

the time when their voices should all be hushed, and when the places which had known them on earth should know them no more forever. Prophetic of such a time, he closed his address with the following finely conceived paragraph, which, now that he is gone, will have a touching and mournful interest to his surviving friends. He said:

"I hope these meetings may be continued from year to year, that they may increase in interest as the members entitled to be here diminish. Each recurring meeting, I am sure, will in many respects be sadder and sadder for those who come, until finally, when the last of this noble band of pioneer patriots and public benefactors, enfeebled by age, shall come with trembling steps, and with conflicting feelings of pleasure and pain—pain that he sees no more the noble forms and familiar faces of those who helped him to lay the foundation of this grand commonwealth; pleasure at the joyful greeting he will be sure to receive from the grateful people he so faithfully served; when this time comes, as it surely will come, I bespeak for this survivor, whoever he may be, a reception and a welcome that shall forever make that day memorable in the history of Wisconsin."

Little did those who heard this address think that the speaker, the youngest member of either convention and a man of apparent robust health, would be among the very first to pass over the river.

Mr. Smith has not occupied the high position in public life which his talents would have commanded, had his party been in the majority. He had the ability and acquirements to make his mark in any position. This has been shown in his practice at the bar, which has been very extensive, and where he has maintained a high standing, ranking among the ablest lawyers in the Northwest. As an orator, as an advocate, and as a political speaker, he has had few superiors in the country. He had a fine presence, a splendid voice, a forcible manner of speaking, that rendered his oratorical efforts fascinating and effective. His private life was without spot or blemish. He has been a great reader of the general literature of the day, and his mind was richly stored with its treasures. Socially he was one of the most engaging and entertaining of men; instructive in conversation, quick at repartee,