

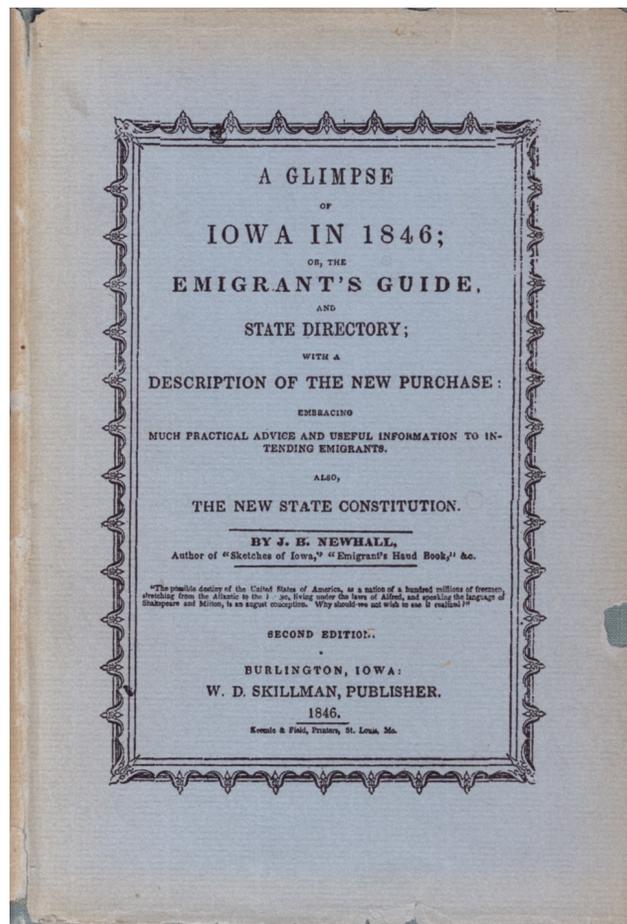
*Pieces of Iowa's Past*, published by the Iowa State Capitol Tour Guides weekly during the legislative session, features historical facts about Iowa, the Capitol, and the early workings of state government. All historical publications are reproduced here with the actual spelling, punctuation, and grammar retained.

**April 30, 2014**

**THIS WEEK:**

**Iowa City**

**BACKGROUND:** From: *A Glimpse of Iowa in 1846; or, the Emigrant's Guide (and State Directory)*. The following is the city directory entry for Iowa City.



# Iowa City.

The site of this city was selected by a board of commissioners in 1839, as the permanent Capitol of Iowa. The situation is one of great beauty, in the midst of all that wild and enchanting scenery so peculiar to a prairie country. Its incipient growth was rapid and almost unparalleled in the history of towns. In eleven months from the period the first settlement was made (then an Indian hunting ground) Iowa City contained a population of about 700 souls, 3 hotels, half dozen stores, several churches, and artizans of almost every description. The State House, or Capitol, is situated on a commanding eminence, overlooking the whole city, and when completed will be decidedly the most spacious and magnificent edifice in the Territory. The design is a chaste specimen of Grecian and Doric architecture, surmounted by a dome, supported by 22 Corinthian columns.—The Territorial Legislature already convenes in this edifice; it likewise contains the Territorial Library, and the offices of the Secretary, Treasurer, &c., of the Territory, although the interior is not yet finished. Iowa City is 75 miles from Burlington, 86 from Dubuque, 30 from Bloomington, and 80 miles east of the Raccoon Fork of the Des Moines.

## IOWA CITY DIRECTORY—1846.

*Mercantile Establishments, Dry Goods, Groceries, &c*—John Powell. E. C. Lyon, C. H. Berryhill, L. Holt, Theodore Sanxay, M. Murray, Geo. Andrews.

*Grocery and Provision Dealers*—F. P. Brassart, C. H. Buck, M. M. Montgomery, N. C. Boye.

*Coffee Houses*—Charles Frink, R. C. Keathy.

### *Churches.*

Old School Presbyterian,	Pastor,	Rev. M. Hummer
New School, do	"	" W. W. Woods.
Episcopal Methodist,	"	"
Protestant,	"	" Mr. Pierson.
Roman Catholic,	"	" Mr. Godfrey.
Baptists,	"	" Mr. Smith.
Christian Church,	"	" J. Clark.

*Physicians*—S. M. Ballard, Jesse Bowen, Henry Murray, Ezra Bliss, S. R. Crummey, N. G. Sales, W. W. Woods, Wm. McComrack.

*Lawyers*—Curtis Bates, J. P. Carleton, G. Folsom, M. Reno, Hugh D. Downey, Eastin Morris, W. Penn Clark, D. A. Shaffer, F. H. Lee, Geo. S. Hampton, P. H. Patterson, P. D. Turner.

*Institutions*—Mechanics' Mutual Aid Association.

Fire Company (No. 1)

Iowa City (Masonic) Lodge No. 4.

Iowa City Royal Arch Chapter No. 2.

*Schools*—Iowa City University; Iowa City College; Female Academy, Mrs. Creig, Preceptress.

*Printing Offices*—Iowa Capital Reporter, published on Wednesdays, by A. H. Palmer.

Iowa City Standard, published on Wednesdays, by Foster & Morris.

Watchman, (Religious) Rev. C. R. Fisk, Editor.

*Mills*—Iowa City Mill Company, grinding and sawing; likewise another for grinding and carding.

*Postmaster*—C. Trowbridge

The situation of Iowa City, and surrounding landscape, will remind the tourist of the city of St. Omir, in France. Perhaps no two places in the world, are encompassed with natural scenery more strikingly similar. The writer speaks as an eye witness. Time will not obliterate his impressions, when gazing, by the soft sunlight of France, upon the spires and domes of the latter city, surrounded by "tower, moat, and battlement."