

Last year, when the people of Louisa county sought a proper man to represent them in this branch of the General Assembly, they passed by the able lawyers, the ambitious politicians, the wealthy owners of princely mansions, in their rich county, and sought the humble cottage of "Squire Brown," a plain farmer who earned his bread by the sweat of his face. They loved him for his goodness, they honored him for his virtues, and they trusted him for his integrity; and their love, their honor, and their trust were all well placed.

During nearly three months he has shared in our deliberations; and we can all bear testimony to the gentlemanly bearing of the quiet, unobtrusive, yet faithful and attentive member from Louisa. His candid, open countenance bespoke a manly spirit and an honest heart.

But he has gone to the land beyond the river—to where the Tree of Life is blooming and bearing fruits celestial. There, on the happy fields of light, whither his hopes had flown before, the good man's soul hath found its home, free from sickness, care, and toil. Let us who remain, learn so to live, that, when we come to die, we may be able to look back upon a life well spent, and with an unflinching hope in a happy immortality, meet our end in peace.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

MR. SPEAKER:—I am directed to return herewith House Joint Resolution asking Congress to pass an act declaring and establishing the bridge and railroad track across the Mississippi river at Clinton, Iowa, a mail route, which has passed the Senate without amendment.

JAMES M. WEART,
Assistant Secretary.

Mr. McNutt offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The hand of an all wise Providence has taken from among us one of our Members, Hon. N. T. Brown, Member from Louisa county, in the prime of life and in the midst of usefulness, and

WHEREAS, by his unwavering integrity, his unblemished moral character, and his patriotic and Christian devotion in the cause of humanity he has embalmed his memory in the hearts of all with whom he had intercourse, therefore

Resolved, That the Members of this House recognize the hand of God in this deeply afflicted dispensation of his Providence, and humbly bow in submission to his will.

Resolved, That we not only cherish the highest regard for the deceased, but we do most cordially extend to his bereaved wife and family the devout sympathy of our hearts, and commend them to the kind protection of Him who has ever been the widow's shield and orphan's help.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be directed to have these resolutions printed in the "Iowa State Register," and a copy thereof forwarded to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

In seconding the motion to adopt the resolutions Mr. Burnett said :

MR. SPEAKER:—Permit me to add a few words to what has been already so well said about the lamented death of the Member from Louisa.

His vacant chair, clad in the habiliments of mourning, speaks to us in silent yet solemn warning. Our chairs will soon be vacant and we know not who will fill them for us. Other members—other husbands and fathers will soon be called to follow our brother to the grave. Other households will be left desolate and the shadow that now hangs so heavily upon this bereaved family may soon rest upon our households.

This is the last day of the session and we soon part to meet no more on earth. Our brother has but gone before us. "Brown of Louisa" will not again answer to the roll call of this General Assembly. *He has gone up higher* to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem and the innumerable company of angels. To the *General Assembly* and church of the first-born which are written in Heaven and to God, the Judge of all, and he is with the hundred and forty-four thousand who are on Mount Zion, in the presence of the Lamb.

Let us heed the solemn lesson of his death. It speaks to us impressively—" *be ye also ready* " for we know not the day nor the hour when we shall be summoned from our work here on earth to the bar of the ruler of the universe. While we are as legislators, making laws for this State, let us not forget that we are the subjects of the *great Law giver* and that He has power at any hour to call us into His presence to give an account for the deeds done in the body. Then earthly honors will avail us nothing. The gold of California or the wealth of the Indies can not then redeem our souls. When we descend into the dark valley of the shadow of death there will be no stay nor support for us unless we lean upon the arm of our blessed Redeemer who *died* that we might *live*. He is ever willing to stretch out to us his strong arm. He will meet us at the rolling river and bear us up so that the waters will not come over us.

But to receive this support in the trying hour of death we must like our brother from Louisa *believe* on the Lord Jesus and *serve* Him. He will not then desert us. God grant that we may so live that we may die the death of the righteous, and that our last end may be like his.

We can offer no words of comfort or consolation to the bereaved widow and the afflicted children.

The Lord has broken and he alone can heal. The Lord has af-