

Recent Portrait Acquisitions

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The term of Augustus C. Dodge ended March 3, 1855, when James Harlan of Mount Pleasant was installed, at the age of 34, March 4, 1855, and served until January 12, 1857, when his seat was declared vacant by a resolution of the Senate. On January 17, 1857, he was re-elected and installed, serving out the term to March 3, 1861, then by re-election, he served from March 4, 1861, to May 15, 1865, when he resigned to enter the cabinet of Andrew Johnson, having been recommended and confirmed before the death of Abraham Lincoln. Samuel J. Kirkwood on January 13, 1866, was elected, at the age of 52, and served to the end of the term, March 3, 1867. James Harlan after election was again installed March 4, 1867, serving until March 3, 1873, when he retired being succeeded by William B. Allison of Dubuque, March 4, 1873, at the age of 44, who has served continuously since that day, and has been nominated for the term ending 1915.

RECENT PORTRAIT ACQUISITIONS.

The collection of portraits in oil now in the Historical Department Galleries has been recently augmented by two which were publicly installed June 20th. These both represent a phase of interest in the collections awakened by Mr. Aldrich, but which he did not live to see bear fruit. His oft repeated purpose was to acquire good portraits of representative Iowa citizens and of men representative of classes or of movements that aided the development of the State and its institutions. He desired to obtain good art objects of every kind including portraits and not limited to the borders of Iowa. He desired to obtain the permanent and artistic likeness in oil of Iowa men and women who contributed to the good name and fame of our State. In this purpose he invited the negroes of Iowa to place in the collections an adequate portrait of Frederick Douglass, and they, with the aid of their friends and of the Legislature provided such a canvas from the brush of Freeman Thorpe. Thus there is acquired as representative of a

large body of Iowa citizens and with their assistance, the portrait of their greatest citizen, though not of Iowa.

Recognizing the office of the Christian religion in the building of our State, Mr. Aldrich solicited with an especial ardor the portraits of the Christian ministry. Thus were installed the portraits of Bishops Lee and Perry of the Episcopal church; Bishops M. C. and Thomas Lenihan of the Catholic clergy, Rev. Dr. Salter of the Congregational church, and no less was the ardor with which he presented the matter as to others of the great denominational leaders in and out of the State. Out of this policy came requests for portraits of Luther, Wesley and other leaders, and a fine oil portrait by George D. Chiswick, of Des Moines, of Alexander Campbell, presented by the Iowa membership of the church of which Mr. Campbell was a founder.

The portrait is a copy of one painted by James Bogle in 1858. It was formally presented to the State by the congregations in their annual convention in Des Moines, June 20th. The presentation address was by D. R. Dungan of Drake University, a student under Campbell at Bethany, West Virginia. Hon. B. F. Carroll, Auditor of State, accepted the portrait on behalf of the State. The Douglass portrait was installed without special ceremony.

THE "SCATTERATION POLICY."

(Written by Charles Aldrich.)

When the seat of Government of this State was removed from Iowa City to Des Moines by the act of the Sixth General Assembly, the same law provided that the State University should remain in the old Capitol at that place. It has remained there from that day to this, though occasionally some impracticable individual has suggested that it had better be removed to Ames or Des Moines, but no sensible person has ever seriously contemplated any such contingency. The capital came to Des Moines and the University has enjoyed an excellent growth from that day to this, in which course it will no doubt continue in all the years to come.

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