

DR. JULIUS A. REED, A STATE BUILDER

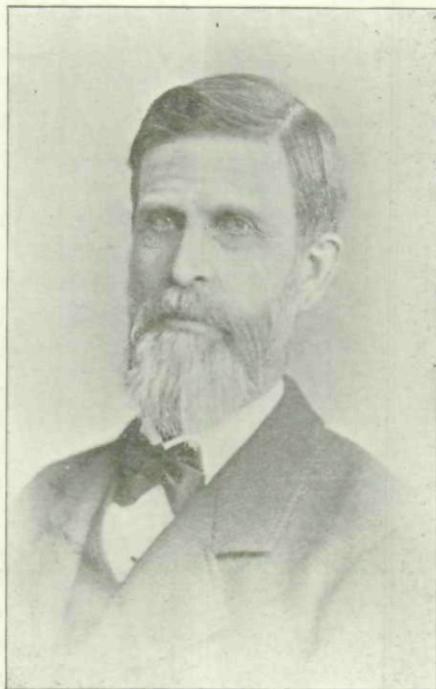
BY REV. JAMES L. HILL, D. D.,¹ OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS

At the exact time, that wonderful year, when the inner forces of Iowa were being organized, when impulses toward large action were dominant, when the recognition of educative and moral values was widespread, when the call for leaders was emphatic, Rev. Julius A. Reed was besought to come to the territory. This was before our history took shape, before interior Iowa had form, and before the distinctive, well-known Iowa spirit was embodied.

The history of the period during which Dr. Reed was pioneering in Iowa is without a parallel in the annals of time. It is the brightest half century which any nation has enjoyed since the dawn of civilization. He began his career with energy, capacity, and genius in that decade most fraught with invention, during which the reaper, sewing-machine, telegraph, and the vulcanization of rubber were perfected. These notable inventions were all American, and no other people in any equal length of time can point to a record of accomplishment so marvelous and so revolutionizing, industrially and socially.

At the beginning we have two types of character, the pioneers who make the paths, and the early settlers. While about one-half of the arable land in this country still remains virgin soil, no one, east or west, would call the settlers upon it pioneers, except possibly in Alaska. They differ in genius, and atmosphere, and purpose, and method. The pioneer with the spirit of adventure, which has always marked certain vigorous natures of our race, precedes the settler just as the farmer precedes the mechanic, and the mechanic the manufacturer. The earliest characters in Iowa were men of iron nerve, large hearts, and of the

¹Rev. James L. Hill is a son of James J. Hill, one of the famous "Iowa Band" of Congregational missionaries who came from Massachusetts to Iowa Territory in 1843, and is a brother of Dr. Gershom H. Hill of Des Moines. He was born at Garnaville, Iowa, March 14, 1848, was graduated from Grinnell College in 1871, and from Andover Theological Seminary in 1875. He was ordained a Congregational minister in 1875, was pastor of North Church, Lynn, Massachusetts, 1875-86, and of Mystic Church, Medford, Massachusetts, 1886-94. Since 1894 he has been engaged in literary work and in lecturing. See "Who's Who in America," Vol. VIII, p. 1112.—Editor.



DR. JULIUS A. REED.

best blood of the nation. It is fortunate for a state that its earliest inhabitants are carefully provided by a process of natural selection. The existing conditions make no appeal to the cowards, the rabble, the masses that look at things on the easy side. Julius A. Reed came into the land of the living as a born leader of men. As we proceed there will be no lack of demonstration of this remarkable trait. He was never content to stay in the ranks. He was an originator, at the head of something, a builder on no other man's foundations all his working days.

He distinguished himself early for the strength, individuality, and general correctness of his opinions. He came from a distinguished family, sturdy and self-respecting, in New England, rich in names that illumine the pages of the nation's history. William Bradford, a passenger in the Mayflower, who succeeded John Carver as governor of Plymouth, April 5, 1621, and was re-elected as long as he lived, except for five years, was his ancestor. Any lover of original annals finds new proof of the great doctrine of Reversion to Type in families as he turns the leaves of Governor Bradford's history of Plymouth, which was not published for 200 years, and then by a historical society, and next thumbs the manuscript pages of Dr. Reed's numerous historical sketches and his pre-historic pen and ink maps of roadless, untraveled Iowa, and his well-kept diaries and voluminous letters.

It's all the rage
To now engage
In many odd researches
For what is told
In records old
In safety vaults and churches.

Dr. Reed was born in South Windsor, Connecticut, January 16, 1809, during Jefferson's presidency, being contemporary with Napoleon for nearly a dozen years, and with Lafayette, Webster, Clay, and Calhoun. No missionaries had yet gone from this country to the heathen in Asia, and at his birth no such thing as a theological seminary had appeared on the earth. Pious students studied with eminent ministers who sometimes stood in close relations with the ordinary academies and schools. He was the son of Dr. Elijah Fitch Reed, a noted physician who

practiced medicine until he was past eighty, and of Hannah MacLane Reed, notable for ability, sympathy, and high class womanly qualities. The son Julius had a mind remarkable for concentration, a power of focusing itself upon the question of the moment. He was not combative, not contentious. The elements of mental strength and of self-respect, inherited by him, were peculiar traits, so that, while sociable, affable, and obliging, he was never unduly familiar, having nothing in his manner or method that suggested any unbending to secure favor, but rather having about him the peculiar atmosphere of personal dignity.

He had, too, the power of growth. Until the end of his career, or very nearly to the end, he was assimilating new material and enlarging his mind. Here we come to the first difference between him and many others, between the strong man and the weak one, that the strong grows long and well, while the weak grows for a short space, but does not continue to flourish, in thought and spirit, to the end. This distinction is pointed out among farmers when applied to their stock. That of low grade will, for a time, grow rapidly, excite some expectation, give some promise. Later the difference is obvious. Blood will tell.

In personal appearance, like Webster, Dr. Reed was dark faced. His hair was brown and he seems to have had no falling out. He had blue eyes, a slight, fragile, wiry figure, and, though delicate, he was not often sick. His industry and earnestness sprang from his own feelings that what he did must be done then, for he frequently said that he lacked the expectation of any particular extension of life. Some such consciousness as this may have sobered him a little, and disinclined him to what is flippant, or frivolous. As I write of him, I know he would admonish me, "If you speak of me at all, in the language of sacred song, speak of me

'Just as I am,'"

and so my dominant note is not praise. It is rather thanksgiving. He started his career in the world's activities as did so many of our American leaders, like Blaine, and Seward, and Webster, and Garfield, and Thad Stevens, and Lyman Trumbull, and Lewis Cass, and Asa Turner. But putting his foot on this first rung of the ladder that has raised thousands to eminence, it

was discovered by all those that observed him and saw his mental machinery in action that it was an engine of unusual power and precision.

He was known to possess a different ambition and taste from that of his brother, Dr. M. MacLean Reed, who practiced medicine in Jacksonville, Illinois, for forty-seven years, and so when brought face to face with the hardest realities of life, having from Pilgrim ancestry the spirit of adventure, he gave a life-long devotion to the religious and educational beginnings in the remote West. After two years at Trinity College, Hartford, after graduation at Yale, class of 1829, at the age of twenty, after a year as tutor in the family of Hon. William Jay, Bedford, New York, 1830-31, and a year in the Ellington, Connecticut, High School, a private school, he became for two years a private tutor at Natchez, Mississippi, taking such a position as the great American orator, S. S. Prentice, had there laid down to be admitted to the bar. This was one of life's events where God disposed. Iowa's Mississippi River towns from Keokuk northward and parts of its southern counties are reminiscent of the old South. The prominent place given to the county as a unit is not one of New England's ways. It savors more of the South. Many intelligent business men in Massachusetts in directing an envelope to Cambridge, or Springfield, or Fall River, or New Bedford would have to consult a map to find out in what particular county it happens to be. Early Iowa was developed first at the south, the first court being held at Burlington in 1835, and the capital was located there in 1838, and in that year the first territorial legislature convened there. Dr. Reed was to begin his career in Iowa, in the second tier of counties from the south. He had the northern training. He needed the southern to make him a cosmopolitan, as he was advancing to responsibilities extending to both limits of the state. He early acted as if in his subconsciousness he had an inkling of his future usefulness. He seemed to feel the pressure of destiny. With such a heritage the past appealed to him and the future beckoned him. There is no one environment in the world that could have produced just his character. He became typically American. He looked down on no one, and never assumed that he could be looked down upon. He left Natchez, Mississippi, and visited

Jacksonville, Illinois, in 1833, the year Chicago was incorporated as a town, the public meeting being held August 5, when twelve votes were cast for the important measure, and one against it, the number of voters in Chicago then being twenty-nine, and that year's taxes \$48.90. On account of the prevalence of cholera throughout the country, he made his journey on horseback to Connecticut to complete his theological course at New Haven.

Among his priceless historical papers we find the concise, unique, picturesque narrative of the trip. Our great teachers point out the fact that to develop character a man ought to be more alone. In Dr. Reed's case this condition was met, as he proceeded by short stages, as they seem to us in this day of rapid transit, to cover, in six weeks, as the aggregate of his figures show, 1079 miles.

September 19th, 1833 at Springfield, repair of saddle, 12½c. September 20th, dined at Howell's, edge of grand prairie, 14 miles, bill 12½c. September 21st, after a ride of 21 miles, dined at Thomas' Timber, of Salt Creek, bill 18¾c, rode 20 miles to Butler's Point to lodge, bill 25c. September 25th, at Indianapolis, I here find my horse has the sore tongue, paid 6¼c for alum. October 3rd, Rode 11 miles to Fairfield, bill 37½c, saddle 6¼c. October 8th, Rode 14 miles to breakfast, 31¼c, 18 miles to Putnam to Crane's Temperance Hotel, bill 62½c. October 18th, Tailoring and barbering 12½c. October 19th, Harrisburg Gates [toll gates] 18¾c. * * * October 30th, rode 6 miles to Simsbury, East Windsor, 12 miles; ferry 8c.

As he gives the extremely low value of horses and cattle on the prairies of the West, we hazard the guess that he sold his horse that had carried him over 1000 miles for enough more than he paid for him to meet all the expenses of the trip.

Having completed his theological course at Yale, and having joined the Illinois Band, he was licensed to preach in August, 1835, and commissioned at New York to go to the West. The usual phrase among the ancient Jews for an excellent woman was one who deserves to marry a priest. Such an elect lady was Miss Caroline Blood, who, at Jacksonville, Illinois, was married to Dr. Reed December 2, 1835. Her mother was a Whiting, in direct line of descent from Samuel Whiting, early pastor in Lynn in a church that Dr. Parsons Cooke, in his "Centuries" attempts to show is the oldest Congregational church in the land that stands on its original ground. The wife of Mr. Whiting was a sister of Oliver St. John, the chief justice of Eng-

land, a person of incomparable breeding, virtue, and piety, and own cousin to Oliver Cromwell. She was descended from William the Conqueror, and from Henry I of France. In her were united the lineage of ten of the sovereigns of Europe, a confluence of noble blood not often witnessed, coming in two distinct lines to William the Norman. We know of no other long time resident in Iowa whose heritage is so royal. The entire nation has received benefits from the Whiting family, with its name spelled in ten different ways. Descendants are conspicuous in theological, scientific, and literary callings, and in useful honorable position. The very experience that induced the Whitings to come to this country arose from their advanced views of human rights, and of political liberty. We gain insight here as to the quality of the stock used at length in founding Iowa. That which, in motive and spirit, brought Mrs. Reed's ancestors west from England brought her west from New England. On graduating from the seminary at Ipswich, Massachusetts, she organized, taught, and directed the first infant school in Boston, where she became a member of Lowell Mason's choir. No monument can adequately distinguish her grave when it is known that she was the originator of the idea that lies back of the infant classes in the Sunday schools of the world.

Henry J. Howland is probably honored as the founder of infant classes, but we are tracing the idea, and he himself says, "I was at that time a printer's apprentice in Boston and, becoming interested in the infant school managed by Miss Blood in Bedford Street, after spending half a day there, the idea occurred to me that the use of Bible pictures, with oral explanations and questioning, interspersed with frequent singing of hymns, would be a good way to interest and benefit quite a number of small children who attended the Sabbath school I was connected with. I there borrowed from Miss Blood some of her Bible picture illustrations and exhibited them, with explanation of my plans for their use, at a teachers' meeting. My plan was approved, and I was appointed at once to take those children and commence an infant class. This was in the latter part of 1829." In an earlier account he says that he obtained leave of absence from his employer for half a day and visited the school on Bedford Street, Boston, taught by a Miss Blood, and

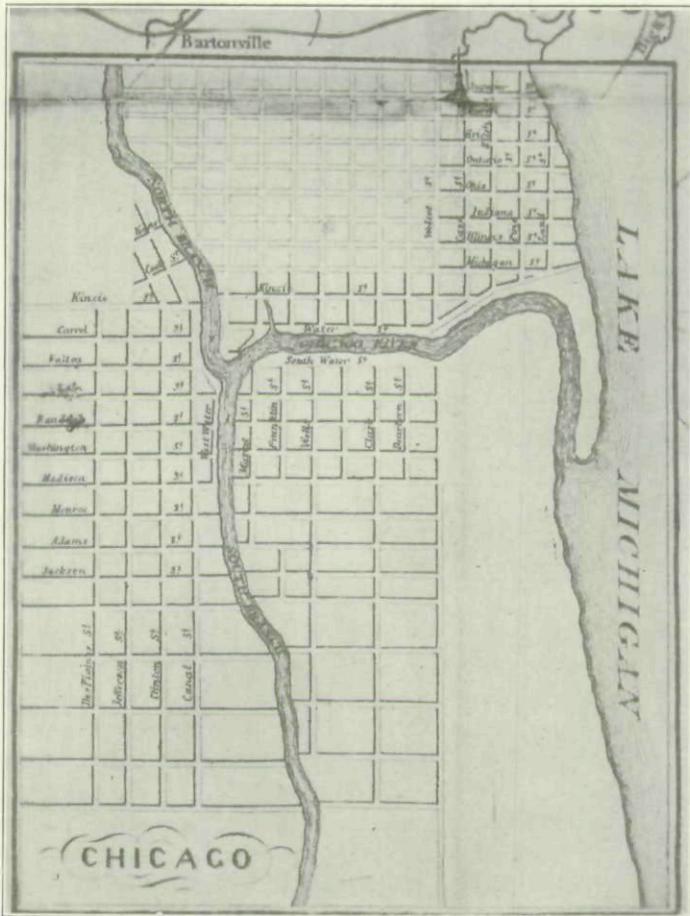
saw and heard enough "to satisfy me that the religious part of the exercises there, scripture and other lessons, illustrated by pictures, marching, singing hymns, etc.—could be usefully adapted for a number of small children who frequented the Sabbath school. So I bought a few of the pictures such as Miss Blood used." Thus the mental product of Miss Blood, who for two score years lived in Iowa, and was at length buried there, has met itself going both ways around the world. Belonging to a family bearing unmistakably the stamp of America's nobility, with large mental endowment, and generous education, she was by nature and training hospitable, progressive, capable of enjoying the best in literature, and of becoming the companion of an age maker in Iowa. Imbibing the western enthusiasm of her friend, Edward Beecher, then settled in Boston, she went with her brother Charles to Jacksonville, Illinois, but she never came back as Miss Caroline Blood. Carthage, Commerce, Warsaw, and Nauvoo, Illinois, became the first pastorate, or circuit, of the home missionaries, Dr. and Mrs. Julius A. Reed. He used to say, with his dry wit, that Joseph Smith, the Mormon elder, at the head of a colony at Nauvoo, was his spiritual successor. It was a place of great beauty, as it commands a wide sweep of the Mississippi, almost semi-circular in its curvature. The pastor's home in Warsaw for a time was in a portion of old Fort Edwards, where the Dutch oven and reflector were in time replaced by a stove.

At Quincy, Illinois, the church in which Dr. Reed was ordained was known as God's Barn. The pastor was Rev. Asa Turner. On account of the health of Mrs. Reed a temporary return was made to New England, but Dr. Reed, inoculated with the western microbe, seeks early to return to the prairies; and Asa Turner, who is to do his life work and to found the first Congregational church in Iowa and the oldest literary institution in Iowa, transferring his labors from Quincy, Illinois, to Denmark, Iowa, originally called the Yankee Haystack, which became later the clean, beautiful New England village of Denmark, was imploring Dr. Reed to adopt Fairfield, Iowa, as his field of labor.

The condition of things that he met as he returned through Illinois would have staggered a less resolute man. Prices of

real estate that had bounded upward like a kite in a gale of wind had collapsed and ruin was staring people in the face. With roads to build, schools to maintain, the salaries of public officers to pay, the entire income of Chicago in 1840 was \$4722. The work on the Illinois and Michigan Canal is all that kept the place from sinking back into original nothingness. The next year its solitary bank, the only institution of its kind in the state, suspended and for the next ten years there was not a bank of any kind in the length and breadth of Illinois. The Chicago of that day contrasts well with itself, having now at its heart the most congested business district in the world, 260 sky-scrapers, a single store with 55 acres of floor space, giving employment to 15,000 persons. A detail of this kind shows the primitiveness of conditions when Dr. Reed commenced his great life work in Iowa, where there were only four country newspapers in the entire state, when it took from three to five days to go to Chicago, and thirteen to New York. At Fairfield, in 1840, cows sold for \$8.00, corn 10c a bushel, and dressed pork 1½c a pound, and all in trade. Contrast this with a sale just made by H. B. McKee of Webster City, who sold 61 porkers, averaging 300 pounds, for \$2799.90, or \$15.30 per hundred. The world's larder is empty. To-day the productive value of an acre of land is twice as great as it has been before. Dr. Reed tells of an immigrant who bought a squatter's claim "sufficient for four farms, with a good deal to spare, with a small field fenced and a log cabin, for \$200." The number of people then living in the United States, 17,000,000, was less than five times as many as can now be found in one of our cities.

To many of us, Fairfield, which Dr. Reed made historic ground, which had in it the second Congregational church in the state, has become a shrine. The early annals of education and religion in Iowa cannot be written and leave it out. If we seem to indulge pride in our early settlers, it must still be said that they deserve our admiration. Midway of his early pastorate in Iowa, he preached at Denmark the ordination sermon of six members of the Iowa Band newly come from Andover, and the scene presents a beautiful picture, the colors of which are fresh and glowing to this hour. I have known much of the fruits of this incident in which Dr. Reed was a central figure, and I have always



CHICAGO IN 1836
 (From Squire's Map of Illinois.)

been ready to bow down in the Denmark Church and worship as in the vestibule of the Heavenly Temple.

As these pioneers in Iowa aimed at creating influences and guiding public opinion, the want of a college was a quick suggestion. Hence, sometime previous to October, 1842, Rev. Asa Turner said to Dr. Reed, "We ought to take steps to found a college," and so at the meeting of the association, October 6, 1842, a committee was appointed, which at the same meeting reported that a discussion of the subject was inexpedient and recommended that a committee be appointed to correspond and take other measures which may be necessary. "Before any important step had been taken," Dr. Reed says, "the Iowa Band arrived, who included a college among the objects for which they intended to labor in Iowa, and thence forward we all worked together in this enterprise." Dr. Reed was a star of the first magnitude in that galaxy of influence, integrity, power, and learning that shone with unsurpassed brilliancy in the last half dozen years of Iowa's history as a territory. He was "the idealist without illusions." He was one of the master minds of the state. He was one of the instruments in organizing sixty churches. His control of ecclesiastical affairs in one denomination, when church after church was being projected into being, was marked by great strength, by a regard for those who were putting up the benevolences, and by a very high order of administrative ability. He was always on educational and religious guard and picket duty. He was always ready to hail every interloper, "Who goes there?" Personal considerations never could make him retreat from the position once thoughtfully taken, or surrender a judgment once deliberately formed. Dr. Reed's diary amounts to a "Who's Who" in early Iowa. He followed Patrick Henry's maxim, "Study men." In a certain sense we know a man by his friends. These acquaintances were mutually helpful. They made each other. A man chooses his friends from harmony, not from sameness. Among his associates were Seth Richards, also Edward Manning, a grand character, a millionaire who had a chain of stores on the Des Moines River, and who had the wit to be present in Burlington at the first sale of land. It was in his power to give first aid to the causes Dr. Reed was seeking to foster, who in turn saw that he was appointed to

positions that gave him recognition and opportunity. We often hear a person complain of having a poor memory, but we never hear a person complain of having a poor judgment. The opinionated man thinks his judgment is good, but it is the universal testimony that at the point of sound judgment Dr. Reed was unailing. He could forecast a situation, and this insight in a new country was invaluable, for anyone who does not look before finds himself behind. In him the upward push of the pioneer spirit attains its highest point. For it is a true instinct which regards the heralds of civilization in Iowa, not so much as distinguished individuals, as supreme expressions of western genius.

When the best was being fixed, if ten men had been taken out of the state, it would have been different down to the point of affecting its desirability as a place of residence which, in turn, affects the value of its real estate. Let us take ten men at random, Allison, Dolliver, George G. Wright, probably the best known and the most popular man of his time in the state, James Harlan, Hiram Price, who began his career with a capital of \$100, who was usually called King Hiram, so designated for his energy, mental power, domination of situations, prominence in the state possessed by no other citizen in his early days, John F. Dillon, whose conversation had the weight of a court decision, James W. Grimes, Kirkwood, Kasson, and Grenville M. Dodge. It is obvious that Allison put the finishing touches on more national legislation than any man who ever lived in this country or any other. Dolliver was the greatest orator of his time and the greatest campaigner that the nation has produced. The common people heard him gladly. He was the idol of the masses. These men, honored by the state, themselves honored the nation. Iowa has been unusually fortunate in her representatives, but the conspicuous men in the goodly company have contributed to the service and honor and glory of the whole country. Kasson and Dodge were age makers, and served the nation as much as the state. Therefore, in accounting for the growth of sentiment and conviction locally, we must find the men who more directly and immediately, coming close to the people week by week in the schoolhouses and sanctuaries, shaped the minds of the state. The men that touch and mingle with the people leave their impressions deep down in the mind, as clear and undoubted as footprints

on the old red sandstone. Hail to the men who have laid foundations. Dr. Storrs, the Brooklyn orator, held and taught that the home missionary churches of the middle west saved the Union, and the ideas showing the most vitality and power in the Mississippi Valley were the product of missionary impulse. Such a stream of tendency forms a strong, irresistible public opinion. On this line of development, in an enumeration of ten men that most influenced early Iowa, Julius A. Reed would certainly stand.

In this strata-like formation of our early society the primary element, being established, cannot be displaced except by forces of greater weight and influence, which under normal conditions did not exist. Hence nowhere else is the pure American spirit better found, with its well-defined peculiarities than in Iowa. Its history centers around personalities. We can study its annals better in biography than in statistics. The program of the most influential and dominant pioneers in Iowa certainly recognized the commanding place of religion in life. These men were the fathers of Iowa. They were civilization builders. We are proud of our traditions. Nowhere are great leaders so much needed as in an unformed community. No other state has ever had so many unselfish, intelligent, creative leaders of rare mould as Iowa. Dr. Reed had been in the state five years when a map of Iowa was published with notes, which said "In Iowa the endearing spot of home is not yet matured. The peaceful Sabbath bell is not heard." But things were progressing. Now is seen the "flat-boat bearing away the produce of the white man's labor. Plenty of good land in Clayton and Buchanan counties can be bought at the government price at \$1.25 an acre. The present boundaries of Iowa extend from the northern limits of Missouri to the dividing line between the United States and the British possessions." In October, 1845, Dr. Reed, having been made superintendent by the American Home Missionary Society while Iowa was still a territory, with his family removed to Davenport, which, with wondrous location on her many hills, the wide stretch of water at her feet, the rapids, the pretty island, the villages, excels in beauty all other communities in the state. From some of her high positions the grandeur and loveliness that come within the range of the eye can hardly be exceeded anywhere, as it includes the imposing contour of the majestic Mississippi.

It will be seen that Dr. Reed's life in Iowa falls into four marked divisions, and each has its significance and honors his memory. First came his pastorate, in which the foundation stones of all that followed were laid on a firm base. Then there is added a longer chapter, his great home missionary career, causing him first and last to be widely known and greatly influential. Another record of his strength, and of his public acts and services, exists today in the college at Grinnell, of which he was a cofounder, and for nearly twenty years a trustee. A fourth contribution was made by him as an accurate, painstaking, conscientious, historical writer. No man seemed more wise when he had a pen in his hand. The only criticism ever made upon him is that he did not do more, so acceptable is his work.

The first upright melodeon to cross the Mississippi was for Dr. Reed's elder daughter, Anna. The legs of the instrument could be folded. It could thus be taken in a buggy to church or Sunday school, or social gathering. Years later it was put in perfect order and sent to Constantinople to assist, when taken to the villages, in weddings and funerals and services. Henry W. Wilkinson, of Providence, a prosperous young business man, showed his usual discrimination in coming to Iowa for her and taking her as a bride to his home in Providence, Rhode Island. She was married at Grinnell, Iowa, December 16, 1861, where she had in the college substituted for Mrs. L. F. Parker, teacher and lady principal, so that Mrs. Wilkinson at the time of her death, October 5, 1916, was ranking member of the teaching force of the college. Her lineage on both sides, as we have seen, was incomparable and she had the qualities that go with the blood.

No one could meet her even casually without distinctly seeing that she was highly bred. There was a touch of something aristocratic in her delicate culture and taste, but in her deep, human sympathies, especially with missions, with the suffering, with the victims of wrong and justice, she was noticeably democratic. Mrs. Wilkinson was a shining link between the primitive past and the luxurious, affluent present, as both of the daughters of Dr. Reed were born in log cabins. These traits in her natural character gave it its principal loveliness and worth, and were the foundation for all those attainments by which she was so marked, and which were so universally acknowledged. She is survived

by two sons, Henry L. Wilkinson and Alfred Hall Wilkinson; a daughter, Mrs. Edward Harris Rathbun, of Woonsocket, and four grandchildren. But the Reeds have an illustrious connection with the college. I have named an early teacher. I point next to the earliest lady pupil. Adam gained great distinction by having been first. So with Columbus. Coeducation was introduced into the college in 1857. The institution was moved to Grinnell in 1859. Mary, Dr. Reed's younger daughter, who married Hon. S. F. Smith, son of the author of "America," and who with her daughter Anna lives to-day in the much pictured house in Newton Center, in which the immortal poet lived and loved and labored, was a student in the college that was later moved to Grinnell. About one hundred was the average attendance upon the college, when at Davenport, in all departments, and when the coeducation plan was begun twenty young ladies, fourteen of whom were still living in 1898, when the college, having removed to Grinnell, celebrated its golden anniversary. Many of these young ladies became social leaders, like Mrs. Smith in Davenport who, with her well-known intelligence and tact and grace, presided in the mayor's mansion. Others reached distinction in Scott County. One became a noted novelist in the South. Others were remarkably gifted and useful in club and church work.

Lovely and pleasant in their lives, Dr. and Mrs. Reed in death were not divided. Mrs. Reed, born in Concord, Massachusetts, outlived her husband but a month. Dr. Reed died August 27, 1890, and his body rests in an honored grave in Davenport, a place pre-eminent to him for its beauty, its traditions, being historic ground for his denomination, being conspicuous early in church and college development. The memorial window in the Congregational Church there strikes all admirers as very fitting. Dr. Reed's portrait at the college in Grinnell, unveiled with an address by Dr. William Salter, of Burlington, a gem in itself, is deservedly well hung. Dr. Reed, who was in Illinois as early as 1832, and first saw Iowa in 1833, preached his first sermon in the territory of Iowa the first Sunday in January, 1837, when Iowa was attached to Wisconsin and subject to Michigan in judicial matters, it being the first sermon ever preached in Keokuk. He saw an Indian hunting squirrels, who missed his fire, and

another Indian burst into laughter and derision. The comforts and conveniences of life were all in the future. A fine hotel was the one they were going to have, and that same year Mrs. Jessie Armil, with her seven sons, was seeking Davenport, the sight of which cost \$2,000, and on leaving the boat inquired of Mr. Antoine LeClaire, who had come on horseback to welcome the immigrants, how far it was to town, and he replied, "My good woman, this is the town." Family considerations requiring Dr. Reed to withdraw from his public missionary work in 1869, he resided for ten years at Columbus, Nebraska. The evening of his days were passed in the delightful home of his daughter, Mrs. S. F. Smith, in Davenport, to whom he was much attached. His life chiefly in Iowa, 1840-1890, was a half century, incomparable, eventful, glorious, first of prophecy, then of history. What visions he saw, and what dreams he realized! What a gantlet for him to run of accidents, epidemics, ailments, surprises, pageants. His public record is a unity in itself, also an inspiration. He represented high ideals, the best traditions, the patriotic and religious spirit that makes an impress and gives an impetus that have led the way to a development, amazing, almost incredible, in the soundest, most stable, most fruitful, most wholesome commonwealth in the Union.

Great Western Land, whose touch makes free,
Advance to perfect liberty,
Till right shall make thy sov'reign might,
And every wrong be crushed from sight.
Behold thy day, thy time is here;
Thy people great, with naught to fear.
God hold thee in His strong right hand,
My well beloved Western Land.

Salem, Massachusetts.

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