



From the Executive Director

By Colton Neely

I want to thank everybody for the generous donations made in support of repairing William Salter's Bust. As fellow supporters of DMCHS, we are currently collecting donations to fill the cracks of the statue's mossy green marble pedestal. Previously, the statue had been in archives in three separate pieces. After further investigation, we decided to pull the object out to honor William Salter for his efforts in founding our Old Library that is now our Heritage Museum. Once we have enough donations, we will send the piece out for conservation work, and upon return it will be placed on permanent display in the old library stacks.

Why the stacks you may ask? In 2023, we will be working on opening up the space for the general public to explore the history of the Old Library, New Library, Apple Tree Museum, and our current location. This will include never before seen artifacts, an interactive family-friendly exhibit, and of course—William Salter's bust! So I ask, can you help donate today for the repair of this marvelous statue?

Additionally, we have been taking advantage of the warm weather in Burlington to revamp the landscape and memorial garden in the back of the Garrett-Phelps House. For those interested in donating to help maintain the garden, please consult with me about how you can help next year. In addition to donations, I would also like to ask for volunteers to assist in maintaining the yard just as the Garrett and Phelps families would have liked!



This major clean up was hard work, and I personally cannot thank Kay, Scott, and Adam Swanson enough for their efforts. I also want to thank our Assistant Director, Tim Blackwell, and Board President, LaVon Worley, for their help in cleaning up the yard and hauling the brush away. Also huge thanks to LaVon's wife, Judy Worley, for providing lunch to all those who came out to help. Lastly, our dedicated volunteers, Diane Sweeden and Taylor and Evan Bissig, who helped with additional weeding and providing a chainsaw. All of your teamwork and dedication has helped tremendously with the improvement of the Garrett-Phelps House landscape.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, feel free to contact me at the Heritage Museum for more information.

Upcoming Events at the Heritage Museum

November 12

Janet Hesler: The History of Danville, Iowa

1 to 3 pm

Come learn about the early settlers of Danville in 1834, their schools, their churches, and their businesses. Danville Station was a thriving community from 1860 - 1921 when much of the business district burned down. The community banded together and rebuilt their businesses. The presentation will include the story of the Anne Frank connection in 1940. Doors will open at 12:45 pm.

December 10

Steve Brower: Aldo Leopold and the Roots of the Land Ethic

1 to 3 pm

Biographers, conservationists, and philosophers are interested in identifying the sources of Leopold's Land Ethic. Through family history research and interviews with the Leopolds, new information has surfaced, explaining how Aldo started on the path to the Land Ethic at a very early age, even before starting school. This program covers some of the high points of Leopold's career in Wisconsin and the Southwest, before focusing in on some of the newly found sources in Burlington. This way, people who are new to Leopold's ideas can first learn of his significance before going into the details of how his Burlington roots influenced his career. This program uses photos and quotes from Aldo's childhood and early career to study the influences from his youthful discoveries. We take a look at some of Aldo's favorite places to learn more about his reflections used in later writings and development of the Land Ethic. Doors will open at 12:45 pm.

All events are held at the Heritage Museum, 501 N 4 Street.
Please use the Columbia Street entrance. Look for the blue awning!

Upcoming Events at Garrett-Phelps House

December 1 & 3

A Taste of the Holidays

4 pm

Mark your calendars for another special Christmas Event at the Garrett-Phelps House! Make reservations by phone at (319) 752-7449 space is limited to 10 guests per night. Cost is \$25 per guest and payment can be made in-person at the Heritage Museum, by credit card over the phone, or by mail addressed to the Heritage Museum. All proceeds will go toward restoring the South Porch of the house. The menu for the evening will be:

Menu

Appetizer / Libations
Orange Almond Salad / Rolls
Meats / Cheeses / Sides
Desserts / Cherry Bounce
Tea / Coffee

For more information, please check our web page, newsletter, social media, and the Heritage Museum staff.

Our Mission: Provide Opportunities for education, research and the preservation of Des Moines County History

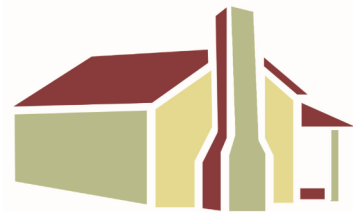
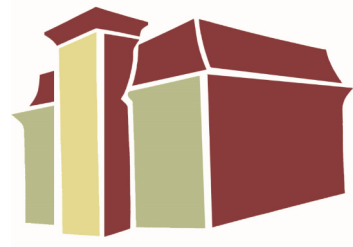


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Offices located at Heritage Museum
501 N 4th Street Burlington, IA 52601
Voice: 319-752-7449 FAX: 319-753-2449
dmchs@dmchs.org

Volunteer Help Needed!

Calling any current and new volunteers to assist with cleaning at the Heritage Museum. As a thanks for your hard work snacks and drinks will be provided! Below are the dates and times your help is needed:

November 1, 8, 15
10 am - 1 pm

December 6, 13, 20
10 am - 1 pm

If you are interested or have any questions don't hesitate to reach out to Kay at (319) 752-7449.

Featured Finds: A. Dodge Letter

By Tim Blackwell

This month's find was a rather unexpected one buried within a filing cabinet on the lower level of the library stacks. At first glance the letter appears to be nothing more than an example of the elegant penmanship of the 1850s, however it's the signature that indicates the significance this document has in our collection.

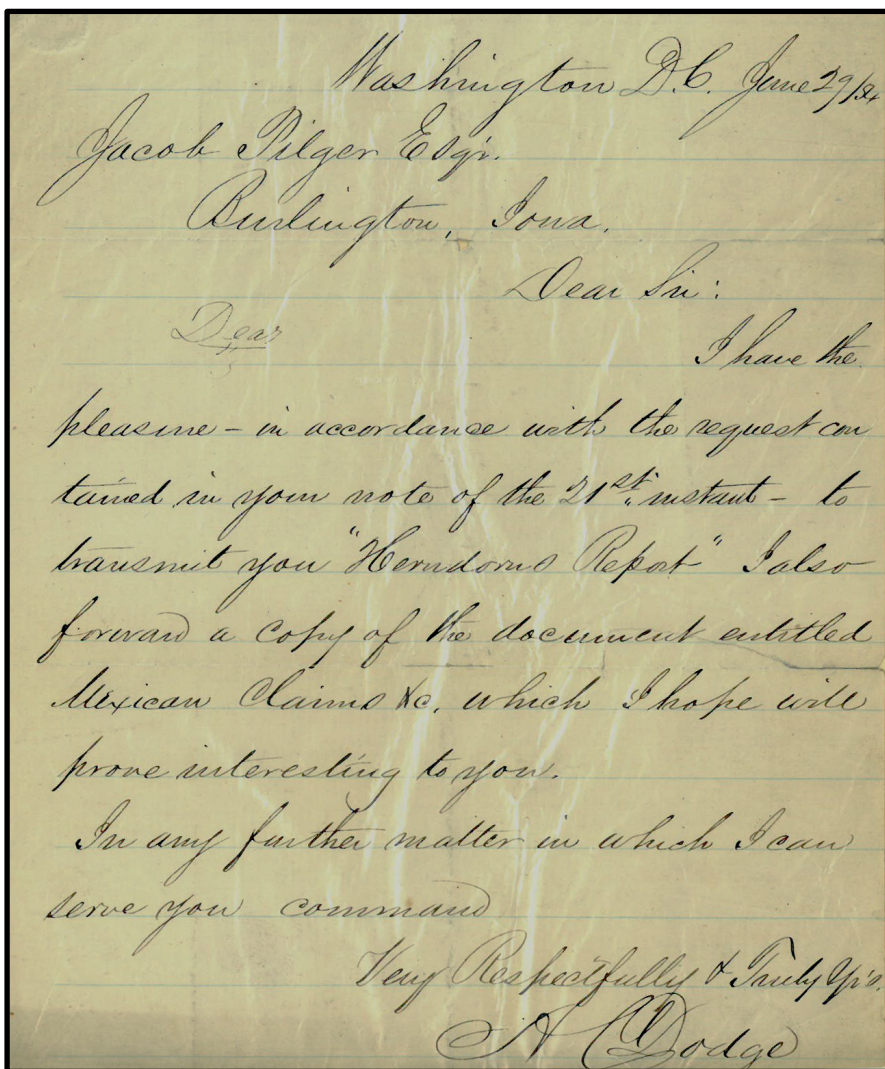
Signed, *A. Dodge*, short for Augustus Caesar Dodge, who became a transplant to Des Moines County after being appointed Register of the Land Office at Burlington in 1838. His initial appointment allowed Dodge to be recognized for his public speaking skills, which secured him a seat as a representative of the Iowa Territory in Congress in 1840.

Much of Dodge's legislative efforts focused on the western boundary of Iowa, and it was under the provisions of the "Dodge Bill" that Iowa became a state in 1846, extending west to the Missouri River. In 1848, Augustus Caesar Dodge became the first person born west of the Mississippi to be elected to the U.S. Senate and he served from 1848 to 1854. After Dodge lost reelection to the Senate, President Franklin Pierce appointed him Ambassador of Spain, a title he held until 1859.

The letter shown in the image was written to Jacob Pilger of Burlington, Iowa in June 1854, while Dodge was still in the Senate. In this letter, Dodge details the transmission of a report, as well as his intentions to *forward a copy of the document entitled Mexican Claims*. While the contents of those documents may be unknown, it is the preservation of this letter that allows one to physically and emotionally connect with a figure who was significant to the founding of Iowa as the state we know it to be today.

As we move into 2023, it is imperative that we recognize the importance of preserving our collection, both objects and manuscripts. With that, I ask that you consider donating to assist

rehousing and digitizing the many pieces of our collection. Your continued support will help ensure the longevity of our collection and further promote its accessibility as we plan to make manuscripts such as Dodge's available online. For those interested in viewing a larger and more detailed image of the letter please visit our Facebook page or website. We would also love for you to try transcribing the letter and sending us what you come up with!



Washington D.C. June 27/54
Jacob Pilger Esq.
Burlington, Iowa.

Dear Sir:

I have the pleasure - in accordance with the request contained in your note of the 21st instant - to transmit you "Herndon's Report" I also forward a copy of the document entitled Mexican Claims &c. which I hope will prove interesting to you.

In any further matter in which I can serve you command

Very Respectfully & Truly Yrs.
A. Dodge

Donations & Memberships

Names are for receipts dated from the 15th through the 15th of each month.

In Memory of
William and Martha Pratt
Jeff Heland

In Memory of
Joan Foley
Marika Nunnikhoven

In Memory of
John Sandell
Judy Stevens

Memberships
Dee Stigge
Marcia Walker
Lyn Stinson
Marilyn Demijan
Terry Reis & Martha Colgan-Reis
Julie & Matthew Martineau
Jim & Ann Hofmann
Robin & Kathy Thomas
Robert Stumpf
Austin & Sarah Schwartz
Bettie Raines
Pat & Al Bowman
Forest Gahn
Mary Graham
Cynthia & Daryl Brown
Ralph Anderson
Chris Gram
Scott Wood
Kathy Mundt Shriver
Win & Gail Boyd
Diane Sweeden

Donations
Dennis Wilson
Messiah Lutheran Church
Roger Hatteberg
Ralph Anderson
Annette Kuhlemeier
Kathy Mundt Shriver
Win & Gail Boyd
Nancy & Wayne Tolander

Donation Form/Membership Renewal

Check (# _____) **Cash** **Credit Card** (For credit card please call the Heritage Museum@ 319.752.7449)

Please send completed forms to DMC Historical Society, 501 N 4th Street, Burlington, IA 52601. Make checks payable to DMCHS.

Name _____
Address _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email Address _____

This donation is to renew my membership (Select only one:) Individual \$25 Family \$50 Bronze \$250

I am making this donation (Select one)

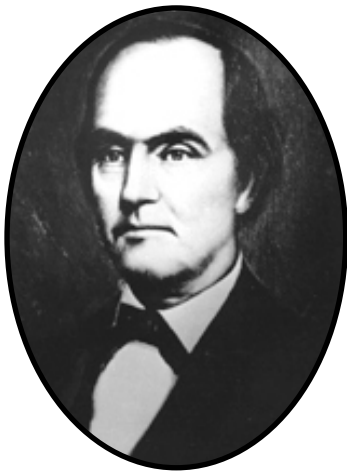
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Our Mission: Provide Opportunities for education, research and the preservation of Des Moines County History



DES MOINES COUNTY
 HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 Heritage Museum • Bart Howard Lounge
 Garrett-Phelps House • Crapo Park Log Cabin
 501 N 4th Steet • Burlington, IA 52601

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Augustus C. Dodge

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Museum Hours

Heritage Museum: Open Tuesday through Friday from 10 to 4 pm and Saturday from 10 to 3 pm.

Garrett-Phelps House & Crapo Park Log Cabin: Closed for the season, will reopen May 2023.

Updates will be posted through Facebook, email, and our webpage: www.dmchs.org.