

TRAVELING MAN WRITES OF CITY

Impressions of a Visitor to Keokuk Were All Favorable Ones After He Knew the Citizens.

THE THREE MONUMENTS

Curtis Statue, Chief Keokuk's Monument and Birge Memorial Fountain in Rand Park Are Mentioned.

E. F. Strickland, a traveling man, who makes Keokuk his rounds, took occasion after his last visit here, to write the following impressions of the city, which will prove interesting reading matter, the same being published in his home newspaper at Benton Harbor.

Characterless towns like the same kind of people are plentiful enough everywhere. They don't interest because there is nothing in them to interest even themselves. But a town with character like the genius-homo of that distinction is always worth knowing, worth visiting, worth hearing about.

Down on the little short tail of Iowa where the more or less certain Des Moines empties itself into the bosom of the great placid motherly Mississippi is such a town—its name is Keokuk, and there's lots of things about Keokuk worth knowing, that's good and pleasant to know.

"The spirit of Keokuk is the principle that every man shall be judged by his product and not by any accident of birth or wealth, and that the welfare of one is the concern of all."

"The charm of Keokuk is not only in the beauty of the sublime natural scenery around the city, but alone in the architectural beauty of the residences within the city, but is chiefly in the good cheer and genuine hospitality of the body of citizens toward all taken into the regard of the people of the city."

"The value of Keokuk is not really in its millions of bank deposits, nor in its other millions invested in commerce and manufacture, but is that total of the character, cheer and helpfulness of its inhabitants which is the real Keokuk, and is thoroughly understood only in Keokuk."

I am sure a town that can say these agreeable things of itself instead of bursting into print and paint on billboard and barn, that it is the proud manufacturing center of churns and cribs, candy, corn planters and cement bricks, with factory sites galore for more—deserves to have its altruistic attitude boosted by the alien and appreciative visitor.

Keokuk was and is still called the Gate City. It has somewhat better reason for its sobriquet than some other western towns that were made by a railroad its entrepot to a new territory.

Just above the confluence of the river are the rapids of the great river, where navigation was halted in the olden days and boats had to discharge their cargoes and haul over some eight miles for re-embarkation at the deep waters above or below. This made Keokuk in a very real sense the gate of the east-west ways of the north—nor when in the late 60's after the war which demonstrated its need more than ever, when Uncle Sam built a broad canal along the Iowa shore, with its outer bank well out in the bed of the river itself, eight miles long, and with its lower locks at Keokuk's door—was it any less the Gate City than before?"

And in the future will Keokuk still boast itself the portal of the Father of Waters; when here shall be choked the onward sweep of the mighty current and the great dam sunk far into the bed rock of the river's bottom and rising for above the highest crest of the river's surface, shall have made it submerge the broad canal and many square miles of shore far up the valley and formed a great lake the pressure of whose waters at the dam will create fabulous power, which harnessed electrically to serve its captor, man, for perhaps still more wonderful achievements.

I know too many thousands of Americans even familiar as we are with great projects and undertakings, the idea of damming the Mississippi will

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sound quite incredible and occasion many of us to acquiesce with dear old Bobbie Burns that "Streams are like men, the less they're dammed the better," and yet, by 1915 this stupendous feat is scheduled to be accomplished and the preliminary work is well advanced even now on the Illinois side of the river, and Keokuk by and bye will have a tremendous "gate" indeed.

Samuel R. Curtis in his inaugural address as mayor of the young but ambitious river town in '56, prophesied the canal and vigorously demanded it of congress, most glowingly setting forth its advantages to all the river states from Minnesota to the Gulf; but not in the wildest flights of imagination and oratory could the latter and greater project be prognosticated.

With the completion by the British of a similar and almost equally great work on the Nile, with Uncle Sam holding in leash great streams in the west, and severing the isthmus at Panama, we may with Paul no longer doubt and must with him exclaim "It doth not yet appear what we shall be."

Six years later the prophetic mayor was a general commanding the forces of the Union in the west and winning the first sanguinary battle of the great conflict in that section of Pea Ridge, Ark. He became a popular hero and easily leads the proud list of Keokuk's great men.

Up on the bluff at a principal street intersection long years after he had departed this life he erected a worthy monument to his memory, a fine equestrian statue of life size in bronze on a high granite pedestal facing west—the beautiful, great, free west, and the city he served, the state and the land he loved and did so much to develop and then defend.

SAMUEL RYAN CURTIS. Born 1803. West Point, 1826-1830. Mayor of Keokuk, Member of Congress. Col. 2nd Ia. Inf. & Brig. Gen'l 1861. Maj. Gen'l 1862-1866. Died 1866.

Erected by the City of Keokuk to Her Soldiers of 1861-1865. Emerson said the house that had a library had a soul, and with equal truth may it be said that a town that has a park is not without a soul. Keokuk has a beautiful one, named after a former mayor, RAND PARK, a large wooded undulating tract at the northern borders of the city on the highest bluff along the river. Much of it is densely shaded and affords delightful picnic and play grounds while there are shelter pavilions, abundant seats of iron neatly painted, urns and beds of flowers, clumps of flowering shrubbery, artistic and convenient placing of trees, and arrangement of drives and walks.

In one portion of this pleasant place is an extensive flower garden, many of them filled with flowers already in bloom, geranium, verbena, pansies, petunias and many other later varieties still to gladden the visitor with their wealth of color and perfume the season through.

In the midst of this great garden is a large pagoda of stone. Eight pillars support its roof which covers a bronze and marble drinking fountain. Beneath the eaves of the structure on the ornamental cornice are carved the words of presentation from a public spirited citizen.

"Prested To My Fellow Citizens—The People of Keokuk—Chas. P. Birge, 1901." While within, beneath the roof just above the supporting pillars is engraved a singularly appropriate line of Lowell's: "Glorious Fountain Let My Heart Be Fresh, Changeful, Constant, Upward, Like Thee."

From the bluffs at the eastern boundary of this park a panorama of surpassing beauty presents itself to view. Across the river, which is here a full mile in width, spread the cultivated fields and wooded shores of Illinois; while stretching as far as the eye can reach in broad and graceful curve is the magnificent sweep of the Mississippi.

At this vantage point standing like a huge sentinel to watch for the white man's coming is a monument of brown sand stone, 50 feet in height, conventional in form, and obelisk of rugged simplicity, bearing half way up its tapering face toward the river the name of KEOKUK.

And the pale face conquerors honor themselves no less than the chief in thus raising to his memory this worthy and appropriate memorial, upon which appears the following interesting inscription: This monument is Erected by Popular Subscriptions In memory of the Sac Chief KEOKUK.

"For whom this city is named. In 1883, his remains together with the marble slab on the reverse side of this die were brought from Franklin county, Kansas, where he died and was buried. His grave was located about 3 1/2 miles southeast of the village of Pomona, Franklin county, Kans., on the S.E. of the N.W. of section 16, township 17, range 18 east or the 6th principal Meridian, and was covered by the slab above mentioned. His remains with other matter of historical value are deposited in the base of this structure."

Keokuk's speech 1812 which made him a war chief: "I have heard with sorrow that you have determined to leave our village and cross the Mississippi merely because you have been told that the Americans were coming in this direction. Would you leave our village desert our homes and fly before our enemy approaches? Would you leave all even the graves of our fathers to the mercy of the enemy without trying to defend them? Give me charge of your warriors and I will defend the village while you sleep."

Keokuk's speech 1832 counselling against the Black Hawk war: "Braves! I am your chief; it is my duty to lead you as a father at home and to lead you to war if you determine to go. The United States is a great power, and unless we can conquer that great nation we must perish. I will lead you against the whites on one condition, that we shall first put all our old men, women and children to death and then resolve that having crossed the Mississippi we shall never return but perish among the graves of our fathers rather than yield to the white man." E. F. STRICKLAND.

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"Foley Kidney Pills Have Cured Me" The above is a quotation from a letter written by H. M. Winkler, Evansville, Ind. "I contracted a severe case of kidney trouble. My back gave out and pained me. I seemed to have lost all strength and ambition; was bothered with dizzy spells, my head would swim and specks float before my eyes. I took Foley Kidney Pills regularly and am now perfectly well and feel like a new man. Foley Kidney Pills have cured me." Wilkinson & Co.

ERECT MONUMENT TO A WOMAN

Pioneer of Webster County May Be Honored by Suitable Shaft Over Her Grave.

Boone News: The idea of a monument to mark the grave of Mrs. Henry Lett, probably the first white woman to make her home in this section of Iowa, has by no means been given up by the promoters of the matter and it is to again be presented to the Webster county board of supervisors in the hope an appropriation will be made so the monument can be erected and dedicated the latter part of August as was planned.

The Webster County Historical Society expects to take up the matter and a representative of that association will appear before the members of the board in the near future and ask a share of the expenses of the erection of a suitable marker to the grave of a pioneer woman he stood for this county, the Hamilton county officials already having expressed a willingness to pay half of the expense if the Webster county board would take the initiative.

Although the matter has been presented to the local board on a couple of occasions in the past, no action has been taken, the members of the board asking time in which to consult their pioneer residents regarding their feelings in the matter. However now that the matter is to be taken up by the Webster County Historical Society it is believed a favorable vote will be taken and the monument will become a reality.

Iowa Corn Crop, DES MOINES, Iowa, July 21.—Reports received by the state department of agriculture show that the acreage of corn planted in Iowa this year amounts to 3,950,000 acres or just a quarter of a million acres more than was planted last year. The condition is reported to be good and while the prospective harvest is about three per cent lower than last year the increased acreage is more than enough to overcome this. The total yield of corn will be up to the standard. There is a small falling off in the acreage of wheat. The acreage of spring wheat this year is 283,780 and winter wheat 183,370. Last year the spring wheat acreage was 303,655 and that of winter wheat 200,000. The wheat is not in as good condition as last year and the yield will not be as heavy.

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CARROLL SIGNS DEATH WARRANT

Execution of John Junkin, the Negro Will Take Place at Fort Madison at High Noon, July 29th.

NO ONE HAS APPEALED

Governor Unmolested From Custody Appeals to Stay Execution—High Court Not Asked to Review Case.

Governor B. F. Carroll has signed the death warrant of John Junkin the negro murderer sentenced to hang at Fort Madison Friday, July 29, the execution will take place at high noon.

The governor has not been appealed to by anyone in any manner to commute the sentence of Junkin or stay the execution. In fact not a move has been made in Junkin's behalf since the supreme court unanimously held that the sentence or death was just and should stand. The high court has not even been asked to review the case.

Hence, unless great influences are brought to bear upon the governor, which is improbable, Junkin will hang on the date set. The death warrant is as follows: EXECUTIVE WARRANT. Whereas, John Junkin was on the first day of June, A. D. 1909, in the district court of Iowa in and for Appanoose county, convicted of the crime of murder in the first degree, and Whereas, On the first day of June, A. D. 1909, the said court ordered and adjudged, upon a verdict of murder in the first degree, with punishment fixed at death therefor, that the said John Junkin be punished by death and fixed the time of punishment as the last Friday of July, A. D. 1910, being the

RAILROAD RECORD OF E. M. GILCHRIST

Entered the Service of the C. B. & Q. in 1868 and Was Faithful Until His Death. Centerville Citizen: The fact that the late Engineer E. M. Gilchrist has held many responsible positions in the railroad is brought out by the record of his service. In 1868 he entered the service of the Burlington Quincy branch of the C. B. & Q., where he remained until May, 1878, when he went on the extension of the C. B. & K. C. In 1880 he entered the maintenance of way department on the old B. & S. W., from 1881 to 1882 he was on the construction of the H. & S., or the Humes-ton and Shenandoah. In 1886 he was chief engineer of the St. L. & K. C. and the C. B. & K. C. from '91 to '95 he worked on the St. Louis extension and in 1896 was superintendent of the B. & B. Brookfield division, a position which he held until 1905, when he was transferred to the Centerville division, where he has remained. In 1909 he was promoted to resident engineer, a position he held at the time of his death. Edward M. Gilcrest, son of Charles and Minerva Gilcrest, was born January 18, 1846, at Westminster Vt., and

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FRATERNAL CARDS

MASONIC. Hall, corner Fourth and Main Eagle lodge, No. 12—Holds its regular meeting the first Tuesday evening of each month.

Hardin Lodge, No. 29—Holds its regular monthly meetings the second Monday evening of each month.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS. Hall Seventh and Main Streets. Keokuk Lodge, No. 13, meets regularly Monday evening at 8 o'clock. Geo. Hardin, N. G.; Otto Anschutz, Recording Secretary.

Puckchetuck Lodge, No. 43, meets every Friday evening at 8 o'clock. J. L. Canby, N. G.; Geo. W. Imme-gart, Permanent Secretary.

Herman Lodge, No. 116 (German), meets regularly every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock. A. H. Linne-burger, N. G.; Albert Kle'er, Rec. Sec.

Puckchetuck Encampment, No. 7 meets first and third Tuesday evenings of each month. Otto Anschutz, Scribe.

A. O. U. W. Keokuk Lodge, No. 256—Meets every Thursday night at 7:30 o'clock at hall over Keokuk Savings bank, corner Fifth and Main streets. Visiting brethren cordially invited. Ed. Vaughn, M. W.; A. A. Bruer, Recorder.

K. of P. Morning Star Lodge, No. 5—Meets Fifth and Bloudeau, K. of P. building Tuesday at 7:30 p. m. C. B. Burgess, C. C. B. Burgess, K. of R. and B. Visiting Knights fraternally invite.

KNIGHTS AND LADIES OF SECURITY, KEOKUK COUNCIL NO. 1039. Meets the first and third Monday of each month, at A. O. U. W. hall at 8 o'clock. E. E. Hawkes, president; E. Whitmarsh, Financial; Mayms C. Schenk, Secretary.

MODERN WOMEN OF AMERICA Gibbons Hall. Keokuk camp, No. 622—Meets every Wednesday evening at 7:30 p. m. Our latch string is out to neighbors, John Wustrow, V. C.; J. A. Tollard, Clerk.

B. P. O. ELKS. Keokuk Lodge, No. 106—Meets first and third Thursday nights at Elks hall, Gibbons opera house block, Sixth and Main streets. Club rooms open daily. Visiting brothers cordially invited. L. J. Wolf, E. R.; Willis J. Reimbold, Secretary.

ORDER OF OWLS. Regular meeting of the Order of Owls the first and third Tuesdays of each month at their hall in the Schlitz building, corner Third and Johnson streets, third floor. Visiting Owls are cordially invited. Chas. Olf, worthy president; Paul T. Pechstels, secretary.

FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES. Keokuk Aerie, No. 633—Meets first and third Wednesday of each month at Eagles' hall, corner Eighth and Main. Visiting brothers cordially invited. Frank Moeller, W. President; C. A. Noaks, Secretary.

Local Freight Trains. \*Train 478—Leaves Keokuk. 7:40 am \*Train 741—Leaves Keokuk. 2:55 pm \*Train 472—Arrives Keokuk. 8:15 pm \*Train 470—Arrives Keokuk. 1:05 pm

K. & W. I. ELECTRIC CO. Leaves Keokuk. Hamilton Jo. Warsaw. 7:10 am 7:25 am 7:45 am 8:45 am 9:00 am 9:15 am 10:15 am 10:30 am 10:50 am 12:05 pm 12:25 pm 12:45 pm 2:30 pm 2:45 pm 3:00 pm 4:00 pm 4:15 pm 4:30 pm 6:10 pm 6:25 pm 6:45 pm 7:45 pm 8:00 pm 8:20 pm 9:30 pm 9:45 pm 10:00 pm 10:45 pm 11:00 pm 11:15 pm

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Note—Daily, except Sunday. All other trains daily.

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Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets gently stimulate the liver and bowels to expel poisonous matter, cleanse the system, cure constipation and sick headache. Sold by all dealers.

Tax Sale Notice. To Mrs. S. S. Chapman: You are hereby notified that on the 3rd day of December, 1906 Lot (12) twelve, in Block (2) two, Messenger Addition to Keokuk, Iowa was sold to George S. Tucker for delinquent state and county taxes; that I am the lawful holder and owner of the certificate of purchase thereof; and that the right of redemption will expire and a deed for said real estate be made, unless redemption from such sale be made within ninety days

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CHILD MORTALITY IN SUMMER

Every summer the newspapers are full of horrifying stories of the death list among infants and children and extremely old people. In nursing infants and children still being fed largely on milk this is usually due to the quality of the milk itself, and in aged people to a general weakening of the system because of extreme heat. Still, a great many of the deaths are due to digestive trouble, and these can usually be avoided by the timely use of a reliable laxative-remedy. There is no remedy for this purpose that lends itself better to the uses of children and aged people than Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin, which for a generation has been the reliance of thousands of mothers and which is gaining in favor every year. This remedy, unlike a purgative, salt, laxative water or "infant medicine," contains nothing that is dangerous to the health of the weakest or youngest person, and its children. Go to your druggist this very day and buy a 50 cent or \$1.00 bottle, and like thousands of other parents, keep it on hand for an emergency. You can obtain a FREE SAMPLE BOTTLE by addressing

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