

## “The Nation Uses Iowa Brains”

A notable list of Iowa men and women who were filling positions of honor and trust outside the state in 1884, was given by the *Des Moines News* in a late December issue. The article appeared under the above heading, and reads:

Quite a number of Iowa men drew considerable prizes in the lottery of politics at the recent election. Mr. John Campbell, a well known young Iowan formerly residing at Osceola, and now located at Colorado Springs, was elected a member of the Colorado legislature; Major J. A. Pickler, another Iowa gentleman prominent in the Nineteenth General Assembly as a member from Muscatine county, was chosen a member of the Dakota legislature; and many other gentlemen remembered as Iowans have this year won senatorships, judgeships, and other honors in various states of the West and Northwest.

Indeed, it is quite remarkable how successful Iowa people are in other states not only in politics, but in journalism, law, medicine, science, art, literature, theology and business. At New York, Iowa is represented in journalism of the higher sort by Col. John H. Wallace, editor of *Wallace's Monthly*; and until recently in law by John F. Dillon. At Philadelphia, our George F. Parker writes strong editorials for the *Times*, the leading paper. At Washington, there is a profusion of Iowa brains, Stilson Hutchins honoring the state in journalism, Prof. C. E. White in science and a host of others in various capacities.

Among the former Iowans at Chicago are the eloquent divine, Dr. H. W. Thomas, the talented journalist, Mrs. Elizabeth Boynton Harbert, the well-known musicians, Mr. H. S. Perkins and Mr. John Woollett, Miss Mary McCowen, the noted teacher of the deaf mutes, and many other active and distinguished workers. At St. Louis, Iowa is honored in the person of

Prof. Frank E. Nipher, a scientist of Hawkeye training. New Orleans has among its successful journalists Mr. Judson of the *Times-Democrat*, a man reared in Iowa and who does not forget his old home. California is now entertained by the pungent and characteristic writings of Iowa's one and only John P. Irish, who edits an Oakland paper. Colorado took up Mr. J. C. Helm, an Iowa man only eight years from an Iowa law school, and placed him on its supreme bench, a position which he is filling with an ability worthy of the pride of his friends.

The young novelist, Mr. E. W. Howe, of Atchison, Kansas, whose "Story of a Country Town" M. W. D. Howells pronounces one of the best novels of the year, used to live at Council Bluffs. Nebraska has just taken Professor Bessey and placed him in the chair of science of its state university. Judge Ghost, of the same state, is an Iowa man. Missouri for several years has enjoyed the benefit of the vast learning of Chancellor Hammond, now a teacher of law at Washington university, St. Louis. Michigan importuned Iowa for the services of Professor Cowperthwaite until that distinguished physician, teacher and author was obliged to divide his time between the state universities of the two states.

Ohio has recently drawn on Iowa for Dr. E. K. Young, a man who is an Iowan all over, and the graduate of an Iowa College, while in journalism it borrowed from Iowa Mr. Emerson Hough, who went from Des Moines to Sandusky to work on the staff of a leading newspaper. Pennsylvania, not satisfied with robbing us of one of our brainiest newspaper men, appropriated Dr. Abbie Cleaves, perhaps the most distinguished of our many able lady physicians, now in high official position in Harrisburg. Minneapolis has become the home of Prof. Proctor, a fine musical instructor, formerly of Des Moines; Mr. Chas. A. Bishop, a brilliant young lawyer, who made a splendid record in the Iowa legislature two years ago as a member from Blackhawk county; and of S. B. Howard, formerly editor of the

*Iowa City Republican.* Dakota is alive with Iowa men and women of the best type, Judge Seward Smith, Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Cook, of the *Mitchell Republican*, Captain Lucas, Mr. W. T. Love, Captain Humphrey, of the *Faulkton Times*, Mr. E. T. Cressey, of the *Huron Leader*, Robert Lowry and a hundred others being a tower of strength to that great territory, There has been a countless exodus, of brainy young journalists from Iowa lately: Adam Bishop, a Washington county boy, going to the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, the Goshorns, of Stuart and Winterset, emigrating to Nebraska to run weekly papers and run them well, Horace L. Wood, a sprightly Iowa City writer, who won his spurs in college journalism, doing up the news for the *Leadville Democrat* while the state points with pride to scores of others in various localities.

Even Texas has its contingent of Iowa men. New Mexico honors as a leading citizen Mr. Frank Springer, son of Judge Springer, a citizen of Columbus Junction. Arkansas, has from Iowa a Clay Caldwell and many more. Oregon has among its rising young journalists Cassius M. Coe, of Iowa's best. And to make a long story short, we may assert with confidence that there is hardly a state from Maine to California to which Iowa has not contributed of its best brain.

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### The Absent One

Tonight I sat before an altar high  
 Brighter than any work of human hands.  
 From faintly glinting censers, swinging low,  
 Thin spiral threads of smoke ascending slow  
 Faded into the vaulted darkness overhead.  
 From some unseen choir, far away, there came  
 Thin voices bearing melodies not of earth.  
 From these, the sanctuary, the lights, the music faint  
 There came a peace as though some fair hand  
 With tender touch had smoothed my aching brow,  
 And wiped away the cumbering cares of day.  
 The miracle was Thine; through many miles  
 Thy thought, Thy love had reached and brought  
 To me warm consolation to a hungry heart.

—Ernest R. Moore, Cedar Rapids

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