

THE State Historical Society has had Secretary Howard's report published in pamphlet form, and which is being distributed among the members and friends of the society. As the importance and usefulness of this society is becoming to be more generally understood, more interest in its welfare is being manifested. In enumerating some of the more important things undertaken by the society it should be borne in mind that what has been accomplished is the result of the voluntary efforts of but two or three members. Besides collecting a valuable library of over 4,000 volumes, it has gathered together the nucleus of a collection of curiosities that have an historical value. This collection has been augmented by a valuable and interesting collection of relics gathered from the field of Wounded Knee, presented by the Omaha *Bee's* press correspondent. Among the more interesting articles may be mentioned a well worn blood-stained Indian belt attached to which was several cartridges and the sheath of a scalping knife. Also a pair of Indian bracelets that Chief Big Foot's squaw took from her wrists and gave to the *Bee's* correspondent, as a "thank offering" for a drink of water that he gave her after she had been shot and carried to the rear. Another interesting relic is a psalm-book found on the body of a "good Indian." When we were examining this book three Sunday-school cards fell out, silent witnesses of an Indian's incongruities. All of these relics are more or less blood-stained and all have the strong and disagreeable odor that is indisputable of the genuineness of the articles.

ALREADY, several normal school bills have been introduced into the legislature and more will follow. There is need of another training school for teachers of the state, but this is likely to be lost sight of before the struggle over a location has ceased. It is a pity that such a measure depends in any way upon legislative trading. If the legislators would drop local pride and do the best possible thing, they would establish a normal department in the state university in lieu of another school. Not a department composed of one professor and a page in the catalogue, but a fully equipped normal department. The use of the facilities already enjoyed by students of the university would place the normal far ahead of other schools of the kind, and the additional expense to the state would be but a fraction of the cost of establishing a separate school. Besides the large number of our students that become teachers, must go without the special training they should have, unless they go to a normal school. Teachers have not been slow to recognize the advantages of such a department in connection with the university, and much private comment upon the matter was heard during their

last state meeting. If their opinions were given proper consideration, the action of the legislature would be more certain.

THE recommendation made by General Miles that the Indian bureau be transferred from the interior to the war department is a good one. It is practically the same reform that General Grant attempted to inaugurate in 1873, but which was defeated, thanks to the efforts of the politicians assisted by the theoretical and hair-brained philanthropists. Aside from the dishonesty and corruption of the Indian agents who are appointed for political reasons and without the least regard for their personal qualifications, they are in most cases removed before they have had the experience even if they had the capacity, to better their ignorance. Where the Indians are not robbed directly, they are robbed indirectly by the criminal mismanagement of their stores until they are driven to starvation. While all possibility of mismanagement could not be removed it could at least be reduced to a minimum by placing the Indians in charge of army officers who are bound by professional considerations to honest methods and fair dealings, and who would not be subject to removal at every shake of the political dice.

THE January number of the *Revue Historique*, the leading historical publication of France, contains the following complimentary notice of one of our own professors in its summary of recent work in the United States.

"Mr. George E. Howard, professor in the University of Nebraska, has devoted a remarkable study to the history of the local justices of the peace in England. One finds in it not only the history of the justices of the peace and an analysis of their functions at the present hour, but also a very interesting exposition of the way in which was formed the judicial conception of the *paix* in opposition to the *faida*, of all the forms of *wergeld* and composition of the *frith*, or peace established by popular justice, of the king's peace, imposed in the name of the state, and finally of the successive transformations of the local police in England.

THE faculty has received a request from a committee of superintendents and principals representing the state teachers to open the laboratories during the summer months. The object of this is to afford an opportunity for the teachers to pursue the scientific studies in regularly equipped laboratories, and under competent instructions without interfering with their work as teachers. There was some talk of doing this two years ago, but the faculty did not receive sufficient encouragement to justify themselves in trying the experiment. It is to be hoped that arrangements may be made by which the teachers can be accommodated.

THE Iowa Wesleyan university will send as their representative to the state oratorical contest a young lady, Miss Anna Williams. Should she succeed in