

## Letter From Prof. Parvin

T. S. Parvin

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only four dollars left. Here he stopped, and found employment as a teacher in the family of Mrs. Broadnax, near Dinwiddie court house. He stayed in this family a year, and in the fall of 1840, applied and was admitted to the bar.

He then started for the west, and came to Iowa, when most of the present territory of the state was Indian country, and the population only forty-three thousand, and settled in Fairfield in the spring of 1841, where he has continued to reside to this time, and has been identified with the growth and prosperity of the state.

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LETTER FROM PROF. PARVIN.

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IOWA CITY, March 22, 1871.

*Secretary State Historical Society* :—

DEAR SIR:— In the January number of the ANNALS, in your enumeration of the lectures delivered before the society, you have overlooked some, not important, perhaps, in themselves, but, as part of the history of a historical society, necessary to be included. I therefore beg to present you a full record, as a correction of that on pages 469–470.

The *first* lecture before the “Historical Society of Iowa” was delivered by T. S. Parvin, at its *first* anniversary, at Iowa City, on the 24th of December, 1857, in the old athæneum, then standing on the Sanxay corner, diagonally from the Presbyterian church. The subject was, “An Historical Discourse, relating principally to the early discoveries in the Mississippi valley.”

The *second* was at its *fifth* anniversary, January 8th, 1861, in the Methodist church, by Hon. Hiram Price, of Davenport; subject, “The Advantages of Historical Associations.” Following this address was a fine banquet, to which a hundred or more friends of the society were invited, and attended.

The *third* was also delivered by T. S. Parvin, in the chapel of the university, on the 17th of July, 1862, upon “The

Newspaper Press of Iowa, in its first decade—May, 1836, November, 1846.”

The *fourth* was by the Rev. Geo. F. Magoun, D. D., of Iowa College, Grinnell, on “The Past, Present, and Future of our Country,” which was also delivered in the university chapel, on the 28th of June, 1865.

The *fifth* and last (not third) was delivered in the new university chapel, on the 27th of January, 1871, by Hon. Charles Negus, of Fairfield, upon the subject of “The Indians of Iowa.”

T. S. PARVIN.

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RECOLLECTIONS OF THE EARLY SETTLEMENT OF NORTH-  
WESTERN IOWA.

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BY N. LEVERING, GREENWOOD, MO.

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(Continued from page 467.)

During the years of 1856 and 1857 the town mania ran to an alarming extent among the settlers of the northwest, while corn and wheat fields were sadly neglected. Very many good quarter sections were spoiled by being driven full of stakes and gorgeously displayed on paper, while the only perceptible improvements were the aforementioned stakes, and the only citizens gophers, who held the lots by right of possession, and who seriously objected to having their range intercepted with cottonwood stakes.

But few out of the many of these paper towns proved a success, one of which was Covington, on the Nebraska side of the Missouri river, opposite Sioux City. It was laid out by one Pecot, a Frenchman, John Fenan, an Irishman, the Seaton brothers, and others, who made claims contiguous to each other. Covington, it was thought, would, in time, be to Sioux City as Covington, Kentucky, is to Cincinnati, Ohio. The

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