

architect. To have done all of them already places Mr. Masqueray safely in the highest circles of contemporary masters in his craft.

Such a jury should not go astray along lines of history, architecture or art.

SOMETHING ADDITIONAL ON KASSON'S FIGHT FOR THE CAPITOL.

Hon. Constant R. Marks of Sioux City was a member of the Thirteenth General Assembly and a participant in the fight for the new capitol. On reading the article in the July, 1911, ANNALS, by Hon. Johnson Brigham on Kasson's Long Fight for the New Capitol, Mr. Marks, in correspondence with Mr. Brigham, added the following interesting facts:

One feature that was most vital in its passage I have not seen recalled in written accounts of the vote, and it does not appear in the record.

Up to the very day of the vote in the House the result was in doubt and several members were reluctant to give what might be the deciding vote to make it a bare majority. Dunne of Dubuque* County was one of the doubtful ones and was besieged on both sides, but promised Father Brazil he would vote for it, but if one vote gave it a bare majority of 51 he would change it. Satterthwait of Mt. Pleasant promised that if on roll call it carried without his vote he would change his vote from "No" to "Aye."

Dumont promised to vote for it but if his vote made a bare majority he would change it. Dumont occupied a seat in the center aisle, Satterthwait sat well up to the front to the right of the Speaker, Dunne was in the outside row next to the lobby rail, and Father Brazil was stationed just behind him outside the rail. Members of the house favorable to the bill were placed beside Dumont and Satterthwait as prompters, and Speaker Cotton, favorable to the bill, was no doubt posted as to the situation.

The roll was called and the three members as did many others kept tab on the vote. Dunne voted "Aye" and Satterthwait "No" and my recollection is that Dumont voted "Aye" and the ballot then stood just fifty-one in favor of the bill before the vote was announced. Dunne was on his feet shouting "Mr. Speaker" with intent to change his vote with Father Brazil grabbing him by his coat-tails and pulling him to his seat, and Dunne jumping up

*Jackson County.

again and shouting "Mr. Speaker." Dumont was on his feet shouting "Mr Speaker" with the prompter beside him trying to restrain him. Satterthwait, slow and deliberate, was permitted to arise and was first recognized by the Speaker and changed his vote to "Aye" giving it one more than a majority, and the Speaker declared the bill carried. Had the Speaker recognized Dunne or Dumont first the vote would have been changed, the bill would have been short one of a majority, Satterthwait's vote would have remained "No" and the bill would have been lost.

I see that the record of proceedings shows Dumont as absent or not voting. It is possible that he passed his vote in the roll call and arose intending to vote "No" but it was too late.

I sat about half way between Dunne and Dumont and only a few feet from either, some distance in the rear of Satterthwait, had a good view, and was in hearing distance of the exciting scene. There were a few moments when we were not sure that the bill was actually passed and safe until the motion to reconsider was actually voted down.

There was another incident connected with the passage of the capitol bill that was very amusing. Every resident of Des Moines was very enthusiastic for the bill and solicited legislators in season and out of season to vote for it. Then, as now I suppose, the duties of chaplain of the House were passed along alternately to the members of the clergy of Des Moines, and there was one enthusiastic preacher, who I think had no regular charge, officiated one morning and was too enthusiastic to let slip such an opportunity to help the bill, and he distinctly prayed, 'That the Lord would give these legislators wisdom, that they might see that it was for the best interests of the State to build a capitol that would be a glory and an honor to the great State of Iowa.'

A morning or two after this, at the proper order of business, Pat Gibbons of Keokuk, who was the wag of the House, and who when he wanted to emphasize the point of a joke, used his broadest Irish dialect, offered a resolution which he wished the clerk of the House to read, which was in substance this:

'Resolved that hereafter the chaplain be requested to pray for bills in their regular order as they stand on the calendar.' Of course the members of the House made the application.

Yours,

C. R. MARKS.

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