

an exposed sea coast, an open mark for any nation that happens to be at war with us. It was placed there when the nation was but in its infancy, when only a few states along the sea coast were in existence to send their representatives to the seat of the government. Now representatives from Oregon, California and Washington must travel the width of a continent in order to represent their states. Where should the capital of the nation logically stand? Nowhere better than somewhere in the Mississippi valley, in what is really the heart of the nation, sheltered and protected on all sides. And if in the Mississippi valley why not in Iowa, the most beautiful spot in the most beautiful country in the world?

And so, I might continue stating possibilities of the future of our state. Iowa state is but in its dawning; Iowa but in the morning of her existence! Great has been her history, great is its present and greater beyond all anticipation will be its future! Iowa will tower high in the nation, vigorous and powerful in her strength, and build upon a substantial foundation that will never weaken or deteriorate. And when in future generations the history of Iowa's magnificent growth shall be unfolded to the world, starting as the foundation of her greatness, as the keystone of her prosperity and as the basis of her strength, will be seen the pioneers of the early days, our honored old settlers.

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### POLITICS AND THE ARMY

"Sir: The President has thought proper to announce that he will regard all partisan or active interference in elections, and the contribution of any assessment on salaries or official emoluments for party purposes, by officers or agents under the control of the Federal Government, an abuse which he will correct by removal from office . . ."—From a printed circular sent to all United States Army officers by Secretary of War Bell, under date of March 23, 1841.

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