

## Memorials of Gen. M. M. Crocker

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every vestige of which has disappeared except the ancient well, which "furnishes as clear, cool water to the factory hands today as it did to the soldiers over ninety years ago."

We have secured sketches of Forts Atkinson, Dodge and Sanford, which will appear in these pages hereafter. The two first named will be accompanied with illustrations, but of Fort Sanford we have been unable to obtain any drawing. It consisted, however, of but a few small log houses, and was never a post of much importance.

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### MEMORIALS OF GEN. M. M. CROCKER.

A Grand Army Post, one of the fine school buildings, a street, a beautiful piece of woodland—"Crocker Woods"—in Des Moines, and a station a few miles north on the Chicago & North-Western Railway, have been named in honor of this great soldier. His equestrian statue was also placed upon the Iowa Soldiers' Monument. And just now, Mr. Conrad Youngerman is erecting at the southwest corner of Fifth and Locust streets, Des Moines, an imposing business block, which bears the name of "Crocker Building." Mr. Youngerman has in other less important ways honored the soldier's memory at the capital of the State. He was the first to secure a fine engraved portrait of Gen. Crocker. This was for a purely business purpose, but that cut soon found its way into publications of permanent interest. It faithfully represents Gen. Crocker as he is remembered by the few survivors who knew him intimately. Mr. Youngerman's building in the heart of the city, adds another to his many substantial tributes to Gen. Crocker. This has grown out of the fact that when Mr. Youngerman came to Des Moines, some years before the civil war, he found in the bright young lawyer an abiding and valued friend. And so he is laudably doing what he can to keep the soldier's memory green. This leads us to the suggestion that the capital city

should provide a new monument at the grave of Gen. Crocker. That which marks the place where he sleeps is quite small, and having been made of common white marble, a material which disintegrates more or less rapidly in our climate, its durability will be comparatively limited. We believe that a proposition to place at this patriot grave a more distinguishing monument would meet with general approval. Many of Crocker's friends would doubtless gladly contribute, if contributions should be solicited, but the work could more appropriately be carried out by the city of Des Moines. If legislative authority is necessary it can be readily secured.

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#### GENERAL NATHANIEL B. BAKER.

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The old settlers of Clinton county held their annual reunion at Joyce's Park, Clinton, on the 8th of June. The occasion brought together a host of pioneers of the county; glad of the opportunity to meet once more, and recount adventures full of interest. An address was delivered by Mr. William H. Fleming, private secretary to the Governor. Mr. Fleming was for a short time in the '60's a resident of Clinton county, to which he had removed from the county of Scott, after a residence in the latter of nearly eleven years. The address was in the main devoted to a sketch of the races that have done the peopling of America. In discussing the history of the county of Clinton, the speaker alluded to one who will always be held in high regard by the people of Iowa. After referring to the fact that more than one-eighth of the population of the county had borne arms in the struggle for the maintenance of the Union, Mr. Fleming said:

This recalls the name of one of the best men the county ever gave to the service of the State. A man of fine presence, of unflinching courage, of admirable tact, of a disposition which well suited him for composing differences among the men who ventured forth in defence of the integrity of the Union, Nathaniel Bradley Baker was happily fitted for the place he so well filled during all the years of the war for the Union. This man, who

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