

hand, yet portentous, way, and moved that the rules be suspended on a joint resolution to Congress for a mail route, which was in some stage on the files, and no objection was made to the motion. Mr. Hull then pulled from his pocket a formidable land grant resolution, which he offered as a substitute for the mail route document, and one of the liveliest fights opened ever seen in the legislature. The resolution finally passed, but it was emasculated by amendments which made it of no account; and it would probably have fared much better if introduced with a frank statement that it was an urgent case, and should be passed that day, or not at all. The tricks of legislation by which the subject was brought before the assembly defeated the very object sought to be attained.

Mr. Hull became desperately in love with Maggie, the beautiful young daughter of the late Peter G. Jones, then, in 1855, a resident of Madison. He was an impatient and impetuous wooer, and made his proposal of marriage at a festive social gathering at the old Capital House, proposing if accepted, that Judge Cole should be immediately summoned to perform the nuptial ceremony. But his turbulence frightened the handsome object of his passion, and she refused again and again. She at length yielded, however, to his importunities and zeal, and the wedding took place; but marital happiness was impossible, and a divorce followed after a few months, or possibly a year. The divorced wife then married Col. I. E. Messmore, and has lived an ordinary comfortable life, residing now at Grand Rapids, Mich.

In 1856 Mr. Hull was elected speaker of the assembly, and he was a very excellent presiding officer. He was a fierce partisan, and supported with vehemence and zeal the claims of Gov. Barstow to the executive office against Bashford. He proclaimed the most extreme doctrine of resistance to the adjudication of the supreme court, and was ready to stop the wheels of government if Barstow should be disturbed. But he and his followers contented themselves with a protest, which they entered on the *Assembly Journal*, and there the proposed revolution in the interests of Gov. Barstow ceased.

The congressional land grant to the Rock River Valley Union