

of the Eldora Cemetery Society, and supervisor of Hardin County. He was for half a century treasurer of the local Odd Fellows Lodge. He died at Eldora on October 14th, 1918. He was honored and loved and respected by his neighbors and had the confidence and admiration of all who knew him.

Whereas, in his death the county and state have lost a worthy and honorable citizen;

Be It Resolved, That we hereby extend to the relatives and friends our tribute of respect; and be it further

Resolved, That these resolutions of respect be printed in the journal of the House and the Chief Clerk be directed to forward an engrossed copy to the family of the deceased.

KING OF HARDIN,
VANCE OF MADISON,
KLAUS OF DELAWARE.

JOHN A. COUSINS.

Honorable John A. Cousins was born April 15, 1837, in what is now Dubuque County, but which at that time was a part of the territory of Wisconsin. His father was Joseph Cousins, a pioneer farmer of that region and of English descent. His mother was Mary Baird Cousins. He received his early education in the log school house of the neighborhood and later he attended the Epworth Seminary and there completed his studies.

In 1890 the New Hartford State Bank was organized by E. Bourquin, E. C. Bellows, F. W. Paulger and Mr. Cousins, the latter acting as vice president. In 1898, Mr. Cousins with F. W. Paulger, W. W. Taylor and others organized the Plainfield Savings Bank at Plainfield, Bremer County, of which institution he was elected president and served the bank in that capacity up to the time of his death.

He served as Representative from Butler County in the 33rd and 34th sessions of the General Assembly of Iowa.

At Dubuque in 1859, he was united in marriage with Rebecca Fulmer, who has been his loving helpmate through fifty-nine years of happy married life and who survives him. To this union three children were born, two boys who passed away in their youth and one daughter, Nettie, who is the wife of Dr. J. G. Evans.

Mr. Cousins was a man of well and strong defined convictions and of a rugged honesty. The community keenly feels the loss of this man whose life was ever the constant support of the progress and uplift of the community. We all know where he stood on matters that effected the interests of the people. His life was appreciated by thousands who came in contact with him here and throughout the state.

On the 12th day of March, 1918, Hon. John A. Cousins passed away at the family home in New Hartford, Iowa. Funeral services were conducted from the Methodist Church at two o'clock Friday afternoon, Rev. Clements of Fonda officiated. Interment was made in Oak Hill cemet-

ery. The funeral was in charge of Beaver Lodge, A. F. & A. M., F. E. Lee of Waverly conducted the Masonic service.

The pall bearers were: Harry Sherman, L. A. Hoffman, W. J. Harmon, N. A. Olmstead, Charlie Jennings, S. P. Larson, F. C. Harmon of Shellrock, Leo Paulger of Cedar Falls.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the House of Representatives take this occasion to express its appreciation of his character and public services, and at this time to extend to his widow and daughter its sincere sympathy in their sorrow, and,

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the journal of the House, and that the Chief Clerk be directed to send an enrolled copy to the widow of the deceased.

O. L. MEAD,
W. W. SAYLOR,
C. J. LEVALLEY,

Committee.

HON. JAMES MERCER.

MR. SPEAKER—Your committee appointed to prepare resolutions commemorating the life, character and public service of the Hon. James Mercer of Pocahontas County, member of the House of Representatives in the Twenty-third and Thirty-second General Assemblies, beg leave to submit the following memorial:

James Mercer was born at Gault, Ontario, Canada, April 26, 1847, of Scotch parentage and died at his home near Fonda, Iowa, July 21, 1918. In 1855 he moved with his parents to Cascade, Dubuque County, Iowa, where he remained until twenty years of age.

After attending the public schools he spent two years in the Academy. On October 24, 1864, he became a member of Co. M, Sixth Iowa Cavalry. After his return from the army he found employment in the furniture business. In the spring of 1875 he moved to a farm in Cedar Township, Pocahontas County, Iowa.

He served as township clerk from 1879 to 1883 and from 1887 to 1889. He was secretary of the school board for a number of years and was a member of the board of supervisors from 1883 to 1886. In 1899 he was elected representative on the republican tickets to the Twenty-third General Assembly of Iowa from the Seventy-seventh district, composed of Clay and Pocahontas Counties, and again elected in 1896. In 1890 he helped to organize the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Pocahontas County, and with which he was connected until the time of his death. Of his family Mrs. Mercer and seven children survive.

Mr. Mercer was one of the first settlers of Pocahontas County and shared in all the hardships incident to a new country. He was interested in everything that was for the advancement of his chosen calling and for the public good. He was the owner of one of the finest farms in the county, the result of his own labor and management. He will be remembered by all that knew him as an enterprising citizen, as a true and loyal