

ago simultaneously with the great rise in land values. A part of this drainage impulse came also from the fact that the arable free public lands in the west had all been occupied.

A table showing the undrained lands in the various States gives Indiana 625,000 acres of such land. The total for the United States is given as 79,000,000, acres, one fourth of which is in Florida. The main reasons for drainage are given as follows: to improve the roads, to reclaim the land, and to improve health.

Systematic drainage did not begin till about 1880 when the rising price of land began to justify the use of costly machinery. The writer estimates that 3,500,000 acres of land in Indiana were originally swampy. Of this amount about 1,500,000 acres have been fairly well drained, while at least one million acres can hardly be said to be drained at all.

It is an interesting little pamphlet and suggests a line of work which the State government can do with great profit to the citizens. In closing, the author sums up the work now being done in other States.

Seven suggestions are made to the General Assembly, should it undertake legislation along this line. (1) A new systematic drainage law. (2) A State engineer. (3) Flood control and river improvement. (4) The public health. (5) Co-operation with experts. (6) Public ownership of dredging machinery. (7) Preservation of water power.

*The Unknown God and Other Orthodox Essays* is the title of a small volume of miscellaneous essays by Jacob Piatt Dunn. The first essay is a discussion of the meaning of the dedication, Paul found on the Athenian altar "To the Unknown God." Mr. Dunn comes to the conclusion that the expression refers to the Greek "Supreme First Cause."

The second essay is entitled "The First Heresies." The author is not disposed to let his religion draw him into any of the conflicts of science and philosophy. These latter he says are making the same bluffs to day as in the time of the apostles; but "The Simple faith is greater than the wisdom of men."

Perhaps the most interesting of these short essays is one entitled "The Passing of Darwinism." Here, as in all the rest, the author's mind takes the path of least resistance. He rejects Darwinism in toto. But he leaves some consolation, for he admits that "There are thousands of fairly intelligent people who still accept the Darwinian theories as established facts."

In his essay on the "The Debt of English Literature to the Bible" he is on easier ground. There is only one side to this question and of course Mr. Dunn is "orthodox." It is a neatly executed little volume of 178 pages, and is interesting in the fact that it reveals a type of mind not uncommon in the world's history.

*Development of Banking in Illinois, 1817-1863*, is the title of Bulletin No. 12, vol. XI of the University of Illinois. It is a pamphlet of 180 pages by Dr. George William Dowrie assistant professor of Economics in the University of Michigan. The experience of Illinois in banking has been very similar to that of Indiana. A territorial bank was chartered and later broken by supporting doubtful commercial ventures. A State Bank was organized about the same time as that of Indiana. The State Bank failed partly by reason of trying to carry the State debt and partly by reason of falling into the hands of dishonest politicians. After the failure of the State Bank the State tried a system of free banking with customary disastrous results. Dr. Dowrie has held close to his subject and has given us a good biography of Illinois banks. The reader often wishes for a little more explanation or a little of the author's own opinion. An investigator usually has decided opinions born of the atmosphere of his researches. These opinions are valuable to the general reader. They are in the nature of expert knowledge and one has a right to expect them.

*The Kentucky Register* for May has a beautiful portrait of George Rogers Clark made from the painting by Jouett owned by Colonel Durrett of Louisville. It also contains an article by Mrs. Ella H. Ellwanger on the early history of Louisville.

*The Missouri Historical Review* for April has a "History of Fort Orleans, the first French post on the Mississippi," by M. F. Stipes. The other leading article is "Recollections of Thomas H. Benton," by L. T. Collier.

The *Annals of Iowa* for April has for its opening number a memoir of ex-senator William B. Allison, by Henry Cabot Lodge. Another interesting article in the same number is "Early Commercial Traveling in Iowa," by Frank M. Mills. Mr. Mills was a native of Indiana, emigrating to Des Moines with his wife and children in 1857. An account of Spirit Lake Massacre is the leading article in the July *Annals*, written by O. C. Howe.

The *Magazine of History* for January has an account of "Frontier Life in Iowa in the Forties", by Johnson Brigham which will be interesting reading to many Hoosiers.

The first number of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, appeared in June on schedule time. An excellent review of the "Historical Activities in the Old Northwest and Eastern Canada," by Dr. Solon J. Buck of Illinois University is worth the price of the book. There are three other articles on more or less threadbare subjects. One-third of the magazine is taken up with elaborate book reviews, only a few of which have any connection with Mississippi Valley History.

*The North Carolina Booklet* for April has an account of Sherman's raid which would open the eyes of many of the old veterans of Indiana. It is written from memory by Professor J. T. Alderman. The writer evidently will never be reconciled to the glories of war. Of course Sherman's men had no business to go on a tramp of such length without taking their dinners with them, but it seems a little late now to be indulging in such criticism. I have not heard a survivor of Libby or Andersonville complain so bitterly as does Professor Alderman over the loss of a few chickens and ducks and possibly an old sow and pigs.

*The Story of New Harmony for Children* is the title of a charming little story of the settlement of this famous old town one hundred years ago by the Rappites. The story is told in simple concrete words by Caroline Cruse Pelham. In the sixteen small pages of this little pamphlet is a better picture of the old times than is found in the larger books on the subject. It would make an excellent reading lesson for second or third grade pupils.

*Decisive Episodes in Western History* is the title of an address delivered by Laenas G. Weld before the Iowa State Historical Society, Feb. 21, at Iowa City, and published by the society in pamphlet form. The speaker points out as the "Decisive Episodes" first the fight between Champlain and the Iroquois, July 30, 1609; the second the murder of LaSalle; third the building of Fort Chartres at Kaskaskia; fourth the battle of Great Meadows in which Washington attacked the French; fifth the conquest by George Rogers Clark; and last the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

*The Indiana Catholic* of July 3, 1914 has a lengthy account of the settlement of Vincennes which it calls the "Cradle of the Faith." The substance of the article is taken from Cauthorne's *History of Vincennes*. There is no reference made by the writer to any authority hence one cannot tell how much history and how much fiction the article contains. Many of his statements have at least never been proven.

*The Salem Democrat* of July 1, 1914, has a short sketch of the scouts who patrolled the Indiana border during the War of 1812. These rangers had their headquarters at old Fort Vallonia and ranged the woods from the Whitewater to the Wabash and as far north as the Wabash at Logansport. Chief of these scouts were John Tipton and Joseph Bartholomew. Many thrilling border stories have come down from these times.

*The Indianapolis News* July 25, has an account of an election held in Terre Haute in the summer of 1851. The article by Chester De Brular is based on an account written by an English traveler named Beste who was in Terre Haute at the time. The principal contest at the time was on the ratification of the present State constitution. Mr. Beste thought the elections in America conducted better than in England.

*The Indianapolis Sunday Star* June 26, 1914 has an account of the R. C. Buley of Vincennes on the "Origin of the Republican Party." Mr. Buley points out the discouragement, misrepresentation, and prejudice which all new parties meet. They are usually denominated revolutionary. This is correct. A new political party is a modern revolution.

*The Indianapolis Sunday Star* June 26, 1914 has an article by "Battle of Monocacy" in which General Lew Wallace with a small force of veterans and raw recruits checked the advance of General Jubal Early with 20,000 men and perhaps saved Washington from capture. The account is by W. H. Smith, author of a two volume history of Indiana, and a great admirer of the author-general

*The Goshen Democrat* July 17, 1914, has a list of the postmasters who have officiated at Benton since the office was established. It was first called Elkhart Plain when opened January 19, 1830. John Jackson grandfather of the present postmaster, Dr. Haltzinger, being

the first appointee. Benton was on the old stage route from Fort Wayne to Michigan City. There have been twenty-one postmasters in the 84 years.

In the above paper for July 25, 1914, is a list of the New Paris postmasters during its seventy-four years of existence. This post-office was called Jackson from April 22, 1840 to September 16, 1852. It has had twenty-four postmasters.

*The Indiana Catholic*, July 17, 1914, has a biography of Reverent Lewis Guegen, the rector of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral of Vincennes. The venerable priest was past eighty, having been born at Fregoman Cotes du Nord Brittany. He came to Vincennes December 8, 1859. He served at Madison and Washington, Indiana, till 1860 when he was transferred to a charge in Floyd county. From 1864 to 1885 he was stationed at Loogootee. From 1885 to 1890 he served at Madison, since when he has been at Vincennes.

The *Crawfordsville Journal* July 17, 1914, has some reminiscences by Judge J. M. Cowan an early pioneer of Crawfordsville, now living in Springfield, Mo. He was born in Crawfordsville in 1821, and hence is now past ninety-three. He graduated from Wabash in 1842 and from Indiana in 1845. Indians were common in Crawfordsville in his boyhood days. He saw Lincoln often, and was a companion of Henry S. Lane. He was a grown man when the first railroad was built in the State. He is older than Indianapolis but it had about 1,500 inhabitants when he first saw it. His first ride was on a train to Indianapolis to hear Clay speak in 1844.

The *New Harmony Times* is printing as a serial, Mr. Taft's speech at the centennial celebration. It certainly roused some curious reflections in the spirit of the kind hearted socialistic Owen to hear his eulogy pronounced by men who have no sympathy whatever for socialism, who in fact one and all are champions of exactly what Owen spent his life fighting. One can imagine such a man as Jacob Riis, or Victor Berger getting enthusiastic in praise of Owen, but it is difficult to see how such speakers as were on the *New Harmony* list could kindle their souls to a glow at the shrine of Owen. One is tempted to remark that such ludicrous incompatibility is sacrilegious. However, it seems the principal purpose in these centennial celebrations is to attract a crowd, mere numbers.

The *Bloomington Journal* is running *The New Purchase* as a serial story. This is a novel written by Baynard R. Hall, first principal

of Indiana Seminary, sometime about 1836. Mr. Hall came to Bloomington in 1823. The scenes and characters in the novel are local to Bloomington and vicinity, though the author went as far afield as Vincennes, or Crawfordsville, and once to the Battleground. It is the best characterization of early Hoosier life in print.

The Salem *Democrat* has published a number of biographies of citizens of the place who have passed their eightieth birthday. One of the most interesting of these is in the issue of July 8. It is the biography of Mrs. William Standish, born January 19, 1828. Her memory is clear and her reminiscences make an interesting story of the growth of the community from a wilderness outpost frequented by Indians down to the present.

*A New Constitution for Indiana* is the subject of an address by Theo. F. Thieme of Fort Wayne. This has been published—Fort Wayne, June 1914—as a forty page pamphlet. The author gathers in small compass the arguments in favor of a new Constitution.

*The Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for July contains among others, two articles by Jacob Vander Zee on "French Discovery and Exploration of the Eastern Iowa country before 1763" and "Fur Trade Operations in the Eastern Iowa Country under the Spanish Regime." Another article that has some direct interest for Indiana is "the Private Land Claims of the Old Northwest Territory" by Louis Pelzer.

*The Ohio Archaeological and Historical Quarterly* for July has a copy of an old "Prospectus for Ohio for 1775"; an article on Clement L. Vallandigham, by W. H. Van Fossan; a "History of Banking in Ohio" by P. W. Huntington; and "Beginnings of Lutheranism in Ohio" by Dr. B. F. Prince.

The Princeton *Clarion-News*, July 31, 1914, has an article by Col. Gil. R. Stormont on the "Political Campaigns in Gibson County Since the War." He discusses especially the elections of 1860, 1864 and 1866. Col. Stormont speaks from personal experience. One is especially struck with the change that has come about in the conduct of such campaigns. The personalities and bitternesses of politics as well as the corruption are disappearing.