

## The Story of Our States

By JONATHAN BRACE  
XXIX.—IOWA



THE State of Iowa was originally occupied by the Iowa Indians. The actual meaning of the word has been interpreted in several ways. Some say it means "beautiful land," but the more likely derivation is the Algonquin word "ajawa" which means "across" or "beyond." This was probably applied to this tribe of Indians by the Illinois tribes who were hostile to them, and resided on the eastern side of the Mississippi river. The early white visitors to this region included Marquette and Joliet, who landed here on their explorations of the Mississippi in 1673.

The first settlement was made by a French Canadian named Julien Dubuque. He obtained in 1788 a large grant of land from the Indians, where the city which was named after him now stands. Here he flourished, mining lead and trading with the Indians, until his death in 1810, when this settlement was given up.

With the acquisition of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, Iowa, which was a part of this huge territory, came into the hands of the United States from France. At first Iowa was a part of the Louisiana territory, then of Missouri territory. Later it formed a portion of Michigan territory and then of Wisconsin territory. In 1838, however, it attained a distinct individuality when it was formed into the Iowa territory.

Pioneers soon came in large numbers and about 1832 a substantial settlement was made near Burlington, and Dubuque was founded in 1833. The population grew so rapidly that in 1846 Iowa was admitted as the twenty-ninth state of the Union. Its area is 56,147 square miles and it has thirteen presidential electoral votes.

Iowa is familiarly called the Hawkeye State.  
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XIX.—INDIANA



IT WAS the French flag which first floated over Indiana. In the middle of the seventeenth century La Salle's explorations brought him through the wooded wilderness of Indiana. Shortly thereafter followed Jesuit missionaries from Quebec and in their trail came adventurous rangers and fur traders. French forts and trading posts were soon established. In 1763 the British took possession of this territory after the French and Indian wars, and remained in possession until the Revolution.

One of the boldest campaigns of the Revolution was that of Clark's little army, whose indomitable courage and audacity finally defeated the large British garrison at Vincennes and won the Northwest territory for Virginia. Pioneers from the East and from Kentucky made their way into this new territory, and among these was Abraham Lincoln's family. It was in 1816, the year that Indiana became the nineteenth state, that Lincoln attained citizenship in Indiana. With the increase in population by 1800 Indiana Territory was formed, extending from the Ohio border west to the Mississippi and north to Canada. Vincennes was selected as the first capital. In 1804, when the Louisiana Purchase was made, the government of Louisiana was placed in the hands of the Indiana Territory officials, so that for one year the capital of Louisiana was also at Vincennes in Indiana.

Although nicknamed the Hoosier State, from the old southern slang for rough backwoodsmen, Indiana, with its 36,254 square miles, its fifteen Presidential electors, and containing as it does the center of population, is considered of utmost importance politically.  
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XX.—MISSISSIPPI



THE State of Mississippi derives its name from the river which forms its western boundary.

The word itself comes from the Algonquin mis-spelling which means "great river." It is popularly supposed to mean "Father of the Waters" but this interpretation is incorrect. The state is also known as the Bayou State from the many bayous which are formed by the shifting river. In this connection it is interesting to note the uneven course of the Mississippi river. Though the extreme length of the state from the Gulf to Tennessee is 330 miles, the western border, due to the winding of the Mississippi river, extends for nearly 500 miles.

The rivers play an important part in this state. They are so numerous and the country so subject to flood that the river bottoms cover nearly one fifth of the area of the entire state.

The early history of Mississippi is yoked up with that of Louisiana of which it originally formed a part. Discovered by De Soto in 1539, it was not until La Salle sailed down the river and claimed this territory, which he named in honor of his French king, Louis XIV, that a permanent settlement was established.

In 1763 the territory east of the Mississippi was ceded by the French to the English. For a while the lower portion of the present state was called West Florida. After being captured by the Spanish and later returned to the United States, the Territory of Mississippi was extended to its present size of 46,865 square miles and in 1817 it was admitted as the twentieth state of the Union. At the time of the Mexican war, although called upon to supply one regiment of volunteers, Mississippi responded with enough men for two. One of these regiments was commanded by Jefferson Davis, who later was the president of the Confederate states. Since its readmittance to the Union in 1870 Mississippi in national elections has been a Democratic state except in 1872, when it voted for Grant.

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XXX.—WISCONSIN



THE many cities in Wisconsin with French names show the French influence in its early settlement. The first white man to penetrate this region was Jean Nicolet, who was sent out in 1634 by Champlain to open trade with the Indians. He landed at Green Bay and probably traversed the country to Chicago. Fur traders and missionaries followed and the latter built a mission where Ashland now stands. This was the first church erected in the state and around it sprang up the first permanent settlement. Joliet and Father Marquette descended the Wisconsin river, and La Salle explored a great deal of Wisconsin before he took his famous trip down the Mississippi. Among the fur traders to come to Wisconsin shores was Daniel du Lhut, after whom the city of Duluth, Minn., was named.

During the Revolution Wisconsin remained loyal to the British and though Wisconsin became a part of the United States by the Treaty of Paris in 1783, it was not until 1816 that federal troops really established authority there. Indian uprisings continued for some time ending only with the Black Hawk war in 1832. Then followed extensive immigration from the New England States.

Wisconsin had formed a part of the Northwest territory until 1800, when it became a part of Michigan territory, under which jurisdiction it remained until 1836, with the exception of nine years, when it was considered a part of Illinois territory. With the admission of Michigan as a state, the Wisconsin territory was created, which included also the present states of Iowa and Minnesota and portions of North and South Dakota.

In 1848 Wisconsin was taken into the Union as the thirtieth state. Its area is 52,000 square miles and it has thirteen electoral votes for president.

The state is named after the Wisconsin river. This is an Ojibwa phrase which means "gathering waters." It is sometimes called the Badger State.  
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If you like the editorials, tell your friends about them, and help to make them bear fruit.

### WILL TAKE LAND FROM SEA

People of Holland Meet Problem of Expanding Population in Characteristic Dutch Fashion.

After many years' deliberation the people of Holland have decided that they need more land, and, having reached that decision, they have gone about the acquisition of it with characteristic Dutch energy and determination, says Popular Mechanics Magazine. The program contemplates the building of a 30-mile dike across the outlet of the Zuyder zee and gradual reclamation of parts of that body by means of smaller dikes and a filling-in and pumping process. The damming of the north end of the Zuyder zee presents difficulties, not only on account of the length of the dam, but also due to the fact that at the Friesland shore end the water depth varies from 11 to 33 feet. The foundation of the great dam will be, literally, billions of all sizes of tree branches, lashed together into great bundles. These will be sunk, forming a supporting mat of enormous area. Upon this will be placed a thick layer of coarse crushed stone, and on this powerful foundation will be reared the masonry of the dike.

### Plant Diseases Costly.

Millions of bushels of grain, fruit and vegetables and a big tonnage of cotton were lost to American farmers last year by plant diseases, according to figures compiled by the plant disease survey of the Department of Agriculture. The survey said that the statistics indicate that lack of prompt application of known measures of control was largely the cause of the loss. The plant disease survey estimated the losses at 112,000,000 bushels of wheat, 50,000,000 bushels of oats, 80,000,000 bushels of corn, 50,000,000 bushels of potatoes, 40,000,000 bushels of sweet potatoes, 185,000 tons of tomatoes, 850,000 bales of cotton, 5,000,000 bushels of peaches and 10,000,000 bushels of apples.

### Tuberculosis Ebbs and Flows.

The decline of tuberculosis is likened to that of leprosy by Dr. Louis Corbett, lecturer in pathology at the University of Cambridge. Leprosy was formerly one of the world's great scourges, but has become practically extinct in western countries. Tuberculosis seems to be following, as it is declining at an increasing rate, its deaths having fallen off nearly 60 per cent since 1895. Apparent causes of the change are lessened overcrowding, otherwise improved social conditions, more and better food, and the adoption of methods of real ventilation. The war has given tuberculosis a new lease of life in European nations, especially in half-starved Austria, where it runs riot.

### FATAL SHOOTING OF WM. ALDOUS HELD ACCIDENTAL

That the fatal shooting of William Aldous by George Luce in the Coast mountains in the southwestern part of the county was purely accidental was the verdict of the coroner's jury called to investigate the shooting.

According to the findings of the coroner's jury, Luce and Aldous were both hunting for bear in the same vicinity but not together. Luce saw

the bear, which happened to be between him and Aldous, aimed and fired, but the bullet passed beyond the bear and hit something which caused it to swerve in its course and strike Aldous.

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The Sentinel wants all the news all the time. If you know an item, phone it in. Our number is 159-J.

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