

A motion was made to lay the amendment upon the table, but as this would carry the resolution there also, it did not prevail and the convention was brought squarely to a vote upon the proposition. A vigorous debate ensued, in which Mr. Russell led, followed by Hiram Price, Enoch W. Eastman and Henry O'Connor, in support of the proposition, while it was opposed by several able and eloquent gentlemen. When a vote was at last taken it resulted as follows: For the Russell amendment, 513½; against it, 242½. In this contest we are quite as certain that Edward Russell was the real leader, making one of the most determined fights that we ever saw in a convention, as that odium was visited upon his head—temporarily—by those opposed to impartial suffrage.

“In the process of the suns” the Constitution of our State, as a result of this contest, was amended in the year 1868, by striking out the word “white,” except that it was carelessly left in Section 4 of Article III, which defines the qualifications of Members of the House of Representatives. This was finally stricken out in 1880, and from that time forward suffrage and the rights of all men have been equal before the law in Iowa. These results were no doubt inevitable and certain to come in time, but the fullest credit for initiating and leading the determined effort of that day is due to Edward Russell.

Mr. Russell retired from *The Gazette* several years ago, removing to Minneapolis, Minn., where he engaged in other business. He died there in 1891.

THE MIDLAND MONTHLY.

The very fine portrait of Dr. Geo. F. Magoun, which appeared in *THE ANNALS* for October, was copied by the kind permission of the Editor, from *The Midland Monthly*, in which it originally appeared; but through some inadvertence the proper credit was not given for the loan of the engraving. While now making amends for this omission, we desire to record our opinion of this excellent periodical—the founding

of which we cannot but regard as the most important event that has ever occurred in the literary history of our State. When Mr. Brigham announced his purpose, something more than a year ago, in the midst of the hard times, and when the business outlook was most forbidding, of starting a literary magazine in Des Moines, the wisest journalists shook their heads. The enterprise certainly seemed to be "extra hazardous." But the result has more than justified his wise forecast of the situation. He saw literary resources in Iowa and the Middle West, and a promise of liberal patronage, which were certainly hidden from the vision of everybody else. His announcement made, he addressed himself to the great task he had undertaken with a degree of ability, energy, courage and perseverance, which entitle him to a high place among the praiseworthy innovators of his time. His surpassing ability as an editor is visible to any one who even casually turns the pages of a copy of his magazine—but he has accomplished the more perplexing and difficult end of making it a business success. As an editor he has been able to secure the services and the hearty good will of many writers of more than national reputation, as well as to discover and call out a wide diversity of home talent, latent and undeveloped before. While strong in its general features, he has given it a high character as an *Iowa* magazine—typical and representative of this great Midland country. Such a success in one brief year is rarely won, even through the hardest work and the most lavish expenditure of money. We are glad to know that the publication enters, upon its second year under auspices so very encouraging. Congratulating its brave and accomplished editor upon his good work already done, we commend *The Midland Monthly* to the especial favor of the people of Iowa.

OUR ARTICLES AND ENGRAVINGS.

The frontispiece of this number of THE ANNALS—a fine steel portrait of Hon. Hiram Price—was engraved expressly

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