

ENOCH W. EASTMAN.

It is a pleasure to present Mr. Moir's tribute to the memory of Lieutenant Gov. Eastman, which appears in our pages to-day. There was much in the life, character and public services of this distinguished pioneer to inspire high respect, and for which he should be borne in grateful remembrance in this State. His published record does not show how useful he was to Iowa, for the reason that he passed but little of his time in public offices. The most important place he ever occupied was that of Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate. Probably the event with which his name will be longest associated is that of the authorship of the inscription on the Iowa Stone in the Washington Monument. There was some competition in this matter, but Mr. Eastman's suggestion was deemed by far the most appropriate that was offered. The number of words as he submitted it was somewhat reduced, but not to the injury of the sentiment conveyed. His was a true, useful, patriotic life. He acted conscientiously as he saw his duty. When he finally passed away it was a matter of universal remark that he had deserved more from Iowa than he had ever received. Had he been more ambitious of public honors, he might have attained other preferments. But in his lifetime he was well known throughout the State and universally respected.

From the time he came to Iowa until the disabilities of age came upon him, he was a favorite public speaker, clear and convincing in his arguments, and at times overflowing with wit and humor. He brought with him from Yankeeland some quaint old-fashioned ways of pronouncing many words. Presiding once over a joint convention of the two houses of the General Assembly, he tapped the desk with his gavel, saying, "The J'int Convention will come to order!" It had been the practice up to that time for the clerk to proceed at once to call the joint roll, which he started to do.

"What are you doing, sir?" inquired Gov. Eastman. "Calling the joint roll!" replied the clerk. "What for?" asked the Governor. "To learn whether a quorum is present," said the clerk. "Well, sir, you needn't do it; 't'aint in the law!" And he pointed to the section of the Code under which the body was acting. It may be presumed that after that the clerk waited for the Governor's orders before attempting to proceed with business.

Up to near the close of President Buchanan's administration Mr. Eastman was an old-school democrat. Not long before he left the party, he made a democratic speech in the old town hall at Webster City, an edifice which disappeared from the face of the earth more than 30 years ago. The speaker could not keep back a joke, even when it hit himself or his party. At that time—just before the civil war—the republicans claimed that the United States Treasury had been bankrupted by the Buchanan administration, and much was said in the papers on that topic. But Mr. Eastman boasted that the democracy had "governed the country for forty years," "whipped Mexico," and "given the nation the Sub-Treasury system," as it then existed. He stopped an instant and looking around, remarked, "But, by the way, our republican friends say there is nothing in the Treasury." This "brought down the house," and he laughed as heartily as his most pronounced opponent in the audience.

But when the great civil war burst upon the country, Gov. Eastman loyally supported the Union cause, finding himself thenceforth in accord with the party of Abraham Lincoln. The story of his career is well told by his life-long friend, Hon. W. J. Moir.

AN IOWA MATHEMATICIAN AND HIS WORK.

Few people are aware that a bi-monthly magazine of "Pure and Applied Mathematics" was published in the city of Des Moines for a period of ten years. Its title was *The*

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