. Kelley and N. B. Ellis, both of Waverly, interested in the matter. The capitalization was placed at \$50,000, \$35,000 of which was furnished by Waverly capitalists, and the balance was furnished by about twenty-five representative business men of Hampton, among them being George A. Robinson, N. A. Inglis, G. F. Beed, C. L. Beed, J. H. Hutchins, O. F. Myers, D. C. Wolf, Casper Wolf, R. M. Harrison, Frank Kratochvil, J. W. Cummings, E. M. Funk, S. J. Schlesinger, E. S. Patterson, G. D. Patterson, G. M. Spencer, W. F. Nolte, N. W. Beebe, E. A. Beebe, A. R. Runyard, C. F. Roemer, D. W. Mott, Jr., W. L. Robinson and T. J. B. Robinson.

One of the conditions under which the Waverly men consented to undertake the project here was that the Commercial Association should secure pledges from the nearby farmers of an aggregate of one thousand acres of sweet corn. A committee was immediately appointed and in a short time the acreage had been secured. Although Hampton capitalists are known to be conservative in their investments in new enterprises, it should be said to their credit that less than two hours were consumed in the disposal of the \$15,000 of stock.

Three and one-half acres of land were purchased of James H. Beed at the intersection of Reeve street and the Great Western right-of-way, and ground was broken for the foundations April 10th. The work of the contractor was finished in less than ninety days.

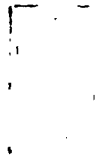
The main building is constructed of brick, with concrete foundations, and covers a ground area of 140 feet square. In front of this building and entirely disconnected from it is the office structure, also of brick, 20x40 and two stories in height. This building is fitted with all conveniences for the office help.

In the southeast corner of the main structure is what is known as the process room, 40x60 feet. This part of the plant is three stories in height, and connected to this is the cooking room to the west, 40x100 feet, one story. The north part of the building is divided into a storage room, 100 feet square, and to the east is the boiler and engine rooms, 40x80 feet.

The husking shed is a wooden structure 44x154 feet, and one story high. A dumping system of the latest and most improved style has been installed in front of the husking shed, where the corn is weighed and conveyed to the shed by carriers, and, after being



**HAMPTON-KELLEY CANNING COMPANY**



husked, taken by an elevator to the top of the process or manufacturing room. The husks are thrown on to an endless carrier and are conveyed automatically to the rear of the shed and elevated to a height of about twenty feet and dropped in a pile or on to wagons. In the process room the corn is run through cutting machines that remove the kernel from the cob. The cobs are conveyed to large hoppers, under which wagons may be driven, and the cobs dumped into them.

From the cutting machines the corn flows by gravity to the floor below, where it passes through the silkers and is prepared for the cookers and mixers on the ground floor. A battery of twelve of these are arranged in a row nearly one hundred feet long extending to the west. Here it gets the first exhaust from steam and goes thence to the fillers. The cans are automatically on chain conveyors. First they go to the capper, where the cans are sealed and inspected, and are afterwards placed in retorts and cooked ready for the storehouse.

The power plant consists of two steam boilers, each of 100 horse power, and an engine of 90 horse power in a room adjoining the fire room. Ample room is provided for more boilers and engines should they be needed. Coal for the furnaces is handled direct from cars to the fire room.

The chimney, which is of brick, reaches a height above the floors of 75 feet and has an even inside diameter of 46 inches. All the work on the buildings is of the best and the structures are of a thoroughly permanent character. It is known technically to the trade as a modern two-line corn canning plant. The capacity of the institution, when in full running order, is declared to be from 100,000 to 120,000 cans per day and about one hundred and eighty hands are needed to do the work. One thousand and seventy acres of corn were contracted for the first year and canning began about August 25. The output for 1910 was 1,600,000 cans.

This plant is fitted exclusively for the canning of corn, which product seems now to offer the best inducements, as it is not only easily raised with the machinery already in use by the farmer, but the demand is greater than the supply. Other products may be added.

The season of 1913 was not a good one for canning corn. The sun was intensely hot and a long drought cut the supply of corn fit for the market to a considerable extent. The acreage had also

dwindled so that but 800,000 cans of the product were realized for the season's work. However, the canning factory has met the anticipations of its promoters. The product meets a ready sale and going abroad into different states makes it known that Hampton is on the map and is a city of more than a little importance. Carlos M. Kelley is the manager.

#### THE HAMPTON COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATION

At a meeting held in the courthouse Tuesday evening, April 26, 1904, the Hampton Commercial Association was organized. Sixty-nine names were signed to the roll of membership. The following officers were elected: President, T. J. B. Robinson; vice president, E. P. Andrews; secretary, Fred A. Harriman; treasurer, H. E. Boehmler; directors, H. L. Harrison, George F. Smith, T. W. Purcell, L. J. Sterburg, I. L. Stuart, C. F. Roemer, B. H. Mallory, J. E. Coonley and W. T. O. Rule.

The object of the association is to further the interests and growth of the city and to induce manufacturers to locate here. The association is composed of men who have the best interests of the city at heart and their efforts have already taken concrete form. Each year the members have a banquet, at which a program is also discussed, very much to the benefit and edification of the assemblage. The tenth annual banquet was held in the parlors of the Methodist Church in the fall of 1913, which was largely attended. Among other selections on the program may be noted the following: "Hampton," by J. M. Hemingway; "Our New Hotel," by C. F. Roemer; "Paved Country Highways," by E. P. Andrews, and "Our New School Building," by H. E. Boehmler and W. L. Robinson.

The closing feature of the meeting was the selection of officers for another year. The ticket elected follows: President, T. W. Purcell; vice president, G. D. Patterson; secretary, D. W. Parks; treasurer, C. D. Wolf; directors, C. F. Roemer, C. M. Kelley, I. L. Stuart, H. O. Thomas, N. A. Inglis, G. A. Robinson, H. E. Boehmler, C. D. Williams, C. F. Meier.

## CHAPTER XXVII

RELIGIOUS—THE CHURCHES OF HAMPTON—THE CITY IS MADE UP OF A CHRISTIAN PEOPLE AND HAS THE BEST CHURCH EDIFICES OF ANY PLACE OF ITS SIZE IN IOWA—THEIR HISTORY—HAMPTON CEMETERY.

### FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

On the evening of February 25, 1898, the Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church met in the parlors of their handsome new house of worship to celebrate the fourth anniversary of the dedication of the building, a structure that stands out majestically on the corner of Iowa and Fifth streets and is, by all odds, the most attractive product of the architect and builder in Franklin county. On the occasion mentioned, brief historical sketches of the church society, Sunday school and auxiliary associations were read, but the most comprehensive and interesting paper was that of Mrs. J. C. Magee, who took for her subject the history of the Hampton Methodist Church. The article follows:

"The first services held by a Methodist minister in Hampton was in the winter of 1857-8. Just who he was is not distinctly recalled by the oldest inhabitant. However, it is remembered that H. J. Burley preached during these years at Mayne's Grove, or Maysville, and no other Methodist minister is recalled as preaching in the county then. Minutes of the conference show H. J. Burley as in charge of Alden Mission, with his postoffice address at Iowa Falls. It may be accepted as a reasonable certainty that he was the man. He held two services. The winter was severe, the snow very deep all about the little hamlet, and the congregation consisted wholly of men, namely: James Thompson, George Thompson, O. F. Kitchell and Chauncey Gillett. Early in 1858 a small organization was effected, but no record of the same is ascertainable. That year S. Knickerbocker was minister in charge of Iowa Falls circuit and preached here occasionally. John Gilliland, a local preacher,



moved into the place and while plying his trade as a bricklayer and plasterer, preached betimes on the Sabbath. In 1859, Asa Critchfield, of Iowa Falls circuit, came occasionally. In 1860 John Gilliland went to Pike's Peak. In that year W. F. Hestwood was preacher on Maysville circuit and in 1861 W. O. Glassner preached here a few times. In 1862 C. J. Jones was in charge of Alden and Maysville, and in 1863, D. P. Billings, both of whom preached here a few times. In 1864 J. G. Wilkinson was in charge of Maysville and Down's Grove circuit, and in the spring of 1865 organized a class in Hampton. The members of that class were John Burkett and wife, John Millett and wife, Mrs. Sarah Gould, Mrs. Agnes Fox, Ira Hodges and wife, Samuel and John Lambert, Henry Haecker and wife and Mrs. Martha Dow, wife of D. W. Dow. John Burkett was appointed leader. Hampton continued for some years as an appointment on Maysville circuit. From September, 1866, to September, 1869, Rev. L. S. Cooley, the preacher in charge of Maysville circuit, administered to the little class in Hampton. During this time a legal corporate organization was consummated. The articles of incorporation bearing date May 15, 1867, were acknowledged before George Beed, notary public. The first board of trustees consisted of William Burkett, Henry Haecker, D. W. Hinman, Elisha Towle, J. Y. Lambert, Lucius Loss and Aaron Church.

"At the annual conference in September, 1869, Hampton was constituted a separate charge and for the first time appears on the lists. Frank M. Robertson was made pastor and continued until September 1, 1871. During this time a church edifice was built at a cost of \$6,000. About this period the growth of the society was very marked. Up to the time of going into the new church, all had taken part in a Union Sunday school, but at that time a Methodist Episcopal school was organized, with N. McDonald as superintendent. Reverend Robertson was later made presiding elder of the Decorah district, Upper Iowa Conference. In September, 1871, W. L. Thorp became pastor, remaining one year. In September, 1872, W. J. Mitchell became pastor and remained one year. . . . In October, 1873, J. B. Taylor became pastor, remaining with the church until 1876. In 1881 he died at Epworth, but his remains were interred in the cemetery at Hampton. In September, 1876, F. X. Miller came to the charge, remaining until 1879. In September of the latter year, Charles Cressy became pastor. In March, 1888, Mrs. Cressy died and on December 21 following, Reverend Cressy passed away, and



High School                      Methodist Episcopal Church                      Congregational Church  
    Catholic Church and Parsonage  
 HAMPTON CHURCHES AND SCHOOL

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both lie buried in the Hampton cemetery. Reverend Cressy's successor was C. F. McLean, who remained until December, 1883, when he was succeeded by F. M. Coleman, who continued with the church until September, 1886. During this pastorate the present parsonage was erected. Reverend Coleman was after some years made presiding elder of Cedar Falls district. In September, 1886, John W. Clinton became pastor and continued until 1891, and during this pastorate the church property was enlarged and improved. Reverend Clinton died while pastor at Vinton, Iowa, January 26, 1894. His remains were brought to Hampton and interred in the cemetery at this place. Thus three of the former pastors of this parish repose in death within the limits of the charge.

"In October, 1891, F. W. Luce became pastor and remained until October, 1895. During this pastorate the present church edifice—a magnificent brick structure—was erected at a cost of \$26,500, the dedicatory service being conducted February 25, 1894. The building committee consisted of F. W. Luce, George Beed, T. J. B. Robinson, G. F. Beed, T. H. Haecker and T. B. Taylor.

"In October, 1895, J. C. Magee was appointed to the charge. In the incipiency of the charge it was on the Cedar Falls district and so continued until 1873, and D. N. Holmes, Elias Skinner, S. A. Lee and John Bowman served as presiding elders. In 1873, at the organization of the Marshalltown district, Hampton became a part of it."

About the year 1903 a magnificent pipe organ, rich and mellow in tone, was installed in the church, at a cost of \$5,000, and in the fall of 1913, the interior of the building was redecorated and further improved by the addition of a new floor, furnaces, etc., the outlay being over \$4,500.

The successor to Reverend Magee in the pastorate was Rev. F. M. Coleman, who served through the years 1899 and 1900. He in turn was followed by Rev. H. W. Troy, who served from 1901 to 1903, when Rev. E. T. Gruwell took charge, remaining until 1908. The present pastor, Rev. DeWitt Clinton, assumed charge in 1909. He has the distinction of being the worthy son of one of the loved pastors who ministered to the spiritual wants of this charge and now lies buried in the silent city of Hampton Cemetery. Mr. Clinton also takes pride and pleasure in the fact that he was called to four different charges that had been presided over by his father, the Rev. J. W. Clinton.

The First Methodist Episcopal Church of Hampton in point of membership is the strongest religious body in Franklin county. It now has a membership of 514, and an average attendance in the Sabbath school of 350. Its auxiliary societies are the Ladies' Aid Society, Woman's Home Missionary Society, Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the Epworth League and the Methodist Brotherhood.

#### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The organization of the First Congregational Church of Hampton was due to the fact that a number of persons residing in Hampton and vicinity, who had come to Franklin county to make homes for themselves and families, decided that a church organization was needed here. They had all been members of some church in their former homes and represented almost as many different denominations as there were persons. Among the churches represented were the Congregational, Presbyterian, Episcopal, Methodist and Christian. That the new organization when made was of the Congregational Church doubtless was due to the fact that Rev. John Wilcox, then pastor of the Congregational Church at Cedar Falls, had done some missionary work in this vicinity, and it was through his direct efforts that the church was organized. The organization was effected September 7, 1857, with five members: J. N. Dodd, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Southard, Mrs. Laura Booth and Mrs. Anne Beed, familiarly called "Mother" Beed. The latter was the only one who became a permanent resident here. A few months later, J. W. Booth, Mrs. Julia Hansberry, Mrs. Elizabeth Johnston, Mrs. George Beed and Miss Mary Beed united with the church.

Reverend Wilcox preached here three or four times, but no regular services were held until April, 1858, when Rev. W. P. Avery was called to take charge of this church and also the one at Chapin, his residence being maintained at the latter place. Mr. Avery continued as pastor, with the exception of a part of the year 1869, until August, 1872. Church services were first held in the old courthouse, which stood in the southeast corner of the courthouse square; then in the old schoolhouse on Fourth street, and from 1866 to 1872 either in the stone schoolhouse, which stood on the west side of the public square, midway between Hotel Hampton and Fifth street, or in the Baptist church, whenever services could be so arranged without interference with arrangements of the latter church.

In 1871, notwithstanding the hardships and poverty of the church, the congregation decided to erect a house of worship of their own. Had it not been for the very generous help of the American Home Missionary Society, the church could not have lived. At the time of the building of the church the membership numbered about thirty-five, and in looking back upon it now it seems marvelous that the little band of people in very moderate circumstances could have raised over four thousand dollars with which to build a church. The building was begun in the fall of 1871 and finished in the year 1872 at a cost of \$5,300. The dedication took place on Sunday, June 30 of the latter year, and was conducted by Rev. George F. Magoun of Grinnell. The church had for several years owned two lots on the corner of Fourth and Franklin streets, but this location was not looked upon with favor by the majority of the members, therefore these lots were sold and the site on the corner of Sixth and Reeve streets purchased.

After the church was dedicated, Reverend Avery, on account of advanced years, resigned the pastorate, and in the fall of 1872 Rev. O. D. Crawford became the pastor. The latter resigned in August, 1874, and on the 26th of September following Rev. W. H. Barrows took charge. He remained until March, 1877, and on April 25th following Rev. A. D. Kinzer took charge, remaining until January 19, 1888, when he tendered his resignation. Rev. A. S. Badger began his labors with the church on April 1, 1888, and continued until May 1, 1893. On October 1, 1893, Rev. J. W. Ferner took charge.

It was during the pastorate of Reverend Ferner that a new building was erected on the site of the old structure, the latter being removed to the south end of the lot. The church was built in a style known to the architects as "Modern Renaissance," the walls being of St. Louis mottled pressed brick, the color being a good imitation of light gray stone. The extreme dimensions are 84 feet on Sixth street and 69 feet, 9 inches on Reeve street, the main tower being 71 feet high. The church, built and furnished at a cost of \$16,600, was dedicated February 14, 1897, the sermon in the morning being preached by Rev. J. O. Stevenson, D. D., of Waterloo, Iowa, and the evening sermon by Rev. T. M. Price, of Iowa Falls. A pipe organ, the first one to occupy a place in any church in Hampton, was installed at a cost of \$1,625.

On December 27, 1912, the interior of this church was destroyed by fire, leaving only the foundation and brick walls standing. Soon

afterward the members began plans for restoring the interior of the building, and on Sunday, November 2, 1913, the building was rededicated by Rev. J. W. Ferner, who was pastor here when the former church was built and dedicated. While the original structure was considered a splendid building, it failed to equal in its interior appointments the structure as it stands today. The exterior of the building has been little changed for the reason that the foundation and brick walls passed through the fire intact, and with the exception of the roof and two large windows, the outward appearance is the same as before. The new roof is supported by steel trusses and covered with Pennsylvania slate. The interior, however, has been greatly improved in many ways. The pews and pulpit furniture are of quarter-sawed oak and the floor and inside woodwork of the auditorium, lecture room, choir room, etc., is oak. The building is lighted by electricity and heated with vacuum steam. The cost of rebuilding and refurnishing was \$20,000, of which \$11,000 was received from insurance companies, and the balance subscribed by members of the church and congregation, all of which was provided for prior to the dedicatory service.

Reverend Ferner's pastorate terminated April 29, 1900, and on the 4th of August following, Rev. John R. Ward took charge, remaining until September 5, 1901. His successor was Charles E. Tower, who assumed charge January 12, 1902, and remained until December 11, 1904. The present pastor, Rev. James Thomson, began his pastorate with the church March 5, 1905.

#### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

On July 22, 1909, the corner-stone of the new Baptist Church building was laid, and the ceremonies due such an occasion were observed by the members and a large assemblage of the citizens of Hampton. Mrs. A. L. Clark carefully prepared and read the following history of the Baptist society:

It was away back in the early spring of 1865, when this fair land of ours was under the shadow of a great dark overhanging war cloud, and the hearts of the people were wrung with sorrow, that this church, of which we are the happy and prosperous members, was organized.

As the little flower lifts its head toward the sun from which it receives warmth and life and light, so Christian people in time of

sorrow turn their faces toward the Sun of Righteousness and great Giver of all life and light.

It is not strange then, that at this peculiar time of danger to our country, a few earnest, faithful Christians should be found assembled in a little schoolhouse for the purpose of banding themselves together that they might the more effectually work for the upbuilding of God's kingdom. Such a meeting was held in the old frame schoolhouse, situated on Fourth street, about three blocks east of the courthouse, on February 15, 1865.

The record says: "This day there assembled at the schoolhouse in Hampton, several brethren and sisters who had been members of Baptist churches, and others who had been baptized, for the purpose of organizing a regular Baptist Church.

"Council convened, prayer by Rev. William Wood, of Cedar Falls, who with Rev. T. H. Judson, of West Fork, was invited to a seat in the council.

"Reverend Wood was chosen moderator, and T. H. Judson, clerk. The Articles of Faith, as contained in the Baptist Manual were adopted.

"Twelve persons then entered into covenant with God and with one another, and a church was recognized.

"The names of those who entered into this covenant were William Albright, Jerusha Albright, C. J. Mott, S. C. Mott, Daniel Whitmarsh, Maria Whitmarsh, Mary P. Jones, Hulda St. Clair, Nancy Van Nuys, Elizabeth North, Nancy Grim and Amos Wheeler.

"Prayer was offered by T. H. Judson and it was then voted that this church be called the Hampton Baptist church. Voted that this church extend a call to Rev. T. H. Judson to become its pastor.

"Voted that the following named persons be received for baptism: Brothers Cannam, Grim, Eckly and St. Clair; and Sisters Cannam and Whitmarsh.

"By vote A. D. St. Clair was elected clerk pro tem."

We note that in the covenant meetings of the two following months A. D. St. Clair acted as clerk, and in May he was permanently elected to that office, which he held until March, 1869.

At this time, also, two deacons were elected—Daniel Whitmarsh and William Albright. In August of the same year the following named were elected trustees: Daniel Whitmarsh, William Albright, Jonas Grim and J. C. Cannam. Daniel Whitmarsh was also elected



treasurer, and delegates were appointed "to attend the Cedar Valley Baptist Association, and ask for admission to that body."

Reverend Judson only remained with the church until December, 1866—a little less than two years; but in this time we find the church thoroughly organized for active Christian work. A large number had been added by baptism and by letter, and there was evidence of prosperity and Divine favor.

In April, 1867, the Rev. L. N. Call was in the field, and began a pastorate which lasted until February, 1875, covering a period of almost eight years.

It was during the ministry of Reverend Call, in 1870, that the Sunday school was organized, which has continued its regular sessions until the present, and in the same year the church edifice, which we are now remodeling and enlarging, was built, at a cost of nearly six thousand dollars, the members having previously worshiped, first in the little schoolhouse before mentioned, and later in the old stone schoolhouse, which stood about one block southwest of the courthouse near the present Hampton Hotel.

The project of building the church was started in January, 1869, when lots were secured and a building committee appointed, consisting of the following named brethren: the pastor, Brothers Mott, Greene, Whitney and Clemmer. The work progressed rather slowly, however, and we find that the church was not completed and dedicated until July 17, 1870.

As this was the first church ever erected in Franklin county, it was an important event and drew a large crowd from all over the county, and many from adjoining counties. Rev. N. F. Ravlin, of Chicago, conducted the services of the day, assisted by the pastor, Rev. L. N. Call. . . . We are told that Reverend Ravlin was a man of great ability and that he handled his subjects in a masterly way. A financial statement was made showing that the house had cost nearly six thousand dollars, all of which had been provided for with the exception of about twelve hundred dollars. An appeal was made for pledges to obtain this amount, and in a short time, by the generosity of those present, provision was made for the entire sum.

At the close of the evening service, the prayer of dedication was offered by Reverend Ravlin, who invoked the Divine blessing upon the work so nearly completed, and asked the continual presence of

the Lord of Hosts in the building now solemnly dedicated to his service.

The choir, under the direction of N. B. Chapman, sang the Doxology, in which the whole congregation joined, and the benediction was pronounced, which ended the dedicatory services of the First Baptist church of Hampton. The house thus set apart for public worship was a frame structure, 36x58 feet in size, with the walls twenty feet high. The church grew and prospered under the ministry of its faithful pastor until his labor ended, when the church was without a pastor for about two years. It then extended a call to Rev. William Wilder, June 16, 1877, and his ministry continued four years, ending in June, 1881.

For six months the church was again without a pastor, but in January, 1882, Rev. L. B. Plummer received and accepted a call, and began his labors at once, which continued one year and four months, or until May, 1883.

In July of the same year there was adopted a resolution providing for the first yearly business meeting to be held the last Saturday in June, 1884.

Again the church was without a pastor almost a year, but in March, 1884, we find Rev. B. J. Boardman beginning a pastorate which covered but one year, when, almost immediately, he was succeeded by Rev. J. P. Stephenson, who became pastor in May, 1885, at a salary of \$1,000, per annum, various sums having previously been paid but not exceeding \$900. Reverend Stephenson remained in the pastorate until April 1, 1887, and during this time an addition to the rear of the church was built, the church newly carpeted and other needed improvements made.

The following August, Rev. A. R. Weaver began the longest pastorate in the history of the church (save one, that of Rev. L. N. Call). He labored faithfully and earnestly for this church for more than five years, and was ably assisted by an earnest and consecrated wife. Under the leadership of this devoted couple, the church prospered and the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor (afterward changed to the Baptist Young People's Union) was organized and built up and has been a potent factor for good in the church ever since.

Following the resignation of Reverend Weaver, Father Daniels came to us, and after supplying for a time, became the pastor in February, 1893, serving us one year. It was during this time that the

electric lights were put in the church, the walls repapered and other improvements made.

Rev. J. B. Edmondson immediately succeeded Father Daniels and served the church a little over two years, when he was followed by Rev. D. McMasters, who came in July, 1896. He soon began to talk of a parsonage, which suggestion was favorably met by the members of the church and acted upon. A committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions for the same, and in one month enough money had been raised to warrant the church in beginning the erection of a parsonage, which it proceeded to do at once, and the close of the year 1898 found the pastor housed in a neat, comfortable home, which had been built at a cost of \$1,560. Reverend McMasters' pastorate covered a period of four years, and in July, 1900, he resigned to be succeeded in November following by Rev. J. E. Wilkins, for whom the church held an ordination service on December 12th of the same year, setting him apart to the gospel ministry.

In February, 1901, special meetings were held and February 10th the first Decision Day ever observed by the Baptist Sunday school resulted in the conversion of twenty-six members of the school, most of whom were baptized and received into the church.

In the four months that the church was without a pastor in 1900, the parsonage was papered, the church recarpeted, and a new sidewalk built, at an expense of \$200.

After a pastorate of less than two years, owing to the illness of his wife, Reverend Wilkins found it necessary to resign, June 28, 1902. He was followed in October of the same year by Rev. W. W. Pattengill, who remained with the church until July 31, 1905, when Rev. P. C. Nelson was in the field, beginning his work on the 1st of August and continuing until September 1, 1908.

Rev. E. E. Evans then received and accepted a call to become pastor of the church, and February 1st of the present year (1909) found him comfortably settled in the parsonage and ready to begin the Lords' work in this part of His vineyard.

Very soon the members began to plan to make some repairs upon the church property and on Easter Sunday, April 11, 1909, the project of rebuilding and enlarging was launched. It was at once decided to build and appoint a building committee to secure and submit plans to the church with an approximate cost, and to solicit funds, and if two-thirds of the contract price could be secured in good pledges, to proceed at once to let the contract. . . . The

committee appointed consisted of Rev. E. E. Evans, chairman; W. B. Brian, N. B. Claypool, A. D. St. Clair, G. W. Pease, M. Gokey, John H. Philpot, William Seeger, Frank Dirst and A. C. Typer. This committee at once proceeded to secure plans and solicit subscriptions, and in June let the contract for rebuilding the church to George Sargent, for the sum of \$8,838, exclusive of seats, frescoing and lights. The church was completed and dedicated October 10, 1909.

The present membership of the church is about two hundred, while the Sunday school has an average attendance of eighty. The young people have an organization known as the Baptist Young People's Union, and the only other society of the church is the Woman's Missionary Circle, the members of which perform most of the auxiliary work occasion requires. Reverend Evans closed his pastorate here in April, 1913, and the work was taken up on the 18th of May following by the present incumbent, Rev. N. J. Peterson.

#### CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Christian church of Hampton dates back to the year 1891. On July 12th of that year, G. L. Brokaw, state evangelist, began a tent meeting, which continued six weeks. The meeting resulted in an organization of thirty-seven members, as follows: Mrs. William Parks, Mrs. W. P. Jeffers, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hand, Mr. and Mrs. E. McClellan, M. P. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Hall, Minnie Denton, Emma Parks, Loraine Jeffers, Jennie Whitman, Ethel Whitman, Mr. and Mrs. George Coppernoll, Flora Coppernoll, Ora Coppernoll, Maud Bird, Dora Bird, Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Saffell, Mae Jones, Florence Latham, Minnie Smith, Bertie Smith, Miss Pace, Maggie Myers, Sam Myers, Bert Foughty, Mr. and Mrs. T. I. Wade, Mr. and Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Madden and Mr. Gilchrist.

Reverend Brokaw appointed the following officers for the organization: Doctor Brown, elder; S. E. Hall and N. L. Saffell, deacons; William Parks, S. E. Hall and Doctor Brown, trustees; Mrs. S. E. Hall, treasurer; Loraine Jeffers, clerk.

The new congregation met for a while on Wednesday evenings in the Evangelical church, and George Devol, who was then preaching at Bristow, came over at intervals and held services for the new society. On November 29th the church people secured the use of a hall over Baldwin's drug store, where they held their regular services.

Shortly after this, J. H. Monday was secured to take the pastorate. After a short stay, he was succeeded by B. S. Denny, who remained as the pastor for six and a half years. It was during his ministry that the present house of worship was erected. The building was constructed in the summer of 1892, and dedicated on the 18th day of December the same year, by F. M. Rains, secretary of the Foreign Christian Missionary Society.

Like all other new religious bodies, this church has passed through its own peculiar period of hardships and struggles in its early history; yet the society had a steady growth from the beginning, and today holds a place in the front rank among the churches of Hampton. The Christian church now owns a substantial brick building at the corner of Fourth and Iowa streets, and a modern parsonage, on the lot adjoining; and not a dollar of indebtedness stands against either one. The church meets its local expenses promptly, not allowing them to run behind, gives annually several hundred dollars to foreign missions and has over four hundred dollars on deposit, as the "nest egg" for a building fund, which it hopes to use some time in the interests of all concerned. Already the present building is too small to accommodate the work that is being accomplished.

Following is the list of ministers who have served this church from its beginning: Revs. J. H. Monday, B. S. Denny, Sherman Hill, Howard Cramblet, W. S. Lemon, S. V. Williams, Frank Oviatt, William Baier, L. H. Sours and J. S. Coffin.

#### ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

The first religious services held in Hampton by persons of the Catholic faith took place at the home of Stephen Murphy, in 1870, under the ministrations of Father P. O'Dowd, who at the time resided at Ackley. The ordinance of mass was conducted by Father O'Dowd before a small congregation of men and women. The names of the heads of families are here given: Stephen Murphy, William Keefe, Patrick Rellihan, Patrick Monahan, Bernard McSwiggen, Timothy Flynn, Owen Johnson and James Keefe.

The ministrations of Father O'Dowd continued until 1880 and then Father J. J. Henley attended this parish for a year. He resided at Belmont. From 1882 the church was attended from Ackley by Fathers Daniel Murphy, W. L. Burns and Cannon. In 1892 Father Francis Wrenn was sent to this charge and was the first resident

pastor. He remained until 1893. At this time services were held in Stonebrook's Hall and later over the corner drug store, Reeve and Fifth streets.

Hampton was united to Allison as an out mission and was attended by Father McKeegan about six months. He was succeeded by Father James Ryan in 1894 and it was this pastor who built the church in 1895, and in November of that year Archbishop John Hennessy, of Dubuque, dedicated the house of worship. His Grace was assisted by the following priests: Revs. Fathers Kirby, of Greene; O'Connor, of Oelwein; Burns, of Rockwell; Halpin, of Eldora; and Hennessy, of Nevada. A class of seventy children received the sacrament of confirmation. The altar, donated by a friend outside the parish, was built by Mr. Hackner, of La Crosse, at a cost of \$400. The pews, furnished by the same person, at a cost of \$240, are all that could be desired. W. A. Roberts, of Hampton, was the contractor of the building; he did honest and good work.

Previous to this, in 1903, Father Ryan took up his residence in Hampton, being transferred from Allison. The building committee of the church edifice was Frank Barry and William Ross. In 1904 Father Ryan was succeeded by Father Patrick Smith, who purchased a house near the church and took up his permanent residence. Father William McNamee succeeded him in 1907 and remained until 1909. In February of that year, Father P. J. O'Carragher came but was here only six or eight weeks, when he was succeeded by Father Walter Vaughn, who remained three weeks. On July 3, 1909, Father Nicholas Homan came and stayed until September 1st, when the present pastor, Rev. J. C. Wieneke, was sent here.

In 1910 the church building was greatly improved by renovation, frescoing, and the like, and in 1911 the parsonage was built at a cost of \$4,500. The present value of the church property is estimated to be about \$20,000. The membership increased steadily, and to such an extent that in August, 1913, Rev. Frederick W. McKinley was appointed as assistant to Father Wieneke, so that the charges included in the parish comprising Hampton, Dumont, Allison and Geneva, might have the proper ministrations. The present membership of the Hampton church is thirty families or between one hundred and fifty and two hundred souls. The average number of children in attendance at the Sunday school is thirty.

St. Patrick's church is a credit and monument to the liberality and devotion of the Hampton Catholics. For the princely generosity

of the Protestant friends, manifested on more than one occasion, the church has nothing but words of praise, gratitude and earnest appreciation.

#### ALBRECHT EVANGELICAL CHURCH

The Hampton mission of the church denoted in the caption at the head of this article, was organized December 10, 1882, by Rev. William Kolb, with a membership of sixteen. Only two of the families, Messelheiser and Klousia, now remain in this vicinity. For a number of years services were conducted in homes and other suitable places in the town. In 1891, a house of worship was erected on the corner of Franklin and Fourth streets. It is a frame structure, 28x44 feet, and cost something over two thousand dollars.

Rev. H. Butz came to this charge in 1891 and it was during his ministration here that the church was built. The year following, during the pastorate of Rev. H. Sassman, the old parsonage was sold, a new lot adjoining the church site secured, and a new residence for the pastor was erected, at a cost of about two thousand dollars.

Rev. V. Griese was the next pastor. He came in 1886 and remained until 1888. His successors follow: F. Tenz, L. F. Smith, G. P. Cawelti, Louis Scheurer, F. J. Lantow, A. F. Herzberg and J. Haehlen, the latter coming in April, 1912.

At present this mission consists of one appointment, with a membership of sixty, a Sunday school of eighty pupils, a Young People's Association of twenty members, a faithful Woman's Missionary Society and an active Ladies' Aid Society. The condition of the field is encouraging, in spite of a great loss occasioned by the moving away of a number of families.

At a schoolhouse in Mott township, northeast of Hampton, a Union Sunday school is held and there Reverend Haehlen preaches each Sunday afternoon.

#### HAMPTON CEMETERY

In the silent little city on the hill, in the northeast part of Hampton, lie peacefully sleeping many of the men and women who were factors in the making of this beautiful city of homes, churches and commercial activities. They performed the duties of life to the lasting benefit of posterity and repose in the sleep of the just. Their

sepultures were but the forerunners of scores upon scores of others, who followed the course of nature, gave up the spirit to their Maker and became tenants of this "God's Acre," one of Hampton's beauty spots, held in reverence by all her people.

The first burial place selected by the citizens of Hampton was a plot of ground west of the village, on the south side of Squaw creek, and the first interment was that of the body of a Mrs. Ryan, who froze to death in the winter of 1856-57. Several burials took place here before the grounds were abandoned for that purpose.

At a meeting held at the courthouse, on Saturday, July 11, 1863, for the purpose of organizing the Hampton Cemetery Association, George H. Ingham was chosen president, George Beed secretary, and J. J. Johnson treasurer; G. H. Ingham, A. Rice, J. J. Johnson, Nial McDonald and George Beed, trustees.

In September, 1863, the association purchased two and one-half acres of land of Obadiah Smith, in the northeast corner of the town, and laid out the tract into burial lots, many of which were immediately sold. Bodies deposited in the old burial grounds were disinterred and laid in newly-made graves in the cemetery, probably never more to be disturbed by the hand of man. Ten years later ten acres of land were added to the grounds and from time to time other additions have been made. Today the Hampton cemetery is comprised of about twenty-five acres, the additions surrounding the original plot of ground.

Hampton people take great pride in their cemetery, in the way of caring for the grounds and beautifying them. A sexton is employed for the purpose and he performs his duties so well that Hampton cemetery makes one of the city's show places, regardless of its mournful and distressing associations.

In the northwest corner of the cemetery is a spot devoted to the burial of those of the Catholic faith. This is consecrated ground and many former members of St. Patrick's parish have found a final resting place here.

Some years ago, the women of Hampton took upon themselves an urgent though loving duty—the beautifying of the cemetery grounds and their constant superintendence. An association was formed, designated the Ladies' Cemetery Aid Society, whose members have been diligent and painstaking in the task assumed, in changing the aspect of the burial grounds from a general appearance of neglect into a cleanly, systematized and regulated place of burial. The grass



is kept trimmed, walks and drives are free from weeds and litter; flowers abound in profusion and a sense of orderliness and adornment is apparent on every hand. Under the vigilant and loving hands of Hampton's women, the Hampton cemetery has become a beauty spot, that is pointed out to the visitor with pride and admiration. Just credit is due the Ladies' Cemetery Aid Society for all that has been accomplished in the premises.

## CHAPTER XXVIII

### MAYORS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY'S CHIEF CITY—OTHER OFFICIALS OF THE MUNICIPALITY—SKETCHES OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVES FROM 1871 TO 1903.

Here follow the names of citizens who have held the offices of mayor, clerk, and councilmen since the year 1871:

1871: Mayor, William Raymond; recorder, S. M. Jones; trustees, C. W. Boutin, W. P. Smith, D. G. Carbaugh, A. T. Reeve, D. W. Dow.

1872: Mayor, Allen Greene; recorder, S. M. Jones; trustees, A. T. Reeve, D. G. Carbaugh, W. G. Beed, W. H. Crawford, William Raymond.

1873: Mayor, W. B. Vanderveer; recorder, S. M. Jones; trustees, W. H. Crawford, George W. Shane, Austin North, I. F. White, J. F. Latimer.

1874: Mayor, Austin North; recorder, A. I. Smith; trustees, W. P. Smith, N. McDonald, A. J. Cannam, S. M. Jones, H. A. Harriman.

1875: Mayor, T. C. McKenzie; recorder, J. C. Harwood; trustees, G. W. Shane, W. J. Stonebraker, George Beed, W. H. Crawford, U. Weeks.

1876: Mayor, T. C. McKenzie; recorder, O. F. Sweet; trustees, W. J. Stonebraker, G. W. Shane, William Parr, J. B. Goldsborough, George Beed.

1877: Mayor, O. B. Harriman; recorder, O. F. Sweet; trustees, S. S. Coon, G. W. Shane, William Parr, William Parks, W. J. Stonebraker.

1878: Mayor, O. B. Harriman; recorder, O. F. Sweet; trustees, W. J. Stonebraker, William Parks, S. S. Coon, E. S. Patterson, N. W. Beebe.

1879: This year a new law went into effect whereby the number of trustees was increased from five to six, the term of office to be three years, the first trustees to be chosen to draw lots, two to hold one year, two for two years and two for three years.

Mayor, O. B. Harriman; recorder, W. T. O. Rule; trustees, O. F. Sweet, J. W. Johnson, J. T. Stearns, W. J. Stonebraker, N. W. Beebe, W. F. Harriman.

1880: Mayor, J. F. Latimer; recorder, W. T. O. Rule; trustees, N. W. Beebe, W. F. Harriman, J. T. Stearns, W. J. Stonebraker, J. W. Johnson, O. F. Sweet.

1881: Mayor, J. F. Latimer; recorder, M. A. Ives; trustees, J. W. Johnson, N. W. Beebe, W. J. Stonebraker, W. F. Harriman, O. F. Sweet, S. S. Coon.

1882: Mayor, W. F. Harriman; recorder, M. A. Ives; trustees, J. W. Johnson, Charles Schabacker, O. F. Sweet, L. P. Holden, W. J. Stonebraker, C. W. Boutin.

1883: Mayor, W. F. Harriman; recorder, M. A. Ives; trustees, J. W. Johnson, Charles Schabacker, L. P. Holden, C. W. Boutin, W. J. Stonebraker, T. C. McKenzie.

1884: Mayor, Ezra King; recorder, M. A. Ives; trustees, T. H. Coble, Robert Slee, J. W. Johnson, L. P. Holden, C. W. Boutin, Charles Schabacker.

1885: Mayor, N. W. Beebe; recorder, M. A. Ives; trustees, G. W. Pease, J. H. Hutchins, J. W. Johnson, Charles Schabacker, Robert Slee, T. H. Coble.

1886: Mayor, N. W. Beebe; recorder, S. J. Parker; trustees, Charles Schabacker, Frank Kratochvil, T. H. Coble, Robert Slee, L. P. Holden, C. W. Boutin.

1887: Mayor, A. T. Reeve; recorder, S. J. Parker; trustees, Robert Slee, Charles Beed, Frank Kratochvil, T. H. Coble, L. P. Holden, C. W. Boutin.

1888: Mayor, A. T. Reeve; recorder, S. J. Parker; trustees, J. H. Hutchins, B. G. Cunningham, Charles Schabacker, Frank Kratochvil, Robert Slee, Charles Beed.

1889: Mayor, E. C. Grenelle; recorder, S. J. Parker; trustees, J. H. Hutchins, Robert Slee, Robert Jeffers, Frank Kratochvil, Charles Beed, B. G. Cunningham.

1890: Mayor, J. M. Hemingway; recorder, Charles Krag; trustees, L. P. Holden, Henry Proctor, Frank Kratochvil, Frank D. Smith, Robert Jeffers, B. G. Cunningham, J. H. Hutchins.

1891: Mayor, J. M. Hemingway; recorder, Charles Krag; trustees, L. P. Holden, Henry Proctor, Frank Kratochvil, Frank D. Smith, Robert Jeffers, B. G. Cunningham.

1892: Mayor, J. M. Hemingway; recorder, Charles Krag; trustees, Henry Proctor, Frank Kratochvil, Frank D. Smith, John Hunt, E. P. Andrews, L. P. Holden.

1893: The incorporated town was divided into four wards and became a city of the second class.

Mayor, E. S. Patterson; city clerk, Charles Krag; councilmen, 1st ward, Frank Kratochvil, W. H. Hoxie; 2d ward, Henry Proctor, J. W. Johnson; 3d ward, John Hunt, I. W. Myers; 4th ward, O. B. Harriman, J. H. Beed.

1894: Mayor, E. S. Patterson; city clerk, Charles Krag; councilmen, 1st ward, W. H. Hoxie; S. J. Parker; 2d ward, A. W. Beed, J. W. Johnson; 3d ward, I. W. Myers, S. E. Hall; 4th ward, O. B. Harriman, J. H. Beed.

1895: Mayor, Frank Kratochvil; city clerk, Charles Krag; councilmen, S. J. Parker, E. M. Funk, A. W. Beed, M. B. Jones, I. W. Myers, S. E. Hall, J. H. VanNuys, F. D. Smith.

1896: Mayor, Frank Kratochvil; city clerk, Charles Krag; councilmen, S. J. Parker, E. M. Funk, A. W. Beed, J. P. Ott, I. W. Myers, S. E. Hall, J. H. VanNuys, F. D. Smith.

1897: Mayor, D. W. Dow; city clerk, Charles Krag; councilmen, S. J. Parker, Jacob Pohl, A. W. Beed, J. P. Ott, J. W. Bailey, E. C. Keifer, S. E. Hall, J. H. VanNuys, F. D. Smith.

1898: Mayor, D. W. Dow; city clerk, Charles Krag; councilmen, S. J. Parker, Jacob Pohl, George Messelheiser, J. P. Ott, J. W. Bailey, E. C. Keifer, J. H. VanNuys, F. D. Smith.

1899: Mayor, Frank Kratochvil; city clerk, Charles Krag; councilmen, T. J. B. Robinson, J. N. Mallon, George Messelheiser, W. D. Ott, E. M. Wescott, B. L. Crawford, J. H. VanNuys, G. E. Sargent.

1900: Mayor, Frank Kratochvil; city clerk, Charles Krag; councilmen, T. J. B. Robinson, J. N. Mallon, W. D. Ott, J. P. Ott, E. M. Wescott, J. M. Snyder, J. E. Harriman, W. T. O. Rule.

1901: Mayor, B. H. Mallory; city clerk, B. D. Hunt; councilmen, T. J. B. Robinson, E. A. Roemer, G. F. Smith, J. P. Ott, E. M. Wescott, J. M. Snyder, J. E. Harriman, W. T. O. Rule.

1902: Mayor, B. H. Mallory; city clerk, B. D. Hunt; councilmen, H. Skow, E. A. Roemer, G. F. Smith, G. E. Sargent, E. M. Wescott, J. M. Snyder, J. E. Harriman, W. T. O. Rule.

1903: Mayor, S. J. Parker; city clerk, B. D. Hunt; councilmen, H. Skow, V. J. Kratz, G. F. Smith, G. E. Sargent, E. M. Wescott, S. W. Ferris, H. H. Wheeler, W. T. O. Rule.

1904: Mayor, S. J. Parker; city clerk, B. D. Hunt; councilmen, H. Skow, V. J. Kratz, G. F. Smith, G. E. Sargent, T. H. Coble, S. W. Ferris, H. H. Wheeler, T. C. Cartwright.

1905: S. J. Parker; city clerk, B. D. Hunt; councilmen, H. H. Andrews, L. B. Raymond, H. Skow, N. A. Inglis, G. E. Sargent, T. H. Coble, S. W. Ferris, H. H. Wheeler, J. E. Harriman.

1906: Mayor, S. J. Parker; city clerk, D. W. Parks; councilmen, C. F. Roemer, W. T. Webb, N. A. Inglis, G. E. Sargent, T. H. Coble, S. W. Ferris, Chris Simonsen, J. E. Harriman.

1907: Mayor, E. L. Coldren; city clerk, E. D. Haecker; councilmen, C. F. Roemer, W. T. Webb, N. A. Inglis, G. E. Sargent, T. H. Coble, J. M. Snyder, C. Simonsen, E. A. Beebe.

1908: Mayor, E. L. Coldren; city clerk, E. D. Haecker; councilmen, C. E. Roemer, W. T. Webb, N. A. Inglis, G. E. Sargent, J. M. Snyder, T. H. Coble, H. O. Beed, C. Simonsen, E. A. Beebe.

1909: Mayor, A. D. Haecker; clerk, W. H. Leckey; councilmen, Frank Kratochvil, J. W. Cummings, George Patterson, Lewis H. Carter, H. C. Beed, C. Simonsen.

1911: Mayor, D. W. Parks; clerk, W. H. Leckey; councilmen, D. W. Mott, Jr., J. W. Cummings, C. D. Williams, Lewis H. Carter, D. B. Henderson, W. W. Pratt.

1913: Mayor, D. W. Parks; F. G. Luke appointed by mayor to fill unexpired term of W. H. Leckey as clerk. Luke's resignation took effect in July, 1913, when Levi Talhelm was appointed. Councilmen, J. W. Cummings, D. W. Mott, Jr., W. T. Webb, L. H. Carter, N. E. Ferris, Charles Chadima.

William Raymond, the first mayor of Hampton, was elected to the office in the spring of 1871. He had come to Hampton the October previous from Crawford county, Wisconsin, where he had served a term in the Wisconsin Legislature. He was in trade here at the time, and was a man whom everybody liked. He was a cool-headed man of excellent judgment, and when he removed to California a dozen years later, he left behind him a host of warm friends.

March 4, 1872, the second election was held. If there was any caucus held, it has passed from our recollection, and our files are silent on the subject. The list of officers elected is given, with the statement that they were elected by majorities ranging from twenty-five upwards. Allen Green was elected mayor. "Squire" Green, as he was called then, and still is called, had been a resident here at

that time for two or three years, and discharged his duties as mayor, as he has always done everything else, with honesty and fidelity.

The third election was held March 3, 1873. It was the most "strenuous" of any heretofore held in the young city, but there is a hiatus in our files from February 26th to March 12th, and as the writer was out of town during the campaign that preceded the election, it is impossible to tell now what the issues were, or whether any caucuses were held or not. But we do recollect that the contest for mayor was between W. B. Vanderveer and Col. C. W. Boutin, and that the former was elected. We have the impression from the names of those elected trustees at the same time, that it was a victory for the "wide open" element of the town. And by the way, from about this time down to the passage of the prohibitory law, the issues at municipal elections here were always about the same: whether we should have absolute prohibition in the town or not. It must be remembered that during this period, we virtually had local option in the state and the "liberal" element, who wanted saloons, always in every instance, held the balance of power, and their votes generally decided the contest. But not all the supporters of the liberal candidates were for saloons, so that in every instance after election, the newly elected administration refused to license saloons, or countenance them in any way. Colonel Vanderveer was a pleasant, amiable old gentleman, and left here as early as 1876-77 and has been dead over twenty years.

A new issue entered into the contest in 1874, or rather it may be said to have been an old one revived. To explain this, it will be necessary to go back a few years. A man named George Ryan, one of the early settlers of Hampton, and the owner of a portion of the original town plat, gave to the town the public square that is now our city park, with the expectation that it would be used as a site for the courthouse. It was not so used, the square donated by Job Garner, where the courthouse now stands, being used for that purpose. Along about 1868-69, some parties who were conversant with the facts, hunted up Ryan in Missouri, and for a consideration, secured from him a quit-claim to the square, the intention being to have the town council vacate it, when it would revert to Ryan, and thence to his assigns, the purchasers of the quit-claim. An attempt was made in 1871 to secure the vacation, and our recollection is that the council did pass a resolution for such vacation, but some of the taxpayers speedily took the matter into court and secured an injunction which still held good in 1874, so that the question was regarded

as settled. But as the municipal election of this year approached, the cry was raised that an attempt would be made to elect an administration that would be in favor of the vacation of the square, and the question sprang into new life as an issue. Much excitement was manifested and two caucuses were held. At the first caucus J. W. McKenzie was nominated for mayor, and Josiah Phelps, G. W. Shane, J. C. Whitney, J. H. Beed and U. Weeks for trustees. This ticket was claimed to represent the anti-vacation people, as well as the temperance element of the town. Those who held the other caucus nominated Judge Austin North for mayor, and W. P. Smith, S. M. Jones, H. A. Harriman, A. J. Cannam and Nial McDonald for trustees. They were accused of being not only in favor of vacating the square, but of licensing saloons. At the election held on the 2d of March, the ticket headed by Judge North was elected by majorities ranging from twenty down to a tie between McDonald and Phelps, each having ninety-seven for trustee, but at a subsequent special election, McDonald was elected by a large majority. But no movement was made looking to the vacation of the square, or to licensing saloons. Judge North discharged his duties as mayor with caution and prudence and resided in Hampton to the end of his days, passing away a few years ago at a ripe old age.

The election of 1875 was remarkably tame, but one caucus being held, and all the nominations being made by acclamation, and the election was about all one way, the only ripple of excitement being over the question which the council had submitted to the voters, as to whether saloons should be licensed or not. Tom C. McKenzie was elected mayor, and the vote in favor of license was 73, against 116.

Mr. McKenzie was re-elected mayor in 1876, being the first mayor to succeed himself. He was nominated at a "citizens" caucus with no opposition. His subsequent career and untimely death in 1883, are both well remembered by our older citizens, and we think it no discredit to any one to say that Tom McKenzie was the most popular man who ever lived in Hampton.

Dr. O. B. Harriman was the next mayor of Hampton, having been made the unanimous nominee at a "union" caucus. There was a second ticket out, however, headed by George Beed for mayor, but we can find no account of any second caucus. Doctor Harriman was elected by a vote of 146 to 81 for Mr. Beed and the entire ticket headed by him went through with good majorities. It is our recollection that the use of Mr. Beed's name in this connection was against

his wish and in spite of his earnest declination. Doctor Harriman was re-elected to a second term in 1878, and it must have been practically unanimous as we find no mention of any caucuses or even of the results of the election.

At the election of 1879, the new law came in force, authorizing the election of six trustees, who should draw lots for terms of office; two for one year, two for two years, and two for three years. As early as February 13th, before the municipal election, a caucus was held under a call for a "temperance caucus" at which Captain R. S. Benson was nominated for mayor by a vote of fifty-five out of sixty-one votes cast, and W. G. Beed, J. B. Galer, C. W. Boutin, W. F. Harriman, D. W. Henley and G. M. Spencer named for trustees. A "citizens" caucus was held March 1st, at which Doctor Harriman was renominated for mayor and N. W. Beebe, O. F. Sweet, J. W. Johnson, W. J. Stonebraker, J. T. Stearns and J. F. Latimer nominated for trustees. At the election, Doctor Harriman was successful by a vote of 172 to 106 for Captain Benson, and the only men elected on the ticket headed by him and called the "anti-license" ticket were W. F. Harriman for trustee, who "scratched in," defeating J. F. Latimer of the "citizens" ticket, and W. T. O. Rule, who was elected recorder over E. B. Hill. The result of the election was but another example of what was evident at previous and subsequent elections: that the majority of the voters were opposed to license, but at the same time unwilling to trust the enforcement of the laws for the suppression of the liquor traffic to the most radical supporters of such laws, and while it might have been expected in some quarters that this administration would favor licensing saloons, we find nothing in our files for the succeeding year indicating that any move was made in that direction. Doctor Harriman was the first man elected mayor of Hampton three times, and served as postmaster during Cleveland's first administration. He is now deceased.

There was but one ticket in the field in 1880, J. F. Latimer being elected mayor without opposition. In 1881, the license question was again brought to the front, and an "anti-license" ticket placed in the field, but Mr. Latimer was on both of the two tickets, and the "anti-license" trustees were elected by a vote of 149 to 105, this being the first and last time that any man had ever been elected to the town council on a distinctively anti-license ticket, except W. F. Harriman, as above stated. Mr. Latimer gave the town an excellent and satisfac-



tory administration. His death occurred in recent years in Delevan, Wisconsin.

At the municipal election of March 6, 1882, the license question was again dug up and brought to the front, although every candidate on both of the two tickets in the field, declared himself against license. W. F. Harriman was elected mayor on a ticket headed the "Citizens," by 211 votes to 126 for G. G. Clemmer on a ticket headed "No License." On the license question, submitted to the voters, the vote stood 84 for and 225 against. The Recorder, a couple of days after the election, in commenting upon the result, states that "in many respects the fight was a repetition of former municipal contests, the vote being overwhelmingly against license, but the voters showing a decided disinclination to trust to the enforcement of the laws to the most radical men, or to those supposed to be the most radical."

The election of March 5, 1883, was said at the time to be the most quiet ever held in the town, Mayor Harriman being re-elected without opposition. Mr. Harriman afterward served four years as a member of the lower House of our State Legislature and eight years as a State Senator.

The campaign of 1884 was brief, but red hot. A "Citizens" caucus had nominated a ticket, headed by D. W. Dow for mayor. The writer was out of town during the entire campaign and cannot now tell what the issues were; but a "Peoples" ticket made its appearance the morning of the election, headed by Ezra King for mayor, which swept the field, Mr. King being elected by a vote of 172 to 143 for his opponent. At the same election the question of fire protection was submitted to the voters, with the result that the electors decided by a vote of 127 to 20 to have no waterworks, and by 106 to 90 to have no cisterns or engines.

It was afterwards ascertained that the council had the power without referring the matter to the voters, to purchase fire-fighting apparatus and construct cisterns, which they did, thereby expending quite a large sum of money and running the corporation somewhat into debt, which caused the cry of extravagance to be raised at the expiration of Mayor King's term, although no serious claim was made that any money had been expended illegally. Two caucuses were held, N. W. Beebe being nominated for mayor by a "Citizens" caucus, and James Thompson, in spite of his own protest, was nominated by a "Republican" caucus. The supporters of the latter ticket became discouraged by the morning of election and virtually

laid down, leaving it a walk-away for Mr. Beebe, who was elected by a vote of 242 to 112 for Mr. Thompson.

Two caucuses were held in 1886, Mr. Beebe being the nominee of both. The tickets were known as the time-honored "Citizens" ticket and the "Law and Order" ticket. As to councilmen, the honors were easy, one being elected on each ticket. After serving as mayor, Mr. Beebe filled the office of county treasurer for two terms.

Again in 1887, there were two caucuses held, Col. A. T. Reeve being the nominee of both. The "Citizens," however, elected the balance of their ticket.

In 1888 there were also two tickets in the field, the "Republican," headed by Colonel Reeve, and the "Peoples," headed by W. J. Stonebraker. Colonel Reeve was elected by a vote of 150 to 146 for Mr. Stonebraker.

About the close of his second term, Colonel Reeve was appointed chief clerk of the seed division of the Agricultural Department at Washington and died there in October succeeding. He lies buried in the Hampton cemetery.

March 6, 1889, E. C. Grenelle was elected mayor by a vote of 212 to 127 for Charles Schabacker. We do not remember of any particular issue being raised, aside from the same old question of close or liberal control in reference to the liquor question, Mr. Grenelle having the support of the liberal element.

The campaign of 1890 was active, and Mr. Grenelle was a candidate for a second term, but was beaten by J. M. Hemingway by a vote of 202 to 175. Mr. Grenelle was one of the few mayors of Hampton within our recollection, who suffered defeat from a too thorough enforcement of the laws, whereby he lost the support of the liberal element, who had supported him a year before. His administration was not free from mistakes, but no mayor has ever more rigidly adhered to the ordinances in the enforcement of penalties for violation.

Mayor Hemingway was reelected without opposition in 1891 and 1892. During his administration our waterworks were commenced, and the city established its public library.

E. S. Patterson was elected mayor in 1893. It was the first election after the division of the city into wards, the 2,500 mark in population having been passed, so that it became a city in fact, instead of an incorporated town, and under this law, in operation since, the mayor holds his office for two years. Mr. Patterson was nominated at a

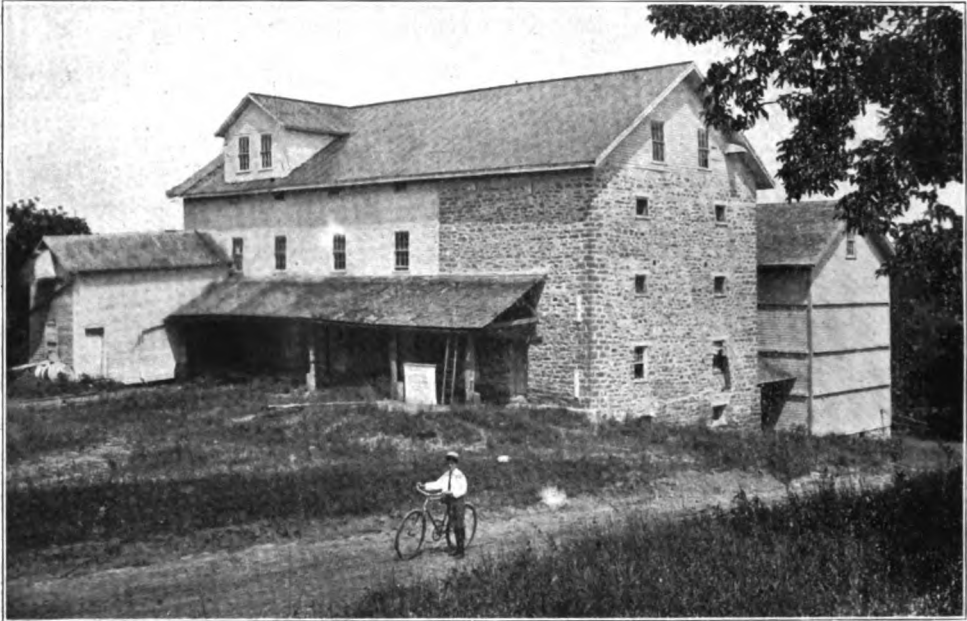
delegate convention, and if he had any opposition at the election, it was not formidable enough so that we find any mention of it in our columns. Mr. Patterson gave to the city an efficient administration, applying to the conduct of its affairs the same business principles that have brought success in the management of his private affairs. He declined a reelection, and Frank Kratochvil was elected mayor in 1895, practically without opposition. With the large appropriations hitherto made for waterworks and other purposes, the city finances had fallen to a low ebb, and Mr. Kratochvil and the council applied themselves faithfully to the task of paying off the debts, and putting the city finances on a safe foundation.

D. W. Dow was elected mayor in 1897, Mr. Kratochvil having peremptorily declined a reelection. Mr. Dow was nominated by acclamation and elected without opposition. But he was defeated for reelection in 1899 by Mr. Kratochvil, by a vote of 415 to 153, Kratochvil running as the candidate of the "Citizens" caucus, and Mayor Dow as the candidate of a "Republican" caucus. The issues raised in these later campaigns are too fresh in the minds of our readers to justify any reference to them in this article.

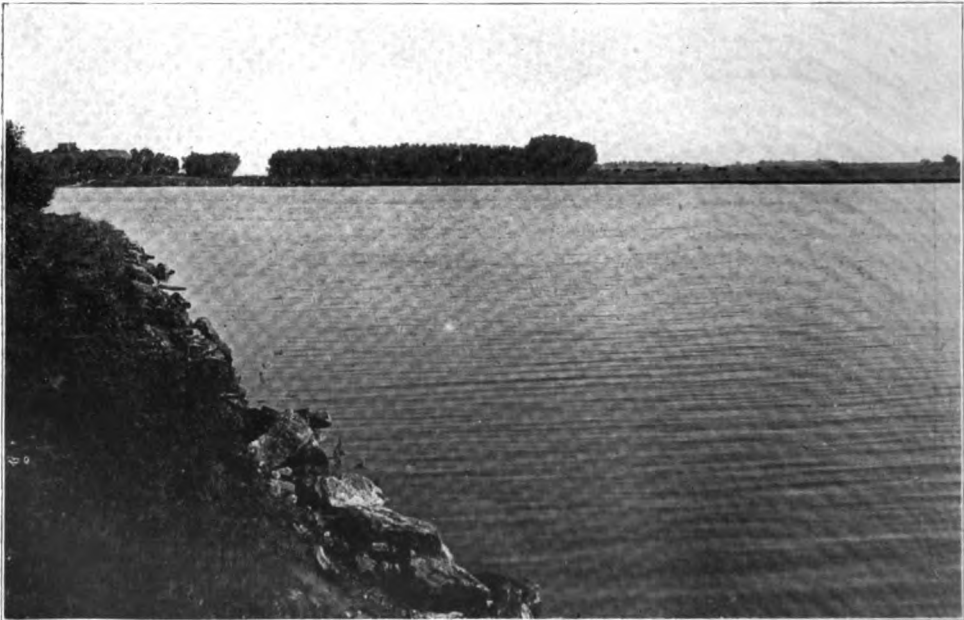
B. H. Mallory was elected mayor in 1901, as the candidate of a "Citizens" caucus, receiving 283 votes to 238 for T. E. B. Hudson, the candidate of a "Peoples" caucus.

In 1903, Col. S. J. Parker was elected mayor on the "Peoples" ticket by a vote of 364 to 230 for J. M. Snyder, the "Citizens" candidate.





**BEED'S FLOURING MILL**  
Built in 1859 and Still Standing



**BEED'S LAKE, HAMPTON**

## CHAPTER XXIX

AN HISTORIC OLD MILL—BUILT IN 1859 BY A. K. HANSBERRY WHO LIVED WITH HIS FAMILY IN THE LOWER STORY—KNOWN AS BEED'S MILL OVER A HALF CENTURY—BEED'S LAKE AND PLEASURE RESORT.

A beginning was made on the mill property by A. K. Hansberry in 1857. He built a dam, where a portion of the present dam is, but was not as high as the present one by at least ten feet. He also dug a race nearly parallel with the present one, but it was ten feet lower than the present one, and not over three and a half feet deep.

Hansberry first built a sawmill that stood west of where the gristmill is, and utilized it to saw out the oak lumber used in the construction of the mill. In 1858 the stone work of the mill was done but the building and fixtures were not completed until 1859. The original building was not one-fourth the size of the present mill, being but two stories in height and sloping down to one story on the east side. After it was in operation, Mr. Hansberry and family lived in the lower story, and the flour, when any was made, came down into a room adjoining the one in which the family lived. During the winter seasons much of the time the mill did not run, for the reason that the water in the race froze clear to the bottom, and Mr. Beed remembers that in two or three dry spells the water in the race was so low that the mill was compelled to suspend operations.

Hansberry was a Campbellite preacher and was away preaching much of the time, leaving matters at home in the hands of hired help who were not always honest or faithful, and his venture was never a paying one. Mr. Beed thinks that a relative of Mr. Hansberry, John McDonald, of Marietta, Ohio, furnished what funds were put into the venture, and in 1861, Mr. McDonald came on from Ohio and took possession of the property, employing a man named Albright as manager of the mill. But he made no material improvements in the property, and November 16, 1864, he sold the mill, including 134 acres of land and the right of way occupied by the race, to Mr. Beed for \$6,500. Mr. Beed immediately commenced improving and add-

ing to the property, and kept adding to it the latest improved fixtures and appliances so that it kept up with the times.

The only store ever at the mill was when a few goods were kept in the little building, yet standing on the north side of the road just west of the mill, now filled with discarded and worn out mill grindings, where the late Nial McDonald occupied it as a dwelling during a year or so of the time that his brother, John McDonald, owned the property. The stock consisted of a few groceries and the whole outfit could be packed into a peddler's wagon, and in fact we believe that Nial McDonald did run such a wagon. At all events, the place never cut any figure as a store, and the stock, such as it was, was closed out a year or two before Mr. Beed bought the property.

Mr. Beed entered the mercantile business in Hampton in 1859, buying out a Mr. Keyes, who was a partner with James Thompson, and after remaining in partnership with Mr. Thompson about two years, bought him out in 1861 and continued to trade in Hampton for many years, as many of the people will remember.

During the years when wheat was the main crop in this portion of the state and custom work was being done, the mill made money, but Mr. Beed expended all its earnings, and probably more, in improving the property. It is not called to mind how many times the dam was washed out, and if there was ever any improved mill appliances or mill fixtures to be had, Mr. Beed put them into the mill. Besides, he put forty years of the hardest kind of work into it, and for years it has been a common saying that William G. Beed gave more hours to his business than any man in Hampton.

It goes without saying that after the decline of wheat raising in this country, the mill worked against great odds. For the bulk of the wheat was shipped here from other states and not only that but was hauled by teams from the depot to the mill, a distance of three miles, and the flour or feed from the mill back to the depot or to Hampton. Even with this disadvantage, Mr. Beed thought that the mill could be operated without serious loss if it could only have the patronage of the home market. But other cheaper brands of flour in which there was greater profit, were extensively handled by local dealers, so that the local product had no advantage in the local market.

Mr. Beed believed that wheat sufficient for home consumption at least, could be successfully raised in Franklin county. In the spring of 1904 he sent to South Dakota and got a carload of seed, which he

sold to farmers at cost, but he only disposed of a little over a third of the carload but those who did sow of the seed got a better quality of wheat than was raised in Dakota where the seed came from.

This mill was always an important factor in the growth and development of Hampton and Franklin county. Before the advent of the first railroad, it afforded a home market for wheat, then the principal product here. Later its custom work for the farmers of all this vicinity was a great convenience. It was always a regulator of the home flour market and was an insurmountable obstacle to combinations in the price of that staple, or to extortion of extravagant prices. It employed more labor and paid out more for wages than any other interest ever in Franklin county, save and except the railroads. It always supported from three to five families and the aggregate of Mr. Beed's payroll during the forty or more years of the mill's activity here would capitalize several national banks.

This old landmark has been for some years past out of commission. The building is, however, pointed out to the stranger as one of the historic objects of Franklin county and is looked upon with interest by all who secure even a moiety of its history.

#### BEED'S LAKE

The people of Franklin county have a resort at Beed's lake, about four miles northwest of Hampton, and here in the summer months gather picnic, fishing and boating parties, where the days are spent in the open and under the spreading limbs and foliage of a beautiful grove of trees. This body of water was secured by building a retaining wall at one end of a depression of a tract of land and confining the water from Spring creek, which flows into it. This gives a body of water covering about sixty acres. A number of boats belonging to frequenters of the lake float upon its surface and in the grove have been placed a toboggan slide and other apparatus to amuse the visitor. The owner has always been very generous in giving visitors free access to the grounds and lake, which each season have been under the supervision of a caretaker, whose services have been paid by private subscription. Beed's lake is the only one in the county and is valued exceedingly by lovers of boating and other outdoor sports.













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