

The Old State Bank of Iowa

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began to assume tangible shape in 1895. Mitchell Vincent, Esq., the widely-known civil engineer of Onawa, has been from the first a most practical supporter of Mr. Charles. Then, the War Department placed the projection and construction of the work under the supervision of Capt. H. M. Chittenden, one of the ablest engineers of the U. S. army. And so, from its inception until it came to full fruition, the project has been well seconded and supported.

At the dedication of the monument on the 30th of May, Hon. John A. Kasson, the distinguished Iowa diplomat and statesman, made the principal address, which was fittingly characterized by Hon. George D. Perkins as "a distinct contribution to the history of the Louisiana territory and purchase." Rev. Dr. William Salter, of Burlington, made the invocation. It will be remembered that these eminent Iowans officiated in like manner at the laying of the corner-stone of the Iowa Historical Building, May 17, 1899.

"The monument," says Capt. Chittenden, "is a solid masonry obelisk, built in the most substantial manner, in careful conformity with the proportions of the ancient Egyptian models." The material is Kettle River (Minn.) sandstone. The shaft is a trifle over 100 feet above the base, which is 125 feet above low water mark in the Missouri river. There are two massive tablets of the finest bronze bearing appropriate historical inscriptions.

Our space will not admit of farther details at this time, but we hope to present in a future number, a full history of the monument, with Mr. Kasson's great address.

THE OLD STATE BANK OF IOWA.

The article, by Maj. Hoyt Sherman, which we publish in the present number of *THE ANNALS*, will not only interest the readers of to-day, but it presents in compact and clear form the salient points in the history of a most creditable institution. It possesses permanent historical value. We can-

not, however, expect that it will appeal to the generation now in active business life, which has grown up since the war for the Union, as it does to the comparatively few who still live as survivors of the times when most of the money in circulation was of doubtful value. But if there is one matter, aside from the record of our soldiers in the civil war, in which those Iowans who are up in the sixties and seventies feel an exalted pride it is in the good Iowa money which in 1858 succeeded a flood of trash.

The record which Maj. Sherman makes for the directors of the State Bank is an enviable one. They entered upon their new and, for the greater part, untried duties with a firm determination that their work should be in all respects substantial and honorable. From the iron rules which they laid down for the guidance of the central organization and the individual branches there was never a shadow of turning. The action of each local bank was closely watched, and whenever anything unlike good banking was detected, an investigation was immediately ordered, and whatever was amiss was at once corrected. This story will be new to most readers, but none the less will it long be read with deep interest by the people of Iowa. While none of the worthless currency of the preceding period originated in our State, it had become a favorite field in which to circulate all sorts of doubtful stuff from other sections. But the first step taken by our legislature, and so wisely carried out by the old State Bank, gave Iowa a proud financial standing which has existed ever since.

GRAVES OF REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS IN IOWA.

At least five soldiers who fought in the Revolutionary War died and were buried in this State. Possibly there may have been others, but our knowledge only extends to the five. Their names were Timothy Brown, Charles Shepherd, William Blair, George Perkins and John Osborn.

Timothy Brown enlisted in April, 1780, and served three years as a private, a portion of the time under Capt. Richard Cox, in a regiment com-

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