

of McKinney, a most pugnacious and forceful man, moved from Davis county to Texas." Mr. Weaver says: "He was one of these fellows who would preach every Sunday if he had to be the audience himself."

"Down in Texas one Sunday he got the negroes together at Fort Worth and preached to them. Word was passed around that an abolitionist was exciting the negroes to insurrection and the citizens got together. They took McKinney out and whipped him with a rawhide blacksnake whip, cutting his shirt into shreds and lacerating his body. He returned to Davis county in about '55 or '56; an abolitionist meeting was held, and I presided. McKinney had his shirt with him.

"A few days later I was at Agency City. Senator Grimes, James F. Wilson, Edward Stiles and myself were speakers. I recounted the outrages on McKinney and had the shirt with me. I waved it before the crowds and bellowed: 'Under this bloody shirt we propose to march to victory.' I was a very young man in those days."

The result of Weaver's action may well be imagined. The effect of his recital, and dramatic display of the grim evidence of McKinney's beating, upon the audience in southern Iowa at that time needs no description. And it will be remembered that for countless years following the close of the Civil war "the bloody shirt" appeared and was waved in every campaign, until a recital of the hardships and experiences of war veterans was regarded as tantamount to the waving of the shirt itself.

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#### THE VANISHED YEARS

"They gave us much; the days of dream  
That build the inner lives of men;  
The silent, sacred years we deem  
The best that was, and might have been.

"Some evening when the sky is gold  
We'll follow day into the west;  
Nor pause, nor heed, till we behold  
Their blessed, peaceful hills of rest."

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