

of the whole State, and, attended by a vast concourse of sincere mourners from all parts of our territory, and from all conditions in life, were consigned to their last resting place in the city of his former home. Within a few weeks after his decease, the general sentiment of respect and admiration for his character, and of regret for the close of his distinguished and beneficent career, had found expression, not only in the utterances of the commonwealth through its official head, and the singularly impressive incidents associated with the last solemn rites of burial, but in the declarations and resolutions of private associations and public bodies, military, civic and religious, almost without number. Meanwhile the State Historical Society has found until now no fitting occasion for the expression of its own sense of loss, or of the respect and affection in which it holds its departed chief; but its silence has been due to the fact that it was endeavoring to prepare, not only for immediate use, but for permanent preservation, some suitable memorial of the eminent citizen, patriot, statesman and public benefactor whom it delighted to honor. In the careful record of his laborious, fearless, faithful, upright, energetic, magnanimous and eminently useful and successful life, which has been presented as a part of the transactions of this meeting, and in the characteristic illustrations and loving memories of that life which accompany that record, will be found most fully expressed the tribute which this Society desires to pay to its late president. In addition to recording these authentic memorials of his career, and without adopting the conventional form of resolutions, the members of this Society hereby declare their profound sense of the value to the whole State of the noble character which has now passed from among the living. So long as great capacity, great common sense, strong and firm will, vast business and administrative faculty, and the most unquestionable and uncompromising probity, combined with enlightened patriotism and public spirit, a warm and humane heart, and large practical philanthropy, all informed, animated, and rendered effective by a physical and mental energy which only disease and death could overcome—so long as these high qualities, and long, arduous and eminent public service and private usefulness flowing from them, com-