interesting observations on the soil and general appearance of the wide
Iowa prairies, saying among other things that “deer and elk range here in
good numbers.” He seemed to have an intuitive knowledge of the natural
history of every region through which he traveled. The information con-
tained in these large volumes has been most conscientiously edited and
errors in former publications carefully corrected. To the student of
Indian history and life they would seem to be indispensable. They should
have a place in every public library. In addition to the map above men-
tioned the work contains several portraits of Father De Smet from about
his 25th year until he was “aged and gray.” A large bronze statue was set
up at his birth-place, Termonde, Belgium, of which there is a fine illus-
tration.

Proceedings of the Academy of Science and Letters, of Sioux City, Iowa, for
1903-4. Volume I. Published by the Academy. Perkins Brothers Co.,
Printers, Sioux City, Iowa, 1904.

A Scientific Association existed for many years in Sioux City, but in
1903 it was determined to enlarge its scope and publish a volume of pro-
ceedings and original papers. The results of this action appear in a
reorganization under the name of “The Academy of Science and Letters
of Sioux City, Iowa,” and the handsome volume which recently came from
the Perkins’ Press. This is an octavo of 191 pages which is clearly and
beautifully printed, with many appropriate illustrations. Among the
latter are excellent portraits of John H. Charles and Judge George W.
Wakefield, both of whom recently passed away deeply lamented. No two
other men had done more for the cause of science and letters in that por-
tion of the State. The volume contains the constitution and by-laws of
the Academy, lists of officers from the beginning of this work, details of
the organization, biographical sketches of deceased members, with many
scientific and historical papers. Among the papers, that of Hon. C. R.
Marks, on the “Monona County, Iowa, Mormons,” is especially interesting
and valuable. The book is one which will often be referred to in the
libraries fortunate enough to possess a copy.

of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, January, 1905, pp. 91-114,
with one plate.

A history and description of the peculiar structure and stratigraphic
position of certain unique fossils that have been found in the earliest beds
of crinoids. The genus was established by a Canadian scientist in 1856,
but has been a puzzle to crinologists. Mr. Springer has taken up the
problem with his wonderful acumen and with his habits of close and
thorough research, and elucidated the relation of this genus to the other
forms of the same life that sported in the long ages of the palaeozoic
world. This monograph shows the fine patience of his genius, and his