

ANNALS OF IOWA

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

WILLIAM B. ALLISON.

The memorial to Senator Allison is rapidly approaching completion, and in order that the flight of memory may be arrested for a moment as well as that a brief record in the ANNALS may be made of contemporaneous opinion of his accomplishments deemed worthy of commemorating, we publish an article by Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge, adapted from an address in the Senate. It is apropos to here present the thought of two others of Senator Allison's colleagues in one paragraph that seems almost precision and in another that was almost prophecy:

He never attempted oratory, but by cool, logical argument he moulded the opinions of legislators. He was one of those even-tempered, level-headed, sound, sensible men to whom we naturally turned when there were difficult questions to settle. We all had confidence in his judgment, and his integrity of purpose was never doubted. By his wise conservatism as chairman of the Committee on Appropriations he saved the Government untold millions of dollars. At the same time he was not unreasonably economical. He realized the growth of the nation and its growing necessities, and appropriated accordingly.

Memorial Address in Congress, Shelby M. Cullom, Feb. 6, 1909.

We may not doubt that there will be occasions in the future when the Senate will need the counsel and guidance of Senator Allison. But it is not too much to believe that the lessons of toleration and respect for the opinions of others which are taught in the life of this great American statesman will never lose their influence in the Government of the United States. For, after all, it is not of the exploits of a parliamentary leader, nor the achievements of an experienced legislator, that we are thinking today. It is rather the quiet, courtly life he lived among us, the helpful things he did, the gentle and gracious words he used to speak, which are in our hearts at this hour and will be kept in our memories while we live. Already the Senate, departing from the custom of a long time, has directed that a picture of him shall be hung in a corridor of the Capitol by the side of the favorite statesmen of other generations.

The people of Iowa who followed him with loving confidence for nearly half a century, even down to the valley of the shadow of death, will build a monument to him within the borders of the State which gave him his high commission, and will ask permission to erect a statue here, that the affection and reverence of the Nation which gave a crown of peculiar glory to his old age may have a permanent expression in the Capitol where the great work of his life was done.

Memorial Address in Congress, Jonathan P. Dolliver, Feb. 6, 1909.

PROPOSED ARCHÆOLOGICAL SURVEY OF IOWA.

In 1892 Prof. Frederick Starr published "A Bibliography of Iowa Antiquities" and in 1895 a "Summary of the Archaeology of Iowa." He planned the "organization of exploration in every part of the State; collection of data, diagrams, plans; making of a working map, showing the location of mounds, shell-heaps, trails, village-sites, etc.—in other words, *field work*," and other work. "How far this plan is to be realized remains to be seen" says Professor Starr, and now after a score of years and a little excellent scientific work we *do* see that the curio hunter has increased; land that bore identifiable prehistoric work in 1892 denuded of forests and increased in value from fifteen and twenty dollars per acre to a hundred and fifty or two hundred; mounds that rose from one to two and a half feet and yielded valuable specimens, leveled till only the memory of them remain.

We feel it to be imperative that some institution or activity in Iowa very soon provide the State with such a survey as Professor Starr proposed, embracing each township in the State and every work reputed to be of prehistoric origin; that the rights of exploration should be secured and preserved to those able and competent to display, record and publish results; there should be encouragement and cooperation with land owners and others interested in the appropriate appreciation of the matter and the whole subject put in the class with bird life and other popular studies. We will assist in such effort or assume the responsibility of leadership if no one else assumes it soon.

¹*Proceedings of the Davenport Academy of Natural Sciences, Vol. VI, p. 1.*

²*Ibid, p. 53.*

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