

Like all men accomplished in their calling, Dr. McLane loved his own; but he found the duties of his honorable but arduous profession too severe for his delicate constitution; and with a view of finding a more healthful field of labor, he first visited Wisconsin, in the autumn of 1847, and removed to this State in the fall of 1848. He went immediately into the occupation of his beautiful farm of Readland, on Pine Lake, Waukesha county, where he resided for the remainder of his life, and where he died. Few could receive so much inspiration from the calm moral beauties of nature; and in this lovely spot, amidst its quiet duties, his gentle, refined and cultivated character made his home a paradise to himself and family. But he was too young, and gifted with talents of too high an order, to remain wholly content in rural privacy. The quiet duties of his farm and his household were insufficient to satisfy his mind and to develop his capacities, and loving them none the less, his generous ambition craved farther and larger duties in life. And when, in the fall of 1852, his friends pressed upon him the position of State Senator from his district, he accepted the trust, and was elected to that honorable and responsible office. He remained in the Senate for two years, discharging every duty industriously, intelligently and faithfully.

The office was not one to give full scope to his peculiar powers; but he always brought to its discharge more than ordinary ability. He was one of those who honor station, rather than are honored by it; but in this position his admirable talents, attainments and character became more extensively known and more justly appreciated. It falls to the lot of but few men in public life to win for themselves such universal and cordial respect and affection as Dr. McLane did in the Senate.

Retiring from that position in 1854, an appointment was tendered to him, far more congenial to his tastes and acquirements. The State had been, as it still is, without any provision for the insane. The Legislature having taken preliminary measures for the establishment of an Insane Asylum, the Governor appointed Dr. McLane to the position of Superintendent. A happier selec-