

burn, from the beginning to the close of his public life, realized fully the ideal character for whom the poet so earnestly prayed, when he wrote:

"God give us men; a time like this demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith, and ready hands;
Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who have honor; men who will not lie;
Men who can stand before a demagogue
And damn his treacherous flatteries without winking;
Tall men, sun-crowned, who live above the fog
In public duty and in private thinking."

General Washburn was undoubtedly an ambitious man; but his was a laudable ambition, springing from an intense desire to do the greatest amount of good that lay in his power, for his country and for mankind. He doubtless had a very strong desire to become a member of the United States senate; and, in this ambition, he was backed, on several occasions, by a strong array of friends. In the contest for this exalted position in 1861, at the start, he was the strongest candidate before the legislature. The late Governor Randall and the present postmaster general, Hon. Timothy O. Howe, were the opposing candidates,—Mr. Washburn being the highest of the three. After several ballots had been taken in caucus, the opposing forces united upon Mr. Howe, and that gentleman was chosen senator. Again, in 1869, he was the leading candidate for the same high office at the beginning of the contest before the legislature; but was defeated in obtaining the nomination, by the uniting of most of the friends of the several other candidates upon the late Hon. Matt. H. Carpenter, who became senator. In 1875, he was again brought forward as a candidate, and after a long and hard struggle, Mr. Carpenter received the nomination for re-election. The friends of Mr. Washburn were not satisfied with the result of the action in caucus, and withheld their votes from Mr. Carpenter in the legislature, and after several days' voting, a union with the democrats was effected, resulting in the election of Hon. Angus Cameron as senator. At several other contests for United States senator, the name of General Washburn was prominently mentioned in connection with the office, and he received a number of votes