

intend to scold. You are too old to be scolded. You are old enough to be argued with—in short, you are in feeling, if not in years, a man. Your Aunt Jane [Mrs. Kirkwood] has scolded you for smoking. She made a mistake in so doing, but you should not feel angry with her so doing, because in what she did she acted for what she thought your good. She has borne much for and from you. You should bear much for and from her. I do not intend to scold you about smoking. I do not intend to ask you to quit smoking as a personal favor to myself, because this might look like trying to use a personal influence with you. I intend merely to reason the matter with you. A perfect man, aside from all questions of religion and morals, is a man who has a sound mind in a sound body. Now, smoking injures both mental and physical health, weakens both mind and body. Examine and see if this is not so. Talk with medical men and those who are not medical, on the subject; read books that treat of it; then if you find the facts to be as I have stated, determine what you should do. Have you not the courage to do what is right and necessary for your health? The habit with you is new and therefore more easily broken. Think of all this and write me what you think.

I send you a copy of my inaugural address. It is praised by some of my party friends and denounced by some of my party enemies. You are neither one or the other. Write me just what you think about it. Write me what you think about all these things. Take your time to do so, half a dozen evenings if necessary, and a half a dozen sheets of paper, if necessary. I will read it all. You are at entire liberty to show this to your father, if you want to talk about it with him, and I think it would be well for you to do so. He may help you to read it; perhaps his help may be necessary. Very truly, your friend and affectionate uncle,

S. J. KIRKWOOD.

ANOTHER PORTRAIT OF GOVERNOR KIRKWOOD.

Mrs. Catharine M. Adams who resides three or four miles southwest of the capitol, has presented to the Historical Department an oil portrait of Gov. Samuel J. Kirkwood, painted by her uncle, Marshall Talbot, an artist who resided in Des Moines during the civil war. In the opinions of most people who knew the war governor, it is an excellent likeness of him at that time. It has been varnished and otherwise put in repair, without, however, changing the work of the artist in any respect. There has been no attempt at "restoration." We consider this painting a valuable acquisition to the treasures of the State Historical Art Gallery.

The Editor of THE ANNALS has repeatedly urged the friends of Mr. Talbot to furnish a sketch of his life for these pages, but unsuccessfully up to this time. The writer saw him on many occasions and heard and read much concerning him. He was an active, local politician—a prominent figure at caucuses and conventions. As an artist, opinions were quite diverse. His friends regarded him as a neglected genius. That he was a man of ability is sufficiently evidenced by his illustrated contributions to *Harper's Magazine*. His eccentricity is shown by the fact that when near his end he wished to be "buried" in a tree, after the fashion of the Sioux Indians. He lived, it is said, in chronic fear of premature burial. His death occurred at Polk City about the year 1878.

LEAVING THE STATE.

Intelligence reached us last month that Henry W. Lathrop, a resident of Iowa City for more than forty years, had removed to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Mr. Lathrop is now far advanced in life, being near his 80th birthday. He will live with a married daughter who resides at the place whither he has gone to spend his remaining days. Mr. Lathrop has been a most useful citizen in many ways. The first we heard of him he was one of the reporters for the daily press in the convention (1857) which framed the present constitution of our State. His portrait appears among those connected with the deliberations of that body. Since those days he has written much for the newspaper press, though residing for the most part on his beautiful farm on the west side of the river opposite Iowa City. He has, however, been more conspicuously known through his life of Governor Samuel J. Kirkwood, and his various writings for *The Iowa Historical Record*. For many years he took quite a conspicuous part in the deliberations of the State Horticultural Society. His writings, largely records of what has passed under his own observation, will thus have a permanent place in the publications of his times, and become matters of reference in coming years. His life has been a praiseworthy one. And now it is but natural that he should choose to spend his declining years with his own kindred, even though he leaves the State he loves so well. The men of his day—Samuel J. Kirkwood, T. S. Parvin, Samuel Trowbridge, Robert Lucas, M. W. Davis, W. F. Coolbaugh, Ezekiel Clark, and scores of others who might be named—are mostly dead, or like himself well stricken in years. Mr. Lathrop always had a friendly regard for THE ANNALS and the Historical Department. In fact, when the rooms were first opened in

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