

Resolved, That the Senate has learned with sorrow and regret of the death of Senator Sargent, and that in his death the State has lost an able and high-minded citizen and legislator, who at all times was a staunch and untiring advocate of the interests of the people and of his fellow-citizens.

As a business man, Senator Sargent achieved success; his high ideals of honesty and his fair dealing gave him not only the absolute confidence of his people but of the business world generally. As a legislator, his fairness and comprehensive views of affairs gave him the respect and confidence of his associates.

Resolved, That the Senate joins with his neighbors and friends in sorrow at his loss and hereby tenders to his family its sincere sympathy in this their hour of sorrow and bereavement.

Be it further Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the records of the Senate and that a properly engrossed copy, authenticated by the President and the Secretary, be sent to the members of his family.

O. B. COURTRIGHT,
WARREN GARST,
THOS. LAMBERT,

Committee.

Senator Courtright in moving the adoption of the resolution spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT—It may be well to preface my remarks by giving in a few words a short biographical sketch of Senator Sargent.

Elbert Marion Sargent was born in the town of Felicity, Clermont county, Ohio, March 8, 1840. He was the second of seven children of William R. Sargent, a successful merchant. His grandparents were of English and Scotch descent, and crossing the Alleghany mountains in about the year 1800, settled in the Ohio valley.

With the exception of two years of his boyhood, which was spent upon a farm, Mr. Sargent's early life was spent in his native town. He attended the local school until he was fourteen years of age, at which time his inclination toward practical business affairs manifested itself and he quit school to go to work. For the next four or five years he worked in his father's mercantile establishment, and for others in various kinds of business, and thus acquiring a varied and thorough knowledge of business affairs.

When Fort Sumpter was fired upon he at once left his business and volunteered for the three months' service, and on April 23, 1861, his company was mustered in as company "I" of the 22nd Ohio Volunteers. At the expiration of his time he returned to Ohio and in a few days received a lieutenant's commission in the 89th Ohio. Before being mustered in with that regiment he was commissioned captain in the 59th Ohio. In this command he served to the end of the war, taking part in nearly all of the important engagements of the Army of the Cumberland.

Returning home Captain Sargent entered business life, engaging in the mercantile trade, and continuing in trade until 1874 when he engaged in the banking business, which he continued for about five years.

In April, 1879, Captain Sargent moved to Grundy Center, Iowa, and going back to his first love, again entered the mercantile business in which he continued until 1896.

In 1895 Captain Sargent was elected senator of the Thirty-eighth senatorial district, comprised of the counties of Grundy and Black Hawk, and served in both the regular and special sessions of the Twenty-sixth General Assembly. In 1899 he was elected Republican State central committee-man from the Fifth congressional district, and was re-elected in 1901.

Captain Sargeant was married on November 8, 1870, to Mary E. Hartley, and to them were born four children, two sons and two daughters. His wife, one daughter and the two sons survive him.

He joined the Presbyterian church in 1868, and was ever after a faithful and consistent member of that organization. He was a charter member of Wilson Post No. 71, G. A. R., in which he had, at various times, filled nearly every official position, and of which he was quartermaster at the time of his death.

Mr. President, you of this body who had the pleasure and honor of knowing Senator Sargent (I say honor, for I esteem it an honor to know a manly man such as he was), require no words from me to enable you to appreciate him at his true worth. He came from that stock which has made America and Americans famous the world around, and had inculcated in him those habits of sobriety, honesty, industry and courage that makes a man a man under whatever circumstances and in whatever clime his lot may be cast. While yet a boy we find him forsaking the schoolroom, and, led by his natural industry, acquiring a knowledge of affairs that enabled him in after life to maintain and provide himself and family with all the material comforts of life, and to leave his family in independent circumstances.

Honest to that extent that his Bible was the Golden Rule, he believed in doing unto others as he would that they would do unto him. He was ever a kind, indulgent, loving husband and father, and always met his fellow man, no matter what his station, with a hearty handshake and pleasant smile that made him the friend of every man and every man his friend. His hand was never empty if the other happened to be in needy circumstances, being generous almost to a fault. He ever had the courage of his convictions. We find him almost the next morning after the flag of his country had been fired upon by an armed foe tendering his services to his country and his flag, and for more than four long years, or from April, 1861 to August, 1865, at the front fighting the battles of his country. I have not the time, Mr. President, to recount the experiences of this noble man at the battle of Stone River. Sufficient is it to say that after this severe and bloody engagement his Colonel reported to the War Department: "That Captain Sargent was a man that could be relied upon in any emergency." Nor have I the time to tell you of the part he took at Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Missionary Ridge, Knoxville, nor of the numerous fights and long marches on the Atlanta campaign and of the final victory of Thomas at Nashville. At the close of the war he had for several months been in command of what there was left of his regiment, and was offered a captain's commission in the regular army, which he refused. He did not join the army because he

loved war, but for the love of his country, and it was this same love of country, love of liberty and equal justice for all men that lent him courage and strength to endure the hardships and privations, and gave him courage to lead his men during the roar and smoke of battle and midst carnage and death to a glorious victory at the end.

When the roar of cannon and the rattle of musketry was no longer heard in the land and when the dark cloud of war and smoke of battle had rolled away and the white wings of peace were again hovering over the sunny Southland, no man rejoiced more than Captain Sargent. And when in after years he wandered over the old battlefields and saw that all evidence of those fearful days of blood and carnage were rapidly disappearing, and that where once the hillsides had been covered with rifle pits and streams had run red with the blood of America's sons, he saw the peaceful herds feeding upon the hillside, the growing grain waving in the valley, and instead of cannon belching forth smoke, he saw the tall smokestack of factory and furnace, and heard the sound of the anvil and the hum of the spindle, he was indeed happy. He ever rejoiced with those who were happy and prosperous and grieved with those who sorrowed. It is fitting to say of him, in the language of Ingersoll,—

"This brave and tender man in every storm of life was oak and rock; but in the sunshine he was vine and flower. He was the friend of all heroic souls. He climbed the heights and left all superstitions far below, while on his forehead fell the golden dawning of a grander day. He loved the beautiful and was with color, form and music touched to tears. He sided with the poor, the weak and wronged, and lovingly gave alms. With loyal heart and with purest hands he faithfully discharged every trust and duty. * * * He added to the sum of human joy and were everyone to whom he did some loving service to bring a blossom to his grave he would sleep beneath a wilderness of flowers."

The resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

Senator Ericson moved the remarks made by Senator Court-right be printed in the Journal.

Carried.

Senator Hayward moved that the Senate do now adjourn.

Carried.

Senate adjourned.