320 Wisconsin Historical Collections [vol. v

election returns of 1844 will show the result. Since that time, I have had solicitations from those that would like me to consider them my friends to come before the people; but my answer has invariably been, that I have known men to gain a competence by minding their own business.

I have seen some ups and downs in this country within the last twenty-seven years; but I have never yet known what it was to want a friend in need. Some of the turns of life have been for the better, and some I think have resulted differently. I never was known to desert a friend in poverty or affliction, nor crave any favors of my enemies. With the blessings of Providence, I hope to sustain the character of an industrious, persevering candidate for heaven, and I hope to be able to dig my own potatoes, and hoe my own cabbage, as I always have done, and ask no favors beyond common civility.

PALO ALTO, Grant Co., Aug. 31, 1855.