

Crocker—When and By Whom Nominated Cadet at West Point

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CROCKER---WHEN AND BY WHOM NOMINATED CADET AT WEST POINT.

The following letters, correcting a statement made in the Sketch of the Life of Crocker given in the October number, 1866, of THE ANNALS, has been handed us by Dr. Lloyd, editor at the time and writer of the sketch, for publication. They became mislaid or would have appeared in previous number.

FAIRFIELD, NOV. 5TH, 1866.

MR. LLOYD—*Sir*: In THE ANNALS of Iowa for October, on page 765, I find the following in reference to Gen. Crocker :

“In 1844 he removed with his father’s family to Fairfield, Jefferson county, Iowa, and *two years* later, on the recommendation of *Augustus Cæsar Dodge*, then a *Senator in Congress* from the infant State of Iowa, he was appointed a cadet in the United States Military Academy at West Point.”

This sentence is incorrect ; to be in accordance with the facts, it should read,

In the spring of 1841 he removed with his father’s family to Fairfield, Jefferson county, Iowa, where he lived till 1844, when his father with all the family moved to Keokuk county, and *three years* later, on the recommendation of Shepherd Leffler, then a Member of Congress from Iowa, he was appointed a cadet in the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Yours truly, &c.,

C. NEGUS.

P. S.—Gen. Crocker was a young man in whom I always took a great interest. His father moved to Fairfield soon after I came.

The history of Gen. Crocker, after he came to Iowa till after he left Keokuk county, was familiar to me.

THE ANNALS OF IOWA ought to be a true history of events. Dates and localities some times become very important—and those who are entitled to honors should have them.

Augustus Cæsar Dodge was not a Member of Congress when Gen. Crocker was appointed a cadet. He was first elected to the Senate in December 1848.

C. N.

BURLINGTON, IOWA, NOV. 2, 1866.

CHAS. NEGUS, ESQ —*Sir*: You ask me whether I had not something to do with the appointment of young Crocker (since General) to the Academy at West Point. I had, and nobody else had anything to do with it, except his father. All the facts are fresh in my mind, but it is unnecessary to detail them now. I had the right to make one nomination, and I promised his father that his son should have it, which promise I kept.

Very truly, &c.,

SHEP. LEFFLER

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