

all the relations of life he so carried himself as to command universal respect. As a soldier, as a husband and father, as a friend, as a neighbor, as a private citizen, and as a public official, he was true to the trusts which rested upon him.

Captain Elerick rests beside his wife in Zion Lutheran cemetery near Douds, Iowa.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Senate of the Fortieth General Assembly recognizes that in the death of Captain James Elerick there has been lost one who in the flush of his young manhood dedicated his strength, even life itself, to the preservation of the Union, and afterward in public office was a faithful servant of the state.

Be It Also Resolved, That this memorial be spread upon the journal and that an engrossed copy be transmitted by the secretary to the daughter of the deceased.

C. J. FULTON,
FRANK SHANE,
JNO. R. PRICE.

The resolutions were adopted unanimously.

Senator Fulton spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT—I believe Senator Newberry is the only member of this body who had an intimate acquaintance with Captain James Elerick. I knew him but slightly as he was not a resident of my county.

Captain Elerick was a native of Ohio, but came to this state in his youth. He was one of our pioneers.

In his early manhood, as many of the boys in southeastern Iowa did, he went over into Illinois to improve his prospects. While there Lincoln called for troops and he enlisted in the Army of the Union. In little more than a year he was promoted to the Captaincy of his company. He was in many battles, from that of Pea Ridge to the siege of Atlanta and the capture of Franklin and Nashville. After more than four years of service he was mustered out. I need not say that with this record he was a faithful soldier.

Captain Elerick was a republican in politics. He could not well have been anything else reared as he was in the anti-slavery and free soil sentiment in southeastern Iowa, and after that long service in the army.

On his discharge from the army he returned to the neighborhood in which the greater part of his life was spent. There he was a good neighbor, diligent in his business and faithful to his friends. While there he was selected to serve his county as sheriff. He performed his duty in that office as efficiently as he performed his duties in the army.

Later Captain Elerick was chosen to represent the second district composed of Jefferson and Van Buren counties in this senate. He was not at all brilliant, but he was a safe and sound counsellor. He could be depended upon to act always in the direction he thought was for the best interests of his district and of the state. If he had any prejudices, he was able to overcome them. He was honest in his convictions.

I wish I were able to pay him a more worthy tribute. I hope that I may emulate his virtues and prove as true to the trusts reposed in me as he was true to the trusts reposed in him.

Senator Newberry spoke as follows:

It was my privilege to serve with Captain Elerick in the 30th, 31st, 32nd and the extra session of the 32nd General Assemblies in the Senate.

Captain Elerick was a dependable man, genial and companionable. It was my privilege to have served with him on the same committee. I believe he was a member of the Committee on Agriculture, of which I was a member during these three sessions. During these sessions the drainage laws of the state, the pure food laws, stock food laws, pure seed laws, pure drug laws, and others along that line were enacted. Senator Elerick rendered very efficient service in the enactment of these laws.

He was attentive to his duties and made a very excellent senator. It devolved upon him at numerous times to move the previous question, and he did it at the right time and in the right manner. The senator in this was a very useful Senator, as we will all acknowledge. He was a man of few words, genial and dependable.

It is with pleasure I recall Captain Elerick. A good, capable man has gone to his reward.

ROBERT C. STIRTON

MR. PRESIDENT—Your committee appointed to prepare resolutions commemorative of the life, character and public service of Senator Robert C. Stirton, late of Jones county, Iowa, beg leave to report the following memorial:

Mr. Stirton was born in Devonshire, England, April 2, 1861. His father and mother were Robert and Anne Stirton, both natives of Scotland. The father died when Robert was only two years of age, and shortly thereafter he was taken by his mother to Scotland, where they lived until 1871. During that year the widow and her son and daughter immigrated to America, and first located in Delaware county, Iowa. In 1873, they removed to Monticello, which had since been Mr. Stirton's home. He worked upon farms in the vicinity of Monticello during the summer months, while a youth, and attended the Monticello schools during the winter seasons and therein acquired a practical education, which was added to during the entire period of his life by his individual investigations and his ardent desire to secure knowledge. He never, during his entire lifetime, ceased to be a learner. He was a constant reader of good books, which included those of a serious and educational nature, and having a good mind and memory, he assimilated what he read, and as a result, he became an intelligent, well informed man.

After leaving school he taught school for several terms in the country, and in 1887, he was appointed assistant postmaster, but resigned that position three years later to enter the employment of G. W. and G. L. Lovell, early and successful bankers of Monticello. In 1897, when the private banking concern of G. W. and G. L. Lovell was organized as a state bank, he was selected as its cashier, and held that office for 24 years.