

and experience fully entitled him to that distinction. The interests of his constituents never suffered in his hands.

In 1864, and again in 1872, Mr. Smith was the Democratic candidate for Congress in his district. In both instances he canvassed the district with much ability and thoroughness but met with defeat on both occasions, not on account of his own unpopularity, but from the fact that his party was in the minority. In 1869, he received the Democratic vote for United States senator, in opposition to Honorable Matt. H. Carpenter, the successful candidate.

He was a candidate for presidential elector in 1868 and in 1872. In the latter campaign, he took an active part in favor of the election of Horace Greeley to the presidency. He represented his State twice in national conventions of his party. At St. Louis, in 1876, he made a speech, deemed the greatest political effort of his life, which gave him much national reputation, and would doubtless have been followed with distinguished preferment had the candidates there nominated been successful before the people. It has been supposed that had Mr. Hendricks declined the nomination for the second place on the ticket, Mr. Smith would have received the high honor of filling the vacancy on the ticket. The only other public position of prominence that Mr. Smith has occupied was, in 1876, when he was designated as one of the distinguished visitors to Louisiana, to supervise the canvass of the vote of that State for presidential electors.

Having been an early pioneer to the State, and a conspicuous member of the first constitutional convention, Mr. Smith naturally took a deep interest in the affairs of the Wisconsin Pioneer Association, and in the meetings of the surviving members of the two constitutional conventions. In July, 1879, he delivered an address before these two organizations in Madison; a duty he performed faithfully and ably, not only giving the history of these conventions, but furnishing also a very interesting and valuable sketch of the early history of Wisconsin. It could hardly have occurred to him and to those who heard him upon that interesting occasion, that he was so soon to be called away from the fellowship of his old associates of the conventions of the earlier days. But he contemplated