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HISTORICAL AND  
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OF OHIO, PP.1-130**

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**VARIOUS**

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JOURNAL

166

OF THE

HISTORICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL

SOCIETY OF OHIO.

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race now extinct, were also objects deemed worthy of attention.

This Society was incorporated in February, 1831; and its first Annual Meeting was held on the 31st of December following—at which meeting, By-laws were established for its government, and officers were elected to manage its affairs. The first President of this Society was the Hon. BENJAMIN TAPPAN, a gentleman as well known for his extensive Literary and Scientific acquirements, as for his profound knowledge as a Lawyer and his able course as a Jurist.

Notwithstanding the efforts of the President, as well as of the Curators of this Society, to enlist in its behalf the aid of gentlemen eminently qualified, in different sections of the State, to assist in carrying its views into operation, little has heretofore been done, either to advance its interest, or add to its usefulness. The Curators are happy, however, to find that their solicitations for aid within the past year have not been entirely disregarded; and that several gentlemen are preparing documents relative to the early history of particular sections of the State, which will hereafter appear in the Journal of the Society.

A few years only have passed since Ohio was considered solely an agricultural State; it was not then known that her mineral treasures were ultimately to constitute a considerable portion of her wealth; her rich beds of iron ore and mineral coal are now known to be almost inexhaustible; and within her borders there are already not less than thirty blast furnaces in successful operation, supplying this great country with every article of



iron needed for domestic purposes, or used in the extensive manufactories of the West.

The Geological Survey which is now progressing under the direction of our State Legislature, will doubtless be attended with the most beneficial results; and we anticipate that this Society will be furnished, by the gentlemen constituting that board, with much valuable information respecting the Natural History of the State, its fossil remains and mineral resources, as well as a more connected and interesting view of the "Ancient Works," which are abundantly spread over every part of our State: the history of which constitutes one of our most interesting inquiries. From recent developments we are induced to believe that a key will yet be found to unlock the deep mystery, which at present envelops these monuments of a people who have long since passed away, and whose memory, even, has faded from tradition.

We hope we are not too sanguine in anticipating for this Society extensive aid. We do not believe there is a citizen who is not deeply interested in its success; for it is identified with the honor of the State in which they live. May we not hope that the march of this Society will, in future, be onward, and that at no distant period, the *Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio* will stand second to no similar institution, in the interest which her collections will excite in the minds of an intelligent community.



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