

# Memoirs of O. M. Conover, LL. D.

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At a meeting of the State Historical Society, June 3, 1884, Gen. David Atwood, from the committee on obituaries, submitted the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

In the city of London, on the morning of the 29th of April, 1884, O. M. Conover, LL. D., a prominent and useful member and officer of this Society, passed from earth. From foreign lands where Dr. Conover had been sojourning for nearly two years, his many friends had fondly hoped that it would be their pleasure soon to welcome his return in life, and in good cheer, to his chosen home at the capital of Wisconsin, benefited in health, and improved in knowledge obtained from his extended travels abroad, and better able to pursue his life of usefulness to the State, to this Society, and to his family and friends. But instead of this joyful welcome, the mortal remains of this good man were brought to our shores, and by mourning friends were received and deposited in their last resting place in the beautiful Forest Hill Cemetery.

The loss of a man so noble in character, so warm a friend and supporter of this Society, and so generally respected as was Dr. Conover, deserves and should receive from his survivors in charge of the State Historical Society, a befitting and appropriate recognition. Therefore,

*Resolved*, That in the death of Dr. O. M. Conover, the members of this Society, and the people of the State generally have sustained a serious loss; that in him were blended the elements of true greatness and worth. He was a ripe scholar, a profound thinker, a graceful writer of much clearness and force, a thoroughly read lawyer, a superior supreme court reporter, an honored and respected member and officer of the State Historical Society from the time of its incorporation, a genial companion and friend, a model gentleman in all the walks of life, and a conscientious, practical Christian. His social attachments were strong, his friendship was sincere and true; his grasp of hand was warm and cordial; in fine,

"His life was gentle; and the elements  
So mix'd in him, that Nature might stand up,  
And say to all the world, *This was a man.*"

*Resolved*, That the members of this Society mourn the death of Dr. Conover, as one whose life was really great from its simplicity and purity,