

Stumping the Territory in 1843

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appeared in the proceedings of the learned societies and in the official publications of the national scientific bureaus.

Mr. Leverett is a member of many geological and other scientific societies. Nor is his interest confined to the natural sciences alone, for not a few of the political and social science associations have his name enrolled on their memberships.

STUMPING THE TERRITORY IN 1843.

A. C. Dodge, of Burlington, was the Democratic candidate, and William Henry Wallace, of Mt. Pleasant, the Whig candidate for delegate to Congress in 1843. They stumped the Territory together, speaking in nearly all the twenty counties which were then organized. The following reminiscence of their visit at the county-seat of Clayton county was given by an old settler of that region, sixteen years afterward:

"Some sixty electors had gathered in a ring on the prairie, in the center of which was laid down a piece of timber, hewn on two sides. Presently the candidates rode up, alighted, took off their saddles, tied their horses head and foot, turned them out to graze, walked into the ring, and introduced themselves. Dodge took off his hat, stepped upon the stick of timber, made a polite bow, and for an hour and a half made a fine speech. I was disappointed in the man; I had heard so much about the awkward ox-driver and wood-sawyer that I expected little from him, but when his speech was concluded I set him down as no ordinary man; self-drilled, self-educated, his manner showed a man of no common intellect.

"In the midst of Mr. Wallace's eloquent speech a large snake of the blue racer species appeared in the ring, and was driven out, but appeared again. Some took its part and swore it should remain. There came near being a melee. Dodge requested order, and suggested it should be unmo-
lestated, which was acceded to, and the speeches went on."

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