

*Resolved* That the Senate of the State of Iowa joins with his neighbors and friends in sorrow and regret and hereby tenders to his family its sincere sympathy in this time of great bereavement.

*Be it Further Resolved*, That these resolutions be printed in the Journal of the Senate and that an engrossed copy authenticated by the President and Secretary to be sent to the widow and family of the deceased.

ROBERT HUNTER,

C. C. DOWELL,

J. U. SAMMIS,

*Committee.*

Adopted.

Senator Hunter in moving the adoption of the resolutions spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT—On moving the adoption of the resolutions I wish to say a few words concerning our departed friend. It was my good fortune to have known Senator Lawrence for nearly a quarter of a century. During all of my acquaintances with him he was always the same congenial Joe Lawrence; courteous, dignified and manly.

Some might say he belonged to an aristocracy but if so his was an aristocracy of a splendid intellect, high ideals and a warm and sympathetic heart.

He was ever ready to help the needy in distress without public show or ostentation. He was always willing to give of his splendid abilities, his talents and his energy for the uplifting of all humanity, rich or poor.

He was the prince of orators and his dignified, knightly bearing was eloquent of his manly character.

With many of the idle diversions of life he had little to do. He could absorb himself and the activities of his fertile mind in the midst of his splendid library in the study of nature and in lofty contemplation. To him such things were both work and recreation.

We come today and stand by the new made tomb of our honored and lamented brother and co-worker and lay upon his grave the flower of our appreciation.

As we thus stand on the brink of the dark and trackless valley into which a fellow traveller has disappeared, and we are unable to call back from its depths either the form or voice of him who has entered through its only portal—an entrance impossible to us in life—bereavement can do but little more or better than draw the mantle of sorrow more closely about her and bow the head in silence.

No words can call back our dead; no words drive away bereavement. It is, however, a potent faculty and a beautiful element in human nature which prompts and enables us to keep alive our dead, by the marvelous and blessed power of memory.

So we turn from the forbidding darkness of death to the light and beauty of their remembered life.

As we thus contemplate the virtues of our departed friend he still lives and dwells with us in mighty influence. As unseen and unheard the marvelous laws and forces of nature teach the flower how to grow—the

lily and the rose how to take up out of the soil and mire of earth—the elements of color and form and weave them into such exquisite beauty and fragrance so the gentle, unseen but powerful influences of the splendid lofty characters of our departed friends teach us—the divine element within us—how to grow; teach us in the way we may not perceive or understand how to take up out of the soil and imperfections of our own natures the elements of right, justice, and truth and weave them into a stronger and better manhood—a more beautiful and perfect character of our own.

It is true the eloquent tongue has been stilled; the sympathetic heart beats no more but the influence of his life still live. Even in the startling suddenness of his death he brings to us a most eloquent lesson. "Be ye also ready." Boast not thyself of tomorrow for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."

The brilliant life, the eloquence, the manly character and the death of Senator Lawrence all bid us, as men and public servants, be strong be active, be brave, be honest, be generous.

Let us hope that the inspiring influence of his character may help us to so shape our lives and conduct that our life work and public service may be well done and may those who come after us be able to place also upon our tombs the beautiful flowers and sweet incense of grateful memories when we likewise are called through the frowning gate and dark valley of death to other worlds, perhaps to worlds of more perfect and more lasting fellowship of higher liberties and greater usefulness.

Mr. President I move the adoption of the resolutions.

The resolutions were adopted by a rising vote.

Senator Wilson, from the Special Committee appointed to draft suitable resolutions commemorative of the life of the Hon. Silas Wright Gardiner, submitted the following report and moved its adoption:

MR. PRESIDENT—Your committee appointed to draft suitable resolutions on the life, character and public service of the late Silas Wright Gardiner of Clinton, Iowa, would respectfully submit the following report and resolutions:

WHEREAS, An all-wise Providence called unto himself on June 13, 1907 his servant, age sixty (60) years nine (9) months and twenty-three (23) days. Honorable Silas Wright Gardiner of Clinton, Iowa, who was an honored member of this Senate in the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth General Assemblies, *therefore be it resolved*, That this body, recognizing the eminent and valuable services of the deceased in our state, and realizing that he did much as a legislator in our state.

*Resolved*, That in the death of Hon. Silas Wright Gardiner we are called upon to mourn the loss of an able, efficient and conscientious citizen, one who sought and devoted himself to the good of all and honored by all who knew him. A kind neighbor, a loving husband and father. In remembrance, therefore, we extol and revere the splendid qualities of his generous and noble mind, the high attributes that he showed as an ideal