

**THE SCHOOLS AND
THE TEACHERS OF
EARLY PEORIA**

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The schools and the teachers of early Peoria by H. W. Wells

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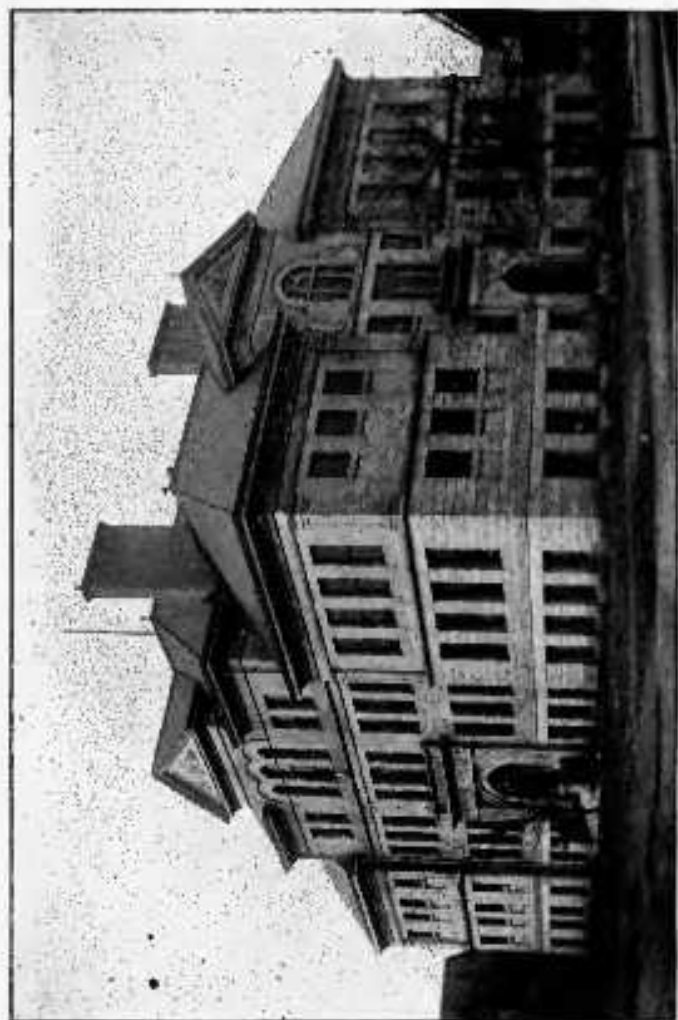
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H. W. WELLS

**THE SCHOOLS AND
THE TEACHERS OF
EARLY PEORIA**



THE LINCOLN SCHOOL.
Opened 1900

The
Schools and the
Teachers of
Early Peoria

By ^{about 1800-1850} H. W. WELLS

Peoria, Ill.
JACQUIN & CO.
1900.



THE SCHOOL HOUSE OF 1821.

There in his noisy mansion, skilled to rule,
The village master taught his little school.

—Goldsmith.

UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

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PREFACE.

This book is altogether made up from the recollection of teachers and pupils of the long ago. These were private schools that there were never any records kept of, and of course traditions grow dim as the years run away. One remembers a circumstance one way another remembers it differently. This difference in recollection applies especially to dates and more or less to all other circumstances here related, and of course many

PREFACE

errors must have crept in and some teachers entirely forgotten. The book, however, is as near correct as I could make it, and with this apology it is submitted to the considerate judgment of the surviving teachers and pupils in the schools of lang-syne and their friends who may read its pages.

Almost 80 years have elapsed since the first school was opened in Peoria, of that school, the teacher and the pupils all, save one, are long dead and gone. Concerning the next school, not a line of its history has ever been written; the teacher and all the pupils are dead or gone; every recollection of it has vanished beyond recall, in fact its existence was discovered by accident, and yet the children, or grandchildren of any teacher or pupil of any of those old schools would read with interest any ac-

PREFACE

count of them, were it possible any might be found. This book contains the traditions of many schools gathered from hundreds of different sources. The recollections are dim and will soon be forgotten. Perhaps something here written which may recall to some gray-headed father, or some matronly lady the pleasant recollections of their younger days as school children, when everything looked bright and all the way was along a path strewn with flowers. In the hope that it may do so I have written these lines.