

Dr. Edwin James

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cessful, whether as a State legislator, a soldier, or upon the Federal bench. We take a high pleasure in thus presenting this record of his life.

DR. EDWIN JAMES.

We are indebted to Prof. L. H. Pammel, who fills the chair of botany at the Iowa State College, at Ames, for an exhaustive article on this early Iowa scientist. We have had occasion to allude to Dr. James in several numbers of *The Annals*, but more particularly in Vol. IV, pp. 233-234, where we published a brief sketch of his useful career. In this same number Mr. George Frazee, also of Burlington, speaks of him at some length in an article on a great Fugitive Slave Case, the trial of which was commenced in Burlington. There was utter failure from lack of testimony to remand the alleged fugitive to the officer. Dr. James took a prominent part in preparations for rescuing the negro, but this proved to be wholly unnecessary and the matter was settled without resort to violence, though there were men enough close by to have rescued the slave. How Dr. James opened his farm and built a house four miles west of Burlington, and how he died, we have stated elsewhere.

Dr. James, who was one of the first botanists of his day, was associated with Dr. John Torrey, and also with Dr. C. C. Parry. While his writings are also very valuable as showing the condition of the Indian tribes and the wild life west of the Missouri river, one of his principal claims to remembrance, which is so well set forth by Prof. Pammel, is his discovery of several species of trees and plants which were "new to science." We present engravings of several of these new species which will be welcomed by all students of botany, and which will soon find their way into the leading public libraries of the State. This article enables us to present much information in regard to Dr. James which is nowhere else accessible. The portrait which accompanies the first part of the article in the last *Annals*, was engraved from a miniature on ivory that had long been in possession of the family. He was an

important man in his day and generation, devoted to high ideals. This record of his life cannot but be regarded as important and useful.

HENRY CLAY DEAN.

This vigorous character was an important factor in the regime of Dodge and Jones during their final struggle to dominate Iowa politics. He was an associate of the leaders of Iowa Methodism throughout the old camp-meeting and circuit-rider days. His pulpit powers were unexcelled. He was perhaps the most effectual advocate in the west of a phase of political thought during the Civil War which drew from the tongues and pens of loyal men a bitterness never equaled in Iowa controversy, unless by Dean's own tongue. His memory for words, names, faces and events was rare. His acquaintance with the classics is said to have equaled that of our ripest scholars. In his intellectual life were antitheses which, at his death were characterized as like the life of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, by J. S. Clarkson, in a two and a half column review headed, "A man of contradictions." Sam M. Clark said of him: "Some of his addresses were prodigies of eloquence and fierce philippic * * * but in spite of all this habit of his to break out in fierce invective like Doctor Johnson, Mr. Dean like the great Cham of English literature was one of the kindest and most tender hearted of men." His disdain for the social amenities, his peculiar and effective methods at the bar, and his idiosyncrasies are most deeply impressed in the memories of the older Iowa citizens. There is comparatively little recorded information concerning Mr. Dean. A sketch by Mr. J. R. Rippey, a friend of Mr. Dean in his later years, appears in this issue of *The Annals*. Other articles upon Mr. Dean will be published later.

E. R. H.

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