

An Indian of Iowa

ISSN 0003-4827

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Recommended Citation

"An Indian of Iowa." *The Annals of Iowa* 27 (1945), 77-78.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.6403>

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ington directed to a Mr. Richards who was grand uncle to the Iowa captain. It was written from Valley Forge, not important in itself, but valuable as a fine specimen of the writing of the great commander. It is on a shelf in the Iowa manuscript collection and it reads:

Headquarters Valley Forge, March 9th, 1778. Caleb Gibbs, Esq. Capt Com'g—Sir—Send Lieut. Livingston and fifty men to Tarrytown as an escort to Messrs. Richards, Clymer, and Potts, as far as West Chester, and with the enclosed order for the transfer to his command of the recruits, horses and wagons awaiting there, as escort to headquarters.

GEO. WASHINGTON, Com'r in Chief

That order was kept by Mr. Richards and is now an Iowa treasure. Anyone familiar with American history can fill in between the lines the interesting story of Valley Forge and its tragedy.

AN INDIAN OF IOWA

It is not generally known or remembered that the military secretary of Gen. U. S. Grant, who wrote out the terms of surrender at Appomatox, was an Indian and that at the beginning of the Civil war he was a resident of Iowa.

Don-e ho-ga-wah was born on the Tonawanda reservation about 1828. His Anglicised name was Ely Samuel Parker. His birthplace was near the city of Buffalo, N. Y. He was well educated, first at a missionary school, then an academy and technical school, after which he studied law. He was refused admission to the bar because of being an Indian. He became an engineer and held high positions in the government service. In 1857 he was superintendent of a custom house and marine hospital at Galena, where he and U. S. Grant became warm friends.

He was living in Dubuque at the outbreak of the Civil war and he at once tendered his services to the governor of New York, but was refused a commission. He was re-

fused again at Washington, but in May, 1863, President Lincoln sent him an unsolicited commission as captain of volunteers and ordered him to report to the western army under Grant. He joined at Vicksburg and was placed upon General Grant's staff. He was appointed assistant adjutant general and from then on he was General Grant's military secretary. He prepared the papers that were signed by Grant and given to Lee.

He retired with the rank of brevet brigadier general and President Grant made him commissioner of Indian affairs. He had held the high office of sachem of the Six Nations and his Indian name meant "Keeper of the Western Door." He died in 1895 near Buffalo, N. Y.

EARLY VISIT OF AN EMINENT SCIENTIST

When the old dragoon barracks at the Raccoon forks of the Des Moines river had been converted into settlers' stores and temporary residences, the place was visited by one of the most eminent scientists of his time. This was David Dale Owen. He was looking for minerals and things of utility. He rode up the Raccoon valley a little way, then sending his party back, he went on to the Missouri slope, thence down to St. Louis. The valuable coal deposits were too far down for his keen eyes, and the use of the clay and soft stones was not well known. Owen was first and greatest of the geologists to survey Iowa. His work, especially in hasty checking over of the lead deposits in Iowa and Wisconsin, was a marvel of his time.

A splendid new book giving the high lights of his short but intensely interesting life, has been written by Walter Brookfield Hendrickson, and published by the Indiana Historical bureau. Portions of this fine biography were printed in THE ANNALS OF IOWA in July 1942. Little did the man versed in rocks and sands and soils realize that within a century the "Raccoon forks" would be the capital of a great state and the center of a vast industrial activity. The whole story of the man and his work is worth reading.

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