

## The Historical Building

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State the eyes of the world are directed for a complete time-scale of ice-movements, with which glacial deposits in all parts of the globe may be compared.

Specific investigations in geology more than in any other branch of science are dependent upon local environment. No better illustration is found than in our own State of Iowa where the glacial phenomena are so beautifully and so extensively displayed. Attention has been called from time to time, in *THE ANNALS*, to some of the work done within the borders of Iowa. Of the labors of the eminent Iowa scientists, W J McGee, Samuel Calvin, J. E. Todd, H. F. Bain, and Frank Leverett, in glacial geology, our people may well be proud. The works of these men have attracted the notice of the whole scientific world. The latest contribution to American Glaciology is by a native Iowan, Mr. Frank Leverett, whose great volume, just leaving the government printing office, is considered fully in another place in this number of *THE ANNALS*. A brief sketch of the life of this distinguished author and scientist and his portrait are also given.

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### THE HISTORICAL BUILDING.

This new edifice was contracted to be finished October 1, 1899; but owing to the difficulty of securing materials the work was still unfinished at the meeting of the legislature on the 8th day of January, 1900. The Board of Control had been temporarily assigned to the rooms of the Lieutenant Governor and two of the Senate committee rooms, which they were occupying when the legislature convened. A committee was appointed by the Senate to report such action as would meet the emergency and provide that body with necessary rooms. This committee reported, recommending that the Historical Collections be transferred at once to the new building, and that the Board of Health should be housed with the Horticultural Society. The Board of Con-

trol were ordered to occupy the rooms to be thus vacated by the Historical Department and the Board of Health. These recommendations were carried into effect as rapidly as transfers could be made to the new quarters. The collections of the Historical Department were therefore removed to the new edifice, though a dozen men were still at work in the various rooms. It was a difficult job, but still undertaken cheerfully, and the transfer made as rapidly as possible. While the new rooms would have been voted unfit to become the receptacle of so much and such valuable property, it is believed that the work was performed with little damage to the articles so hastily removed to the new building. At this writing (March 15) the work of permanently arranging the museum materials—including the Landon Hamilton collection—is proceeding as rapidly as possible. Furniture and fixtures await the action of the legislature.

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AT THE BEGINNING of this year the Geological Society of London, the oldest, most honored and most honorable of all the geological societies of the world, elected Dr. Charles A. White, now of Washington, D. C., to a foreign-membership of that body. Dr. White, long a resident of Burlington, was State Geologist of Iowa from 1866 to 1870, and professor of natural history in our State University from 1867 to 1873. Later, he held the same position in Bowdoin College. He was connected with the three great geological surveys of this country and with that of Brazil. His works have given him high rank at home and abroad, and his bibliography runs up to 200 titles. He is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and of the National Academy of Sciences, as well as of many foreign scientific bodies. Iowa College some years ago conferred upon him the degree of A. M., and the State University that of LL. D.

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