

## REMARKS BY MR. MCNIE.

Hon. Joseph E. Cobbey was born October 13th, 1824, in Miami County, Ohio. In 1838 his parents removed to near Pittsfield, Illinois, which at that time was considered to be little else than a wilderness. Here, he attended school and obtained such an education as was possible by those of moderate means, working upon his father's farm in the summer, and attending the District **School** in the winter. Early in life he had a great desire to obtain an education and by hard work and close application he succeeded in gaining a fair education, much better than was usual for young men of his station in life; so that he afterwards became a teacher, a minister, and finally principal of an academy.

In August 1848 he was married to Miss Harriett J. Webb, who resided near Springfield, Illinois. After engaging several years in educational and ministerial work, he located at Sterling, Ill., where he engaged in business enterprises.

In the early part of the War of the Rebellion, he responded to his Country's call, assisted in organizing Company D, 75th Illinois Infantry Volunteers, was elected its First Lieutenant, and soon after going to the front he was given command of the Company, which position he occupied until he was mustered out of the service. His company saw active and vigorous service, immediately, from the date of its mustering in. A few of the engagements in which it took part were the hotly contested battles of Stone River, Perryville, and Murfreesborough.

The exposure and hardships of army life were a severe strain upon his health and his system never recovered, although he lived out the full span of life allotted to man.

In November 1863 he started westward and settled upon a farm in Benton County, and there resided until 1884, at which time he removed to Beatrice, Gage County, Nebraska, where he continued to reside until the day of his death, January 18, 1905.

He was a Republican and always stood high in the councils of his party, and he held many offices of trust and confidence in Benton County, and in 1879 was elected a member of the Eighteenth General Assembly. His labors of this life are ended; and it is modest eulogy to say that all his days were days of usefulness, and all his paths were paths of honor.

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**HON. THOS. HARRIS.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** Your special committee appointed to prepare resolutions concerning the life and character of Thomas Harris a member of the Thirty-first General Assembly, respectfully report as follows:

WHEREAS, Thomas Harris a member of the Thirtieth General Assembly of the State of Iowa departed this life October 5, 1904, at his home in Montezuma, Iowa, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That in the death of Thomas Harris the State has lost one of its most useful citizens, and one of its most honorable business men and legislators.

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives join with the citizens of the community in which he lived so many years, in sorrow at his loss, and tender to his family and friends its sincere sympathy in their bereavement.

*Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions suitably engrossed be transmitted to the family of the deceased by the Clerk of the House.

JOHN S. STANBEEY,

E. W. CLARK,

E. J. C. BEALER,

*Committee.*

Adopted Jan. 30, 1906.

#### REMARKS BY MR. CLARKE.

MR. SPEAKER: It was my good fortune to have known Mr. Harris for more than thirty years prior to his death. He was a man of sterling worth and integrity of character. Loved and respected by all who knew him.

Among the early pioneers of Poweshiek County he was ever ready to lend a helping hand so far as lie in his power to promote the interests and welfare not only of the community in which he lived but the County, the State and the Nation. Strong in his religious and political convictions and sense of right and wrong, he was a safe leader to follow.

A valued member of this body in the Thirtieth General Assembly he commanded the respect of all as I very soon learned after coming here. A man in whose foot steps any of us could follow and not go astray. The world is better for Mr. Harris having lived in it.

#### REMARKS BY MR. COBB.

MR. SPEAKER AND FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE THIRTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

GENTLEMEN: It is with a deep sense of sadness and regret that it is allotted to me to speak a few words of eulogy to the memory of Honorable Thomas Harris, a member of the Thirtieth General Assembly and would have also been a member of the Thirty-first General Assembly had not the summons that awaits all the living, have called him over to the other side.

It seems almost superfluous that I should speak of the noble qualities and virtues of one, that was so well known to the members of this House. I may say however, that I was fortunate in drawing a seat next to the desk of him who is the subject of these remarks, and perhaps became as familiar with him as any member of our last session.