

Negro Community Center Branch [Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge]

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Classes in handcraft are carried on. A chorus class and other groups of children, young people, and older ones as well, meet regularly in the Center.

The great need of the Branch, as of the Negro Community Center, is for more room and better equipment to carry on services which are so much needed and so greatly appreciated by those who use the Center. It is greatly to be desired that Des Moines may in the near future provide better and more adequate meeting places for its Negro citizens and their children.

The Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, before which is weekly read a lecture upon the various subjects of the day, though lately established, is progressing and bids fair to become what its title indicates. . . . Last night Dr. Reynolds (a gentleman lately arrived from the east, who designs opening a high school in this city) delivered the second lecture of the course, "on the goodness of God as displayed in the science of Chemistry." The discourse was an instructive one, though of but little interest, as most of the experiments failed, in consequence perhaps of the derangement necessarily attending a removal of his apparatus, which is extensive.—*Bloomington Herald*, December 4, 1840. "Argus", in a regular letter from Burlington.

THE DEMOCRATS HAVE LOST the privilege of voting against Mr. Clay, the whig candidate for President, and to whom the "settlers on the Black Hawk Purchase" owe a debt that should be paid. The vote of Iowa might have turned the scale against Mr. Clay—yet, for want of that vote, he may become President over the people he has bitterly branded as "Club-Law Men"—"Lawless Banditti"—and "Land Pirates!"—*Iowa Territorial Gazette and Advertiser*, September 17, 1842.

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