
Introductory

From 1854 to 1859, four volumes of *Reports and Collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin* were published by the State. In 1860, the Legislature, to lessen the public burdens, intermitted its publication; but with the return of peace and prosperity, the Legislature of 1866 authorized the Society to have published by the State Printer a *Part*, of 150 pages a year, to commence in 1867, and to be consecutively paged, so that three successive parts should form a volume. Circumstances unnecessary here to mention, prevented the Secretary and editor of the Society's publications, from commencing the issue of this new series until now; but the delay has added very considerably to the accumulation and completeness of the *material* from which to make the selection. For the convenience of the editor, and for the sake of securing uniformity of paper, the third Part, that for 1869, is a little anticipated in the order of time. The fifth volume of the Society's *Collections* presents, we believe, quite as varied a historic melange, and as replete with interest, as either of its predecessors.

Again we appeal to our friends for appropriate contributions—to our surviving pioneers for their reminiscences, and to our citizen soldiery who served in the late war, for diaries, documents, personal and general narratives.

L. C. D.

MADISON, WISCONSIN, Oct., 1868.