

in wealth, and at last in sickness, as Mrs. Tirrill has been in very feeble health for weeks. Their two children died in infancy. In 1893, when he was 58 and his wife 57, they both entered the State University of Iowa, where he completed his interrupted law course and she studied English literature, French and German. He was admitted to the bar in 1894 and belonged to the Delaware County Bar Association, but he was never active in the practice. In 1900 and again in 1904, Mr. and Mrs. Tirrill traveled extensively through Europe, Palestine, Africa and the Orient, and through all the years both have kept their minds fresh and active and interested.

When he was eighty years old he built a home, the finest in his home town, containing every modern device for comfort and many beautiful things brought back from their world travels. This fine residence is on the corner of Franklin and Union streets. From there to the Maquoketa river a park was laid out by an experienced landscape artist and part of his plans have been followed out in a beautiful garden around a fountain from which a wooded lawn stretches to the river. This park has been given to the city of Manchester, and it is understood that when they are through with it, the beautiful home will also be devoted to public use.

Although Senator Tirrill's health had never been rugged, by careful and temperate living he kept himself surprisingly fit for one of his years and until September 4th had driven his own car around town on business or pleasure and walked with little difficulty. Aggravation of a malady of long standing compelled him to go to bed September 5th and it was decided best to perform an operation for his relief. On September 20th he was taken to the hospital at Anamosa.

Mr. Tirrill was a thirty-second degree Mason and believed in the Universalist faith, but attended the Congregational church since there was no Universalist service here. A native of the "Granite State," granite was truly indicative of his character. Firmly fixed in what he believed right, difficulties only polished his character, which endured through his long life, steadfast and unyielding. He was companionable and friendly and anxious to promote the community welfare, but had no patience for shiftlessness, vice or idleness. Although he leaves no children, he will be sincerely mourned by the people of this community, in which his life has been such an important part.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Forty-second General Assembly of Iowa, That in the death of Rodney W. Tirrill the state and community in which he lived have suffered the loss of an influential and honorable citizen; and

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the journal of the Senate and that the secretary be directed to send an engrossed copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

GEO. F. SLEMMONS,
LARS J. SKROMME,
OSCAR ULSTAD,

Committee.

Senator Slemmons spoke as follows:

It was my privilege to know Mr. Tirrill but a short time, but in that time I learned to know him as a man of wonderful intelligence and kindly

spirit. I knew him only in his old age and was always inspired by his keen interest in public affairs and his plain, fatherly advice. During his long life in Delaware county he has seen many changes and always was willing to take a hand in the development of his community. He was one of whom it may be said—to know him was to love him, and his many friends will miss his kindly greeting, his cheerful smile and hearty cooperation for all that was good.

The resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

W. R. LEWIS

MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee which was appointed to report resolutions commemorating the life, character and services of the late W. R. Lewis, beg leave to submit the following report and move its adoption:

W. R. Lewis was born October 12, 1835, in Muskingum county, Ohio, and died at his home in Montezuma, Iowa, January 23, 1927. His parents were John M. and Louisa A. (Ramey) Lewis. He was the oldest of ten children. He worked in a general merchandise store for his father until in 1856 when he came west as far as Peoria county, Illinois; the following year he moved to Montezuma, Iowa, where he resided for seventy years. In 1865 he was married to Mary E. Cutts and their married life continued happily until her death in 1893. He was admitted to practice law in this state in the year 1866, and followed his chosen profession (except when holding public office) until his death.

Early in his life at Montezuma, he united with the Presbyterian church and was a regular attendant at church services all his life, until the last few weeks when the frailties of age denied him that privilege. During his membership of that church, he held every office of the church open to laymen.

His public life began soon after his arrival in Montezuma, when he became the editor of the only paper in the town at that time, the Montezuma Republican, which he edited during the year 1857. Later he was elected superintendent of the schools at Montezuma and continued in such office until 1861 when he was elected county superintendent of schools of Poweshiek county, which office he resigned in 1862 to become clerk of the district court of Poweshiek county and that office he held for one term. During his early life at one time or another he was either appointed or elected to every office in Poweshiek county except that of sheriff. From 1866 to 1880 he was actively engaged in the practice of law. He erected the first electric light plant in Montezuma, and was interested in light plants at Centerville, Iowa, and other cities about the same time. He surveyed the railroad from Grinnell to Montezuma when it was established. In 1880 he was elected judge of the circuit court of his circuit and continued to serve as circuit and district judge when the circuit court was abolished, until 1890 when he resumed the practice of law. In 1897 he was elected Senator for the Twelfth Senatorial District consisting of Keokuk and Poweshiek counties and served his constituents faithfully during his term of office.

Judge Lewis was one of the pioneers of the county, one who was present