Important Decision in Favor of the Miners

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the failures and successes of the makers of Iowa? And per-
haps these are no less important and of no less interest to
Iowans than the story of Rhode Island or Delaware.

By all means let us have a historical society.—*Burling-
ton Hawk-Eye, Sept. 7, 1903.*

**IMPORTANT DECISION IN FAVOR OF THE MINERS.**—We are
informed by the citizens of the Upper Des Moines Lead
Mines, that the United States District Court for Illinois
(Judges John McClain and Nathaniel Pope, presiding) de-
cided at its late session that the acts of Messrs. Flannegan
and Cunningham, superintendents for leasing the lead
mines, etc., etc., were without authority of law and therefore
void. The court decided, as our informants state, that the old
act of 1807, authorizing the President to lease Lead Mines
and Salt Springs, in what was then called the Indiana Terri-
tory, is rendered inoperative or virtually repealed by the law
of 1834, establishing the Galena and Mineral Point land dis-
tricts. It was but a short time since that we had the pleasure
of noticing a similar decision made by the Supreme Court of
our own Territory—and of offering our congratulations to
our northern brethren in Iowa. We now extend them to
the people of northern Illinois and Wisconsin. They can-
not but feel that their day of deliverence from the odious
tythe system, so repugnant to the genius and spirit of our
institutions has arrived. The officers sent by the adminis-
tration in the shape of superintendents, agents, etc., etc.,
have, we understand, on account of the vexatious manner in
which they harrassed the citizens of the mineral district
with petty law suits, become extremely odious. We are of
those who believe that the Federal Government is departing
from the high purposes for which it was created when it
descends to an interference with the business and avocations
of its people. It was never made for a lead mine digger or
a salt water boiler.—*Territorial Gazette.* [From The
Bloomington (Iowa) Herald, June 30, 1843.]