

State. With this end in view, the following sketch has been prepared, not as a formal monograph, but as a collection of such data as are obtainable. The death of many of the old settlers who lived in the early lead-mining days, and the scarcity of materials on this subject, have made the task an extremely unsatisfactory one. It is published with the hope that its mistakes and shortcomings may be rectified by those who actually took part in the events, or have recollection of them.

The Story of the Tower.

Materials for a historical sketch of the old Helena shot-tower are for the most part not to be found in books, least of all in the local histories of the State. They have been gathered from official records, newspapers, letters, and especially from the recollections of old settlers.¹ Aside from inadequate and often erroneous accounts in the quarto *History of Iowa County*, only five works were found which

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