Our Birthday
by his physician, and with a sprained foot. Yet he was cheery and lively as when a boy, though not quite so rogieh. He is inclined to corpulence. All the Edghill, Princeton, N. J., boys to whom the Annals go are now men in middle life. A greeting to you all, my loved pupils!

The Missionary Review, by Rev. Royal G. Wilder, returned missionary from Colapoor, India, is a noble specimen of compiling needed mission matters of all denominations in the world. Never was there a better opening for a select review than this, bating rather sharp criticism of the Boards. Print only good and cast the bad away, like the Gospel net of the Savior, brother in Christ, and you will receive the patronage of all readers of missionary tidings. The Review is a private, paying publication, for $1.50 a year; the cheapest news going. Address R. G. Wilder, Princeton, N. J. No agents sent.

OUR BIRTHDAY.
(Associated Press Dispatch.)

Burlington, Iowa, June 1st, 1883.

The celebration in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the settlement of Iowa, which took place in the city to-day, proved one of the greatest events of the kind which ever took place in the west. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed. The entire population of the city and surrounding country, and many thousand of guests from all parts of the State, seemed to unite in one aim to make the day a success. The city of Burlington made ample preparations for the day. A complete programme had been worked up. Considerable funds had been contributed by the authorities, which, with very liberal private subscriptions gave the committees plenty of means to get up elaborate public decoration and provide for everything needful to make the celebration worthy of the cause. Preparations had been going on for a month and the result was most gratifying. The city to-day woke up decorated in a most gorgeous manner. The business part of town was literally covered with national colors and ornaments of verdure. A large number of banners hung across the
streets, bearing inscriptions suggestive of incidents of the past
50 years. Some of the more notable ones reading: “Freedom
of the City—Take Possession,” “First Train West February,
1856, What has Time Wrought, Wilderness in 1833.” On the
reverse: “One Hundred Trains Arrive and Depart Daily, Iowa 6,800 miles of Railroad, Railways reach every
County Seat.” On one banner a head of an Indian with su-
perscription “Big Injun, 1833,” and locomotive next to it, ex-
planative, “Big Injun, 1883.” Others read “All are wel-
come, Burlington at Home, We receive to-day.” “Tele-
graph 1883, Hawkeye State, Slow Coach 1833.” “Iowa
admitted 1846—Population 100,000, number twenty-nine;
Iowa’s Population in 1883, Two Million.”

It was particularly noticed that not merely the business
houses and public buildings showed their decorations, but the
residence part of the city was equally adorned. As early as
last night crowds of strangers had completely filled the town,
and those who arrived by boats from points up and down the
river or on late trains were unable to obtain lodgings at any
hotels. The number of strangers is estimated to have ex-
ceeded 20,000. All railroads had issued half-fare tickets and
the number of people present will doubtless exceed that pres-
ent at the great Centennial celebration here in 1876.

The exercises opened with free air concerts from several
church steeples, upon which followed a parade of the fire
department and a subsequent exhibition of the water works of
the city. Bands played at all prominent places in the city
during the forenoon, which was mostly spent in sight seeing,
visiting friends, etc. The great parade of the day took place
at one o’clock and proved one of the most notable features of
the day. The march began after fifty guns had been fired,
in indication of the fiftieth occurrence of the day, and moved
through the principal streets to the public park. The pro-
cession was comprised of the following principal parts: Mar-
shals of the day, platoon of police, Governor Sherman and
attendants, pioneers of ’33, old settlers, guests and officers of
the Pioneer Association, members of orders of Odd Fellows,
Ancient Order of Workingmen, Ancient Order of Druids,
Ancient Order of Hibernians, Knights of Pythias, and other benevolent societies, a Grip Sack Brigade, composed of Burlington traveling salesmen, nearly 300 in number, and the fire department. All these organizations turned out in full uniform. The procession was almost a mile in length. Each single society had its own music. Arrived at the park, where an immense crowd had already gathered, the procession divided around the three speakers stands, which had been erected and very tidely ornamented, and the exercises then took place. At the grand stand prayer was offered by Rev. Wm. Slater, for many years pastor of the Congregational church of this city.

Hon. A. C. Dodge, son of Henry Dodge, the first Governor of Wisconsin Territory, and the first Senator from the State of Iowa to the Senate, one of the oldest inhabitants of the State, then in the name of the city of Burlington addressed the visitors, and extended a warm and hearty welcome, which was received with enthusiasm and applause.

The orator of the day, Hon. James H. Craig, of Keokuk, was then introduced and delivered a masterly address, holding his hearers intensely interested for more than two hours. The speech of Mr. Craig is universally acknowledged to have been a master piece of oratory. His introduction, giving the reasons which led to the celebration of the day was full of present gratitude for the great blessings showered on Iowa during the fifty years past. His allusion to the event of the past and his summary of the history of the Territory and State, gave evidence of a great thinker. His concluding apostrophe to the future, in which he pointed out the points which would grow from the exercise of all manly and civil virtues, was touching in the extreme and reached the hearts of the many thousand who were present. Mr. Craig retired amid enthusiastic utterances of the appreciation of the audience.

He was followed on the grand stand, in which numerous of the earliest pioneers and distinguished visitors occupied seats, by Hon. G. W. Jones, the colleague of General Dodge in the United States Senate when the State was first admitted,
and by Prof. Parvin, of Iowa City, who entertained the au-
dience with reminiscences of the olden times. At the other
two stands the following speakers delivered orations: At
stand No. 2, Hon. Wesley C. Hobbs, Thomas C. Hedge, Jr.,
W. B. Culbertson, and Dr. C. Cole; at stand No. 3, Hon. A.
C. Adams, Hon. W. W. Belknap, Judge Davis, of Lee
county, John W. Burdette, Esq., Mr. George C. Duffend,
of Keosauqua, Col. Sanger, of Des Moines, J. D. M. Hamilton,
of Ft. Madison, and H. M. Clarke, of Wayne county.
Speeches were confined to the subject of the celebration, and
had evidently been prepared with care. Particularly note-
worthy were the addresses of Wesley C. Hobbs and Gen. W.
W. Belknap. After the exercises in the park the crowd dis-
persed to meet soon again on the river shore to witness a
regatta arranged by the Burlington Boating Association.

In the evening a very fine pyrotechnical display was ex-
hibited from barges anchored in the river. This was pro-
nounced the finest display of fireworks, which has ever taken
place in the West. A grand ball concluded the festivities,
and the programme of the day.

Burlington feels full of pride over the great success she has
had. She has seen within her walls to-day not only the larg-
est, but also the most respectable assembly of people who
ever met in an Iowa city before, high and low, old and young,
from near and from a distance, they came to take part in the
joyous occasion. A large number of distinguished gentle-
men, including the Governor of the State, members of Con-
gress, many other distinguished gentlemen had accepted an
invitation to take part. A notable feature was the presence
of many old people, who forty or fifty years ago had entered
the State and had now time to meet old acquaintances and
renew the friendships of long years past. The day was fine
and was marred by no accident or unpleasant occurrence.
Everything passed off smooth. Not the least excess is com-
plained of. It was a gala day and one that will long be re-
membered by the participants.