

The Speaker declared the House adjourned sine die.

ADDRESS BY HON. D. W. DOW BEFORE THE PIONEER LAW MAKERS.

Mr. Speaker; Members of the Pioneer Law Makers Association; and fellow Members of the House of Representatives—It is with pleasure to me that I am accorded the honor to address so honorable a body as the Members of the Law Makers for our Great State in the early days of the old time pioneers.

We all know that a skirmish line is formed of the bravest and most courageous of the army, and the men who left their homes and early associates and came to the far west and formed the line which crossed the Father of Waters and spread out over the land which now is this great commonwealth, were the bravest of the brave. They came with no fortunes but their strong arms and quick active brains; drove back the wild beasts and wilder Indians, took their possessions and reared their rude habitations, and then looked and wondered what the future would be. These men were followed by others, who with them, composed the pioneers of this fair land, who builded a great state.

They first drove from their borders human slavery, established institutions of learning; prosperity crowned their endeavors, until now we behold a great commonwealth with about two millions of the most intelligent people of any place on the face of the globe. We point with pride to our scholars, jurists, and statesmen; we stand first of our sisterhood in our power in the councils of our nation; two leading members in the Cabinet of our country's ruler; in the Halls of Congress we have Allison, whom the world acknowledges as one of its best national financiers; Dolliver, the Daniel Webster of the Senate, and in the lower house we are not surpassed by any state in the Union.

The early decisions of our judges stand as high authority in all the courts of the states, by reason of accurate annunciation of the law, the legal and logical wording of their decisions, and the dignity and rhetoric of the forms.

The people stand second only to Nebraska in its high parentage of literacy. We have no rich men and but few paupers, all standing on a level. We have the largest number of towns of three thousand and over of any state in the Union taking into consideration the length of time since our settlement. We have no large cities, and here permit me to say that it is no encomium upon a state to say she has large cities for that means great aggravations of wealth of a few brought about by the impoverishment of the many. We point with pride to the laws of our State, and I assert that a State is what the laws make it. You show me the laws of a state and I will tell you of its people and institutions. Again you show me the people of a state and I will tell you the quality of its laws: for "There is no man greater than the law."

Then all hail to the Pioneer Law Makers of the State! They builded better than they knew. You come to us like the return of sunshine after a cloudy day. We see some are growing old, looking like some sturdy oak, that holds out still stout, though withering, branches, to the blast. Soon we all must bow like over ripe grain. When that time comes may you, as ever, be near to our God and He be with you forevermore.

So I say again All Honor and Glory be with the Pioneer Law Makers of this state!

I need not tell you welcome, you know that you are, and always will be welcome to these Halls at all times and seasons; come often.

ADDRESS OF F. M. LAIRD TO THE PIONEER LAW MAKERS OF IOWA.

Mr. President and Pioneer Law Makers of Iowa—We, who sit to-day in the legislative halls of Iowa welcome you here. In doing this we only welcome you to your own. These halls were yours; to these desks you have a right prior to ours; this work was yours long before we who are in active work now, had any thought of being your successors in the work of making laws for the state we all love so well. You were the architects of the structure that we call the "Statute Law of Iowa." That you built well is evidenced by the peace and good order, happiness and general prosperity of the people of Iowa. And in this year 1906 it behooves us to think well before removing one of the time honored stones that compose that structure, with a view of replacing it with a better. Those stones were well hewn and well laid. You, as pioneers, blazed your way through forests new and occupied the trackless prairies. Pioneer wheels were not made to fit and follow iron rails. The Pioneer, unlike the printer, has no copy to follow. Guided not so much by precedent as by the everlasting principle of justice, he wins the right to carve his name where the world may recognize and honor it.

Man's greatest work for mankind is to plant that others may reap. He who would selfishly gather to himself the benefits of all he does, has not learned the Golden Rule, nor any rule that responds the best demands of the world we live in.

"Prophetic vision is a rare attribute; but an appreciation of what the world is going to want with the capacity to supply that want always possesses a current value."

Pioneers of Iowa's Legislative Halls; you whose work done twenty-five years ago and more, still stands and will always stand, we are glad to have you with us to-day. Well may we in our rush of work, pause for a brief space and give place to you. We ask that for to-day we may be as your children and be permitted to sit at your feet and gather words of wisdom. The work you did here doubtless seems to you as but yesterday; to us, at first thought, it seems as history. But

no, a little digging in memory's musty vaults brings to light a vision of the old log school-house where we learned the first lesson. And if the palm of the hand had a memory and a tongue, it might tell of coming up against the Master's ferule which like the measles we boys could never see any use of. But this is history. The comfortable farm school house in the country; the brick building of many rooms and many grades in the city; the college and the University, show the progress made along the lines of the education of the youth of the state. Much of this transformation may be traced to the wise school laws of the state which have carefully guided and guarded its educational interests.

We sincerely hope that the visits of the Pioneer Law Makers of Iowa, to these halls may long continue; that their presence may always be as a benediction, and that finally all may answer to the roll-call in the Great Assembly beyond:

Beyond the session work of earth,
Beyond the state that gave us birth,
Beyond the time when all time is gone,
When only Eternity gone on and on.

SPEECH OF D. C. MOTT BEFORE PIONEER LAW MAKERS' ASSOCIATION

Historians tell us that since the first records of organized society began there have been many migrations of races and nations in which the people of one nation drove out the people of another, invading and taking possession of homes and country. Thus the Israelites were led back from Egypt and invaded Palestine, driving out its heathen nations and scattering them to the four winds. Thus the Huns and Goths poured down from the north over-running Rome, the Eternal City. Thus it was the Normans invaded England, driving back the people to the remote parts of the Island and taking possession of the country. But great as these invasions were in historical importance, great as they were in making physical changes in the countries, or in changing the conditions of the peoples affected, no one of them compared in importance in any of these particulars with the great invasion of the Mississippi valley by the people of the new republic. During the three quarters of a century from 1800 to 1875 all that vast region now included in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska, with the states north and south of them, were changed from a wilderness to civilized states. The trackless wilderness and boundless prairies were transformed and became organized commonwealths with millions of people. The world had never before seen such extensive and sudden invasion and transformation.

Carved out of the heart of this imperial domain is Iowa. Her early settlers mostly came from the states just to the east, from Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, people who had kept in the vanguard of invasion and settlement, people who had helped wrest one territory after another from the wilderness. They hesitated at no privation,

they shrank from no hardship. They were men and women who cared less for the so-called blandishments of society than they did for liberty and the chance to found homes.

When these heroic people poured over into Iowa a little over half a century ago they brought with them the desire to found organized society, to establish civil government, to enact laws to protect the weak against the strong and to fix the rules of justice. Thus it came that these pioneers chose among their numbers law-makers. Thus were developed such men as Jones and Dodge, Harlan and Kirkwood, Chambers and Mason, men lifted up by the emergencies of the times, men who shed luster and honor on territory and state, men such as we have with us as honored guests to-day.

Two years ago, Pioneer Law-makers of Iowa, we welcomed you to this chamber where we were assembled under a canvass, likened by my honored colleague to a Bedouin tent; to-day we greet you in the re-juvenated and re-decorated capitol of the state, a building already becoming historic in its rich associations. But much as the people of Iowa love this capitol building they know these stately marble columns are not so enduring as the laws and institutions which you, as pioneers, helped establish. Beautiful as are these decorations on wall, ceiling and dome, they are not so beautiful as the principles that you incorporated into the laws of the virgin commonwealth.

Iowa has placed in your honor this year in this redecorated capitol a monument that shall live on canvas. While it endures posterity shall not forget how the early pioneers came to their inheritance. Though idealized by artistic fancy, it is yet true to life, for surely loyalty and patriotism did come with the first brave pioneers, and yet speak through her public men and thinking, progressive people. For surely civilization and enlightenment did come in the vanguard of the old prairie schooner and have dotted our prairies with school houses and made our colleges the pride of our commonwealth. Surely industry and application came strong-hearted in the train and love and joy and noble success have followed plucking many and rare flowers of happiness and prosperity by the way.

In the shifting scenes of time you to-day stand upon the eminence of honors well earned, while we are laboriously trying to struggle up the slope. You helped build the foundations of a great state and if there is any dimness in the glory of your career it is surely because you did not enact anti-pass laws or grapple in prolonged debate with the anti-foot ball bills.

Pioneer Law Makers of Iowa, we greet you and bid you welcome.