

As to Errata

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and in the old convent schools here and there in Catholic communities in the older cities of eastern Iowa one may find life and character most interesting. In the traditions of Keosauqua, Keokuk, Fort Madison, Burlington, Muscatine, (Bloomington), Davenport and Dubuque, and others that might be mentioned, the student of life and customs may find much of surpassing interest and instruction.

One needs but to talk with our pioneers concerning early days in Iowa, read their reminiscences in *THE ANNALS* and *The Historical Record*, in their letters and occasional memoirs, to realize the wealth of material for fascinating history of the life of a people in one of the favored spots of the continent. Mr. Hamlin Garland's "Boy Life on the Prairies," which so vividly portrays beginnings in our northern farming counties, is an earnest of what picturesque history will some day be written when a Parkman, Fiske, or Eggleston is reared among us and relates the life of the early settlers. The story of the growth of our laws and the institutions of society and of government has as yet been but meagerly told. Our students and scholars have only begun to collect the data.

F. I. H.

AS TO ERRATA.

It was the intention of the editor of *THE ANNALS* to present in our last number corrections of various errors in names, dates, etc., which had occurred in the five volumes of the current series. Something was done by way of compiling and correcting these errors, but it was found to be impracticable to carry out the plan in time for that issue. We hope it may be fully accomplished hereafter. While the utmost care is taken in verifying statements and dates in every article, it seems to be an unwelcome but accepted fact, that mistakes will occur, through haste, inadvertence, or by accident. Proofs are sent long distances to authors, but even they often fail to see everything that is printed amiss. Sometimes a pro-

voking error escapes notice even though proofs and revises are read a dozen times by several individuals. This seems to be "the common fate of all," from which few writers or editors escape. The only way out of the difficulty is to make notes of the errors and correct them as soon as practicable in an errata.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Conquest, the True Story of Lewis and Clark, by Eva Emery Dye; Chicago, McClurg & Co., pp. 443.

The gifted author of "McLoughlin and Old Oregon," (ANNALS, iv, 624) has produced another book of exceeding historical interest. Here are rapid and vigorous sketches of the march of civilization across the continent from Virginia to the Pacific, with a vivid characterization of the leaders in the march, and of their associates and helpers, and startling incidents by the way. No other author has given in similar compass such a clear, graphic, and succinct account of the great movement, traced so distinctly the connection with it of Washington, Jefferson, George Rogers Clark, Daniel Boone, and other notable persons, or told so well the story of the various tribes of Indians who were encountered in the conquest.

The book is a marvel of literary enterprise and industry. It has come from patient delving into original sources, and glows with devotion to American history. Romantic incidents of family and social life are treated with delicacy and skill, and plain people and the black man have recognition and honor. Covering the continent and many events, the book marches on with unflagging step to the end. The march is rapid, and the transitions from scene to scene and from place to place are sometimes so quick, as almost to take the reader's breath, but attention is only necessary in order to see the connection of events and keep the thread of the story. There is no padding with verbiage, but every page is instinct with life and forward movement.

Iowa has a peculiar interest in the story of Lewis and Clark. They were the first Americans, after the Louisiana Purchase, to see our western border, and they spent more than a month upon it. There occurred the only tragic event during the whole expedition, in the sudden death of Sergeant Charles Floyd, which is recorded with tender pathos in this volume. Lewis was governor of Louisiana territory, 1807-9, and Clark in 1810-12, when that territory covered Iowa; and Clark was governor of Missouri territory when that territory covered Iowa. Each during his term of office was commissioner of Indian affairs, and Clark served in the same capacity later. Both were men of high character, humane and just in their treatment of the Indians, intent upon keeping warring tribes at peace with each other, and with the United States, and in promoting their welfare. The

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