

school board for ten years, and a member of the public library board for forty-five years. He had been Vice-President of the First National Bank of Independence, Iowa since 1914, and a director since 1907, and for many years was referee in bankruptcy for Buchanan and Delaware counties.

Mr. Harmon was united in marriage to Miss Maria Carter December 24, 1872, with whom he lived in happy companionship until her death. To them were born two children, Ray C. of Des Moines, and Miss Jessamine of Independence. He was prominent in the G. A. R., of which he had been one of the early members, and his meetings with the old comrades being happy occasions in his later life. He was a member for nearly fifty-six years. He was a member of Independence Lodge No. 87, A. F. and A. M. and was Worshipful Master of the lodge in the years of 1872, 1873 and 1874.

Mr. Harmon was a long time member of the First Presbyterian Church of Independence. He was ever an earnest, conscientious Christian gentleman, who endeavored to live up to the teachings of his church in every thought and deed.

The death of Mr. Harmon, who was one of the oldest practicing attorneys in the state is mourned by Buchanan county people as well as by friends all over the northeastern part of the state. Plain and unassuming, he sought to keep out of rather than in the limelight, but by always doing his full share in any movement for the common good he won the respect of all. Senator Harmon always put principle before ambition.

Whereas, his record as a man, a legislator, and citizen has been of the highest character; therefore

Be It Resolved, That the Senate take this occasion to express its high appreciation of the splendid character and honest public service, and adopt this memorial in the name of the people of the State of Iowa as a tribute to his name and memory.

Also, Be It Further Resolved, That this resolution be spread upon the record of the Senate and that the same be engrossed and copies thereof sent to his son Ray Harmon of Des Moines, Iowa, and to his daughter Miss Jessamine Harmon of Independence, Iowa.

GEO. F. SLEMMONS

W. E. MCLELAND

I. N. SNOOK

Committee.

Senator Slemmons spoke in part as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT, and SENATORS, it certainly affords me great pleasure to make a few remarks in this memorial for Senator Harmon. It was my privilege to have had the acquaintance of Senator Harmon since I can remember. It was also my privilege to attend the same college and associate with those who were his friends since early life. In that way I came to know him perhaps better than many. From this intimate knowledge and association I came to respect, honor and love him more and more as the years went by.

Senator Harmon was a man who always put principle before ambition. No one knows how many litigations have been affected by his strong personality. He was a quiet unassuming man with a pleasant

smile. I have seen him sit in cases of arbitration, listen carefully and then quietly make suggestions which would iron out the difficulties, and win everybody's respect and confidence, and make stronger his friendship with all.

I have seen him enjoying social life, in which he joined in all the fun, always ready with his wit and humor.

The State of Iowa in his demise has lost a true, loyal and upright citizen. Anyone having associated with Senator Harmon in life would be influenced thereby in becoming better in life.

Mr. J. H. Mills spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT, and SENATORS, I can assure you, Senators, that it is not of my motion that I am addressing you here tonight. I was asked by Senator Slemmons if I would add some words on this memorial service and I told him I had never yet refused to talk where a soldier of the United States was concerned.

Comrade Harmon enlisted in Company K, Twenty-first Iowa on July 28th, 1862, as a private. He was made fifth sergeant in 1863 and promoted to fourth sergeant in 1864. Was mustered out at Baton Rouge in 1865. Comrade Harmon left home, friends, and all he held dear in defense of Old Glory. He was assisted in this great struggle by 2,900,000 as brave men as ever marched on a field of battle. He had 78,000 Iowa comrades, 2,900 in Iowa belonging to the G. A. R., 3,000 in Iowa besides, making a total in Iowa of 6,000 in round numbers who are left to tell the story; and out of the 2,900,000 called by the immortal Lincoln to defend Old Glory, there are but 133,000 left. They found the country in bad condition, the entire wealth being about \$16,000,000,000, with the grand old U. S. A. borrowing money for which they were paying 12 per cent interest. The south in armed rebellion, the north badly divided, making a dark outlook for the boys in blue; but Merritt Harmon and his comrades never hesitated or wavered in their support of the Union, ever remembering President Washington's farewell address admonishing the people to watch over the preservation of the Union with a zealous eye and indignantly frown on any attempt to alienate any portion of it from the rest.

Merritt Harmon and his comrades 2,900,000 strong marched to the front with a firm resolve to die rather than see Old Glory trail in the dust, they faced shot and shell on the battle field, starvation in prison pens, yet they would yield to nothing but unconditional surrender, which surrender came in the spring of 1865, when Merritt Harmon and his comrades were mustered out of the U. S. service with Old Glory floating in the breezes from every corner of the U. S., not a star gone, and honored by the nations of the earth as she never had been before. By this unflinching devotion to the Union, we have a country today that is the admiration of the world and with a wealth of \$350,000,000,000.

MR. PRESIDENT, and SENATORS, I must close, but I say to you that the brave deeds of Merritt Harmon and his comrades will live on through the ceaseless ages of eternity.

The resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.