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In Memoriam







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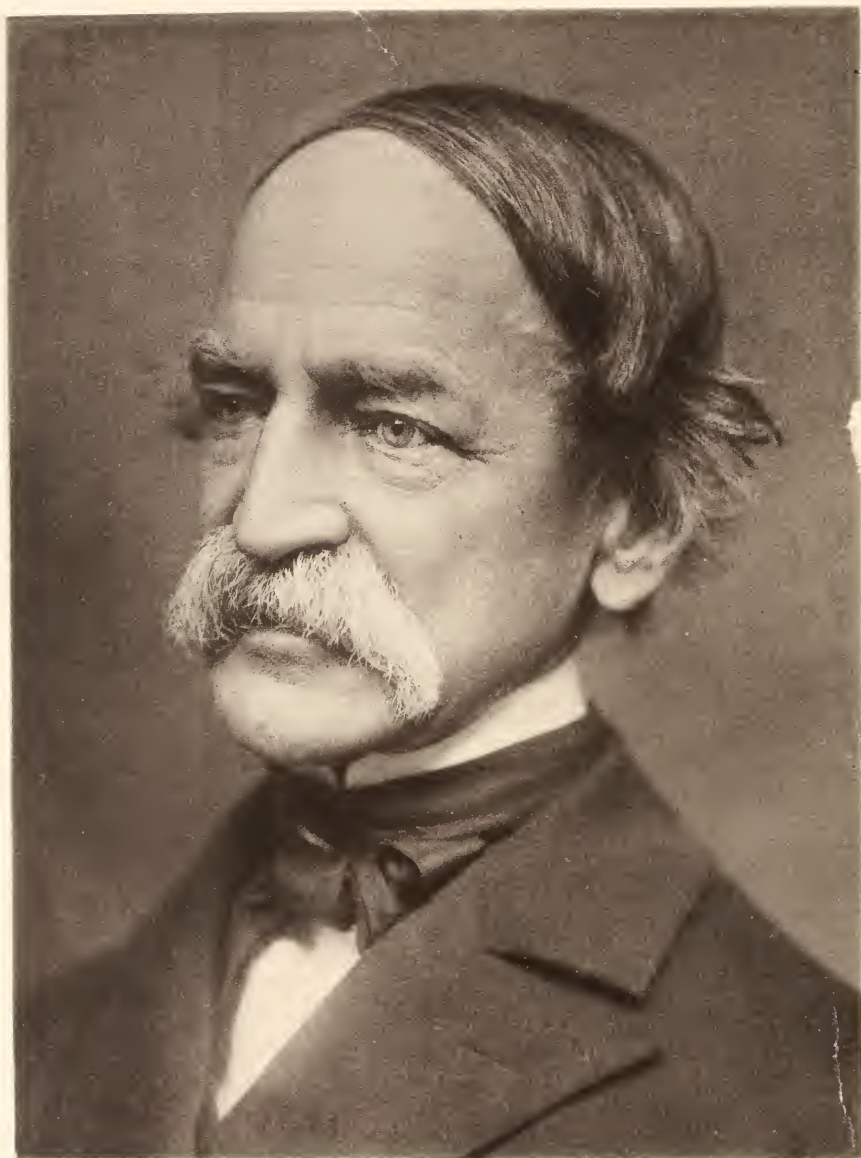




ARNOLD.







From a Photograph by A. Hesler, taken January 17, 1884.

*Isaac N. Arnold*

# IN MEMORIAM.

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Isaac Newton Arnold,

*Nov. 30, 1813—Apr. 24, 1884.*

Arthur Mason Arnold,

*May 13, 1858—Apr. 26, 1873.*

“I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”—St. John, x. 10.

CHICAGO:  
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*Chicago Historical Soc. 1111st 1935*





# Isaac Newton Arnold.

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## BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

ISAAC NEWTON ARNOLD was born Nov. 30, 1813, at Hartwick, near Cooperstown, Otsego County, New York. His father, George Washington Arnold, was a physician of honorable standing and descent. His family in America dates back to the time of the earliest settlement of New England, some members of it being associates of Roger Williams, and the wonderful men who first proclaimed civil and religious freedom on this continent, and in Rhode Island established the first real Republic ever vouchsafed to man.

Reared among the romantic hills of Otsego, he drank in from his earliest childhood the very spirit of poetry. Intense love for the home of his youth clung to him through life, and in his last sickness his mind would often wander back, and a longing for a sight of the blue hills of Otsego found expression on his trembling lips. The following extracts from his journal show his deep affection for Cooperstown, and the whole of Otsego County, crowded as was his memory, with the rich associations of boyhood, youth, and early manhood:

“COOPERSTOWN, September, 1874.

“As we sailed down the lake in the little steamer ‘Natty Bumppo,’ and as we approached the village, which I had not visited for two years, my mind was busy with the past, the days of boyhood and youth and early associates; and as I approached the shore and saw few familiar faces, I was impressed with the fact that more, many more, of my old friends sleep under the evergreens and sugar-maples of yonder cemetery than I can find now in the streets of Cooperstown. Although it rained on Friday, the rain did not prevent an early visit to scenes and localities of great beauty, and ever interesting from early associations.

“Judge Cooper settled here at the foot of Otsego Lake, and at the source of the Susquehanna, and from him one of the most beautiful villages in America takes its name. His descendants still have their home here, and contribute much to a social circle unsurpassed by any in taste, refinement, and intelligence.

“Nothing among the country churches in America, scarcely any among the rural churches of England, equals in beauty the location and surroundings of this little church; on the bank of the Susquehanna, almost under the shadow of Mt. Vision; the church-yard is shaded by the noblest specimens of the pine, the elm, and the sugar-maple to be found anywhere. Already the brilliant tints.

of autumn light up the scene, and contrast most beautifully with the deep, dark green of the murmuring pines.

‘Here the rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.’

It is more beautiful than Stoke-Pogis Church, and might well have inspired the elegy:

“‘Here the sacred calm that breathes around,  
Bids every fierce, tumultuous passion cease;  
In still, small accents, breathing from the ground  
A grateful earnest of eternal peace.’

“Aug. 6, 1875.—Yesterday visited Hartwick and my birthplace. The old home is little changed in its exterior. I visited the little study where I translated the sixth book of the *Aeneid*, then I walked to the creek, the mill, drank from the old moss-covered bucket.”

Mr. Arnold was twice married. His first marriage was with Catherine E. Dorrance of Pittsfield, Mass., who departed this life, October 20th, 1839, leaving one son, Edward Mason, who died in 1844. His second marriage was with Harriet Augusta Dorrance, a sister of his former wife, August 4th, 1841. Nine children were born of this marriage. Reading law in the offices of Richard Cooper and Judge Morehouse of Cooperstown, Mr. Arnold was admitted to the bar in 1835, and, after a short copart-

nership with Judge Morehouse, settled permanently in Chicago in 1836, and at once commenced an eminently-successful professional career, which soon placed him among the foremost of the distinguished men who from about that time adorned and made illustrious the bar and forum of Illinois.

Mr. Arnold was confirmed in the summer of 1844 by the Rt.-Rev. Philander Chase, the first bishop of Illinois, at St. James' Church, Chicago. On the same interesting occasion, his eldest daughter Katharine was christened. These two events occurring together, made each more solemn and beautiful. His interest in and love for the church extended through his riper years, and each and all the rectors of St. James' were held among his much-loved friends. Although not regular in his attendance at the Holy Communion, yet he, on special and marked occasions, accompanied his family to the altar and partook of the *Bread and Wine* at the table of our Lord. His early religious education having been outside of the Episcopal church, he had something of the feeling of the Scotch Puritan, that this Sacrament is too sacred for frequent observance. He also had a deep sense of his own unworthiness.

In his own home, Mr. Arnold adorned "the grand old name of gentleman." At his table, he dispensed an ele-

gant hospitality, graced by all that refined taste can add to kindness of heart and gracious welcome. Books, flowers, pictures, and the society of refined men and women, with occasional resort to the simple beauties of nature, were his pastimes when seeking restoration from toil and study. Among the many pleasant recollections which cluster about the memory of our departed friend, is the fond remembrance of Christmas nights, which it was his wont to keep. Inviting some of his most intimate friends, with their children, the evening was spent in telling and listening to stories and playing simple games, while the mistletoe and other evergreens, mingled with choice flowers from his conservatory, added beauty to the "flow of soul." These lovely gatherings were always brought to a close with the "Virginia Reel," led off by the host, and in which he joined with all the ardor of youth.

Mr. Arnold was possessed of many lovely traits of character, not likely to be known outside of his immediate circle of friends. His love for children. His wise consideration for his widowed sisters and other relations and friends, who, in the providence of God, were, in a measure, thrown upon his care, were beautiful to behold. Though blessed with a lovely family and an abundance of the good things of life, he was subjected to severe trials, and passed through the deep waters of affliction.

After the great fire of 1871, when all his property was destroyed, he met the necessities of the case with a lion-heartedness worthy of all praise; and in a year's time, found himself once more at home in his own house, so feelingly described by him in the following extract from his journal, dated October 8th, 1872:

“In my own house, under my own roof-tree again. A year today wandering on the sands and fleeing to the light-house to escape the conflagration. It has been a year of work and effort, not without comfort and gratification. I desire to express gratitude and thanks to God for preservation, for health, for health of my family, and for restoration to home.”

In April, 1873, it became necessary to remove the remains of such of his family as had been interred in the old city cemetery. We copy from his journal Mr. Arnold's own touching account of the performance of the sad duty:

“April 18th, 1873.—Today attended the sad removal of the remains of some of my family, who were interred in the city cemetery:

“Catherine E. Arnold, died October 20th, 1839, aged twenty-four years; died at the old Lake House in Chicago.

“Our son, Edward Mason Arnold, died March, 1844, at my old house, [northeast] corner of Ontario and Dearborn streets; aged four years and seven months.

"George Arnold, my son by my present wife, died 1845, aged seven months.

"Frances Isabella Arnold, died 1846, aged five months.

"Lizzie Mason Arnold, died 1854, aged one month.

"It was sad to disturb their repose, but they will sleep as placidly in Graceland; alas, can they not whisper one word of the hereafter? Where are they? Do they know anything of us? Are they conscious that they are not forgotten? As one stands by the grave, how unavoidable the wish that we had done more to make them happy."

The saddest and heaviest shock ever received by Mr. Arnold was in the death of his only surviving son, Arthur Mason, drowned April 26, 1873. We dare not enter upon the narration of this heart-rending event. Fortunately, a cooler head, with steadier hand and no less loving heart, has already recorded the sad story of the dear boy, which is herewith presented to those who "knew him but to love him, who named him but to praise."

At the time of this sad calamity, the family were about to make the tour of Europe, their steamer appointments having been secured. This European trip was at first given up; but, after a short time, feeling that something must be done to in some measure divert their thoughts from their irreparable loss, they decided to resume their plans so far as they could, and undertake their

anticipated journey. This visit to the old world was made in the spring of 1873; Mr. Arnold with his family landing at Liverpool on June 1st, 1873. The wonders of the continent, the beauties of the mother-country, the introduction to and entertainment by the intellectual and cultivated society of that grand old home of his ancestors, all combined to divert the thoughts of the devoted parent from the dark cloud that continually hung over him and reminded him of hopes banished from his worldly existence. Returning home, after a year spent in Europe, he again devoted himself in earnest to literary work, and in the autumn of 1879, the "Life of Benedict Arnold" was given to the public.

In June, 1881, Mr. Arnold made his second visit to England, having been invited by the Royal Historical Society to read before that august body his celebrated paper on "The Life and Character of Abraham Lincoln." While in England, he visited the Rev. Edward Gladwyn Arnold, a grandson of Benedict Arnold, and found this gentleman to be a distinguished clergyman of the Church of England, honored and beloved by those to whom he administered the holy duties of his high calling. On his return home, Mr. Arnold devoted his time to study and literary pursuits, most congenial to his tastes. His interest in the Chicago Historical Society was very deep, and



having been one of its founders, he gave much consideration to its welfare and progress. The revision and completion of his work on Lincoln occupied much of his time, even up to the closing hours of life.

The journal of Mr. Arnold, under date of November 30th, 1883, contains a few lines contemplating the return of his birthday, so beautiful that we present them without comment:

*“November 30th, 1883. My birthday; seventy years old! Threescore and ten! Death must be at no great distance. I wish to live only so long as I may be, to some extent, useful, and not when I shall be a burden. May my remaining days be useful and innocent.”*

The last two years of the life of Mr. Arnold were happily passed. His work on the life of Lincoln, his correspondence, foreign and domestic, occasional trips to his farm on Rock River, visits from distinguished friends at home and abroad, an appointment as visitor on the Board of Examiners at West Point, June 1st, 1883, given him by Hon. Robert T. Lincoln, secretary of war, and son of his old friend; these, and many other interesting events, all contributed to most pleasurable emotions.

Thus in a feeble way has a friend of many years endeavored to add his mite in praise and commemoration of Isaac Newton Arnold. In closing his address, read

before the Chicago Historical Society, on the life and services of Mr. Arnold, Judge Higgins, with great good taste and absolute truth, quoted the language of Edmund Burke with which we beg to close this unworthy eulogium:

“In all the qualities in which personal merit has a place, in culture, in erudition, in genius, in honor, in generosity, in humanity, in every sentiment, and in every liberal accomplishment, he was the peer of any man.”

W. F. DEW.

## THE LAST RITES.

[Revised from the *Chicago Tribune*, April 28, 1884.]

THE funeral of the Hon. Isaac Newton Arnold took place yesterday afternoon, at two o'clock, from St. James' Protestant Episcopal Church, at the southeast corner of Cass and Huron streets. The esteem in which Mr. Arnold was held was shown by the large number of prominent people who gathered to pay the last honors to the deceased. At the church nearly every seat was occupied, many persons coming from a distance to show their love for Mr. Arnold. Seats on either side of the main aisle were reserved for members of the family, intimate friends, and pall-bearers. The actual bearers of the casket were family servants and men who had been in the employ of Mr. Arnold. The honorary pall-bearers were Judge Thomas Drummond, J. Young Scammon, Judge Lambert Tree, Edwin H. Sheldon, Frederick H. Winston, William F. DeWolf, Judge Mark Skinner, E. B. Washburne, Lyman Trumbull, Henry W. King, George Payson, and Cyrus Bentley.

The remains were met at the entrance to the church by Bishop McLaren, Bishop Harris, the Rev. Dr. Locke, Canon Knowles, Canon Street, and Rev. Morton Stone. As they were borne down the aisle, Bishop Harris recited

that portion of the service for the dead, beginning, "I am the resurrection and the life," the organist in the meantime playing Buck's "Evening." When the casket was placed in front of the chancel, the choir sang the burial anthem, "Lord, let me know the length of my days." After the lesson, "Jesus, lover of my soul" was sung.

#### TRIBUTE OF BISHOP HARRIS.

Bishop Samuel S. Harris then delivered a brief tribute to the memory of the deceased. As his address was not written, and was only imperfectly reported, a bare outline of it is all that can now be given:

On occasions like this, he said, the church's beautiful service would ordinarily seem enough. In such an hour it is usually best to listen only to the church's voice of hope and consolation in her solemn office for the burial of the dead. But this large concourse of mourning citizens tells us that no ordinary sorrow has called us together today; and in the midst of the general grief, affection craves the privilege of paying a brief tribute to the memory of one who was deeply honored and beloved. The life of Mr. Arnold was an important factor in the history of this city's development and growth. Through many years of ardent and arduous professional labor, he won and kept a place in the front rank of the great lawyers of the Northwest. His political services at the Nation's capital in the coun-

try's hour of peril had been eminent and distinguished; and throughout the whole of his professional and public career, he had always been the friend of the afflicted, the defender of the oppressed. The speaker preferred, however, to think of him in the character in which he knew him best: as the tender husband, the loving father, the humble Christian, the good neighbor, the high-souled man, the faithful friend. More entirely than that of most men, his life was full-rounded and complete. His last days were full of honor and peace. Books, pictures, friends, those whom he loved were all around him, and in his intercourse with them, he found the highest joy of his earthly life: and in the midst of this serene joy, he found an added happiness in looking forward to a more blessed existence beyond the grave.

Not long before his death he wrote a paper, entitled, "The Layman's Faith." Perhaps I can not do better, the speaker said, than read some extracts from this remarkable paper, which will come to us in this hour as the voice of our beloved friend from beyond the grave:

*"If a man die shall he live again?" Is there a God, our great Father? Has He revealed Himself to man?"*

"These be mighty questions. They have agitated man since the earliest records of his existence.

"For me, these questions must soon be solved—by

death. Not many years, at most, can elapse before I shall 'sleep with my fathers;' 'Lie in cold obstruction's apathy,' or, as I hope and believe, live again in a brighter life.

"As we have all stood sadly around the open grave of those dear to us as life itself, we have yearned to *know*, to have an authoritative answer to the question, are we mere mortals, born only to die; or immortals, with a never-ending destiny? As we decide this question, life is likely to be dreary, dull, coarse, sensual; or bright, hopeful, elevated, and pure. As a man 'thinketh in his heart, so is he.' If we believe we are animals, and nothing more, it is not unnatural we should act like them. 'Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.'

"But if we really believe we are in very truth the immortal children of an eternal Father, making up here a record for eternity, we rise to the awful dignity and responsibility of immortals, and we ought to live with a purity and grace worthy of a god.

"I am here tonight not to reproach, nor to sneer at those who differ from me, not to try to say bright things if I could, not to attempt a logical argument, but to throw out in a somewhat desultory way some thoughts which may possibly aid some honest brother in solving these great questions. I shall try at least to show that we may reasonably entertain a 'comfortable, holy hope' of immortal life.

“Robert Ingersoll said with a touching pathos over his brother’s grave, a pathos which makes his irreverence the more shocking: ‘Life is a narrow vale between the cold and barren peaks of two eternities. We strive in vain to look beyond the heights. We cry aloud, and the only answer is the echo of our wailing cry.’ And again: ‘Every life,’ says he, ‘will at its close become a tragedy as sad, and deep, and dark as can be woven of the warp and woof of mystery and death,’ and ‘Whether in mid-sea or among the breakers of the farther shore, a wreck must mark the end of each and all.’

“Alas! if his theories are true, all this follows, and ‘no shipwrecked brother can take heart again.’ If we have no Father, if we are without souls and death ends all, then, indeed, he truly says life, ‘every life is a tragedy and a wreck,’ must indeed mark the end of us all. But if we have a good and kind Father, who has created us to be happy, placed us in this beautiful world to prepare us for another still more beautiful, where we may live in joy, and love, and purity forever, then life need not be a ‘tragedy,’ nor need any be ‘shipwrecked among the breakers of the farther shore.’ There is a haven beyond those ‘breakers.’

“I am here then with the hope that I may be believed when I ask ‘some shipwrecked brother to take heart again,’ and to have faith that the statement ‘Life is not an empty dream’, and that

‘Dust thou art, to dust returnest,  
Was not spoken of the soul.’

“But why is belief so hard, why in these days do so many ingenuous minds find faith in God and immortality so difficult? First, perhaps, it is because these great truths have been mixed up with absurd human creeds, and cruel, repulsive dogmas; and, second, among the candid and honest seekers after truth, and among those who do not adopt skepticism for the freedom of self-indulgence, the chief difficulty arises from the mystery involved, the difficulty in comprehending.

“Creation, eternity, omnipotence are to us incomprehensible. These ideas are beyond our grasp, and in our pride of intellect in these days, when we are conquering so many difficulties and solving so many questions, we reject what we can not comprehend, and refuse to believe what we can not fully understand.      \*      \*      \*

#### “IN THE ALPS.

“In Sept., 1873, I passed a Sunday at Chamounix. This, as you know, is a hamlet occupied chiefly by guides and mountaineers, at the foot of Mount Blanc. There is, among the evergreens, a little English chapel under the shadow of this ‘monarch of mountains.’ When, on a bright, sunny morning, the sweet-toned bell rang out its call for morning prayer, awakening soft and gentle echoes



among the rocks and mountains, many strangers, travelers from far-away lands, gathered to worship the great Being whose sublime creations were all around us. As we came together in this little chapel, from France, from Germany, from Scotland, and merry England, from the prairies of Illinois, from the hills of New England, and listened to the Bible and the Prayer-Book, the familiar words took us back, each to his own home and fatherland. Our vernacular never seems so sweet as when heard in a foreign land, and the familiar hymns of childhood, associated with a mother's voice, when heard again in a foreign land, are more touching than the grandest cathedral anthem. It was a real pleasure to hear the voice of a Chicago scholar and priest, asking for each and all of us, in that far far-off valley, the blessing of Almighty God.

“In the evening, we all gathered around the bright wood-fire in the parlor of the inn, to listen to that wonderful poem of Coleridge, ‘The Hymn to Mount Blanc.’ Let me recall a few lines as recited then and there:

“‘Oh, dread and silent mount, I gazed upon thee  
 Till                   \*                   \*                   \*  
                  \*                   \*                   entranced in prayer  
 I worshiped the Invisible alone.’

“Addressing the mountain, the poet says:

“Wake, O wake, and utter praise!

Who sunk thy pillars deep in earth?  
 Who filled thy countenance with rosy light?  
 Who made thee parent of perpetual streams?

‘Who bade the sun

Clothe you with rainbows, who, with living flowers  
 Of loveliest blue, spread garlands at your feet?  
 God! let the torrent like a shout of nations  
 Answer, and let the ice-plains echo, God!

\* \* \* \*

Ye living flowers that skirt the eternal frost,  
 Ye wild goats sporting round the eagle’s nest,  
 Ye lightnings, the dread arrows of the clouds,  
 Ye signs and wonders of the elements,  
 Utter forth, God, and fill the hills with praise!

\* \* \* \*

Thou, too, stupendous mountain thou!

\* \* \* \*

‘Rise, O ever rise,

Thou kingly spirit throned among the clouds,  
 Thou dread Ambassador from earth to heaven,  
 Great Hierarch, tell thou the silent sky  
 And tell the stars, and tell yon rising sun,  
 Earth with her thousand voices praises God.’

“To him to whom all this is an utter blank, the

materialist, the man who can not find God in nature, in what poverty of spirit must he live?

“ ‘How weary, stale, flat, and unprofitable  
Must seem to him all the uses of this world.’

“ But a system which inspires such sentiments as were expressed by Coleridge, which has produced such beneficent results as I have attempted to describe, which brings into existence and nurtures such men as Bossuet and Fenelon, as Howard and Wesley, as Channing, Washington, and Lincoln, must have truth for its basis. From systems of imposture and lies, such fruit does not grow. And what do they offer you in place of this sublime religion? Darkness and doubt—agnosticism. Poor children groping here in thick blackness; and in the future, death and annihilation! At utter shipwreck among the breakers of the farther shore.

“ But all this, like the meteor that rises above the marsh, and the glare of ‘false science, that leads to bewilder and dazzles to blind,’ shall pass away. Christianity shall live until its great work shall have been accomplished, and man shall be restored to purity and happiness and to God.

“ Such, gentlemen, is my *hope*—SUCH IS MY FAITH.”

In this faith our brother lived. In this hope he came

to die. Sustained and soothed by this unfaltering trust,  
he met his end

“Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch  
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.”

Bishop McLaren gave the Episcopal benediction, and the hymn, “Lead, Kindly Light,” was sung by the choir. The pall-bearers then approached the foot of the communion rails, where the coffin was resting beneath a mass of flowers, and bore the remains down the central aisle of the church to the hearse.

Special seats were set apart for representatives of the bar, members of the Chicago Historical Society, the servants of the family, and the employés of Lincoln Park. The avenues and streets surrounding the church were densely thronged with carriages, and at the conclusion of the funeral services followed the remains to their last resting-place in Graceland Cemetery.

Among those present in the church were: John V. Farwell, John Wentworth, Judge Henry W. Blodgett, Elias T. Watkins, John N. Jewett, Silas B. and Geo. W. Cobb, Gen. Wm. E. Strong, Stephen F. Gale, John M. VanOsdel, Dr. Tolman Wheeler, John Gray, Geo. L. Dunlap, Geo. M. High, Arthur G. Burley, Augustus H. Burley, John Tyrrell, John H. Dunham, Joseph Stockton, John L. Wilson, Volney

C. Turner, Marcus C. Stearns, Laurin P. Hilliard, Joseph Peacock, A. C. Helsing, Nathan Mears, Gen. Joseph Leake, J. L. Hathaway, James H. McVicker, L. C. Paine Freer, Wm. H. Stickney, Robert Fergus, Joseph K. C. and Thos. L. Forrest, David Swing, Perry H. Smith, Samuel H. and Wm. D. Kerfoot, W. D. and James L. Houghteling, Henry G. Miller, Roswell B. and Edw. G. Mason, Van H. Higgins, Daniel Goodwin, Jr., Wm. Eliot Furness, Julius White, Wm. Bross, Walter C. Larned, John Forsythe, John H. Kedzie, Henry W. Bishop, William F. Poole, Henry A. Huntington, Levi Z. Leiter, Andrew J. Brown, Wm. K. Nixon, Henry I. Sheldon, Abijah Keith, Wm. H. Bradley, Clarence H. Dyer, Luther Stone, Chas. R. Larrabee, Benj. H. Campbell, John DeKoven, Wm. G. McCormick, Dr. Chas. L. Rutter, Chas. N. Fullerton, Benj. A. Greer, Chas. Dennehy, Philip Conley, J. McGregor Adams, Geo. E. Adams, John Crerar, William Wayman, S. Lockwood Brown, Henry Clay Kinney, C. C. Bonney, Dr. Sidney Sawyer, Henry Bausher, Jr., Henry E. Hamilton, Grant Goodrich, James Morgan, Wm. J. Onahan, DeWitt C. Cregier, Samuel C. Griggs, Samuel S. Greeley, Samuel Johnson, James J. Richards, Henry J. Willing, Chas. C. P. Holden, Simeon W. King, John T. Noyes, O. B. Green, Norman Williams, H. W. Jackson, John Bates, C. A. Mosher, William Aldrich, Robert Hervey, Henry L. Hatch, Geo. W. Newcomb, Arthur W. Windette, Jonathan Slade, Charles Harpel, Edward F. Cragin, Dr. John Nutt, E. A. Otis, A.

B. Tobey, Andrew J. Galloway, Lawrence Proudfoot, Amos G. Throop, Martin Kimball, Thomas P. Robb, William A. Butters, Jacob Miller, Redmond Prindiville, Frederick A. Hunt, Wm. R. Manierre, Ralph N. Isham, Julian S. Rumsey, Albert D. Hager, and Frank M. Blair.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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TRIBUTE OF DR. H. N. POWERS.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE "STANDARD":

There was buried today at Chicago one of the noblest men of that city—one whose character I revered and of whose friendship I was proud—that man was Isaac N. Arnold. Mr. Arnold, who was born in the State of New York, went to Chicago, then a smaller place than Bridgeport, when a very young man, and ever since has been identified with what is the best in the reputation of the city and of Illinois. He helped lay there the foundations of whatever makes a commonwealth honored and enduring. During the terrible years of the civil war, he faithfully served his adopted State in the Congress of the Nation, and was the first to propose there the emancipation of the slaves. In the circle of gifted men like Abraham Lincoln, Stephen A. Douglas, and Elihu B. Washburne, who made the bar of Illinois famous, he was a notable personage. For many years until his death, he was president of the Chicago Historical Society, and a prominent member of the Chicago Literary Club. He was a cultivated scholar, a sound and skilful lawyer, an

able and painstaking biographer and historian, a pure patriot, and a Christian of untarnished name. His relations with Mr. Lincoln were more intimate and confidential than those of any other public man in the Nation. Their friendship, cemented by years of affectionate intercourse, was very close, tender, and beautiful. After Mr. Lincoln's death, Mr. Arnold made extensive and critical preparations to write his biography, and his material for this purpose in 1871 amounted to eight large manuscript volumes. All this valuable matter, including a great many letters of Mr. Lincoln, and other MSS. in his own writing, was burned up in the memorable Chicago fire. In describing to me the destruction of his pleasant house and precious contents—a calamity that he supposed he would escape till the moment that it came—Mr. Arnold did not seem to grieve over any loss but that of the volumes of Lincoln MSS. This was really a national loss.

In the removal of Isaac N. Arnold, Chicago loses a citizen who represented the best side of her character and life. He was faithful to the last to the high ideals of his youth. He was never tainted by the mercenary spirit that gives that city such notoriety, and nothing unworthy ever clouded his fair name, which was a synonym for honor and patriotism. His presence was noble; his manner and bearing, knightly. His was a nature in which gentleness and force, refinement and vigor, scholarship



and piety beautifully blended in a character of symmetrical and admirable manhood. It seems as though it was but yesterday that one of his letters of warm greeting and encouragement came to me, and before me now, as I write, is an invitation to his funeral. As I can not be with those who sadly follow his remains today to their last resting-place, it is some little solace to my heart to cast this brief and hasty tribute upon his grave.

H. N. POWERS,

*Rector Christ Church, Bridgeport, Conn.*

April 28, 1884.

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TRIBUTE OF DR. J. A. BOLLES.

[*Standard of the Cross*, Cleveland, O.]

TO THE EDITOR:

Your paper of last week contained a notice of the death of Hon. Isaac N. Arnold of Chicago, and a fitting tribute to his memory. In that notice, Mr. Arnold is spoken of as "a leading citizen of Chicago, foremost in good works, and influential in promoting the good name and interests of the city and state; a gentleman of dignified and noble bearing, learned in the law and in letters, able as a writer, eloquent as a speaker, and of unsullied reputation in his public and private life." Not much more could well be said of any one, more especially of a man always in public life, not only as a lawyer but a politician.

a legislator, and a member of Congress; and yet the crowning excellency of his character is omitted, for

“Christian is the highest style of man,”

and Mr. Arnold was a Christian, a communicant of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and for many years a vestryman of St. James' Church, Chicago.

But my object is not adulation. What I wish is to hold him up as an example to all young men of what may be accomplished by an earnest, honest, and faithful Christian life. My first acquaintance with Mr. Arnold began in 1841, when I married him to a lady in whom I was much interested, who had been a member of my family school for young ladies; nor can I ever forget my anxieties on that occasion. From that time to the present I have been more or less intimate with the family; and I hesitate not to say that Mr. Arnold was one of the most remarkable illustrations of a *self-made man* I have ever known. What I mean is this, that though his father was an eminent physician, yet at the age of fifteen years he began life for himself, without any other advantages than those of a common district-school education, in Western New York. At the age of twenty-one years, he was admitted to the bar, became the partner of his teacher, Judge Morehouse of Cooperstown; and soon after was so successful in advocating the cause of a negro, charged with

a capital offence, as to gain for himself almost a national reputation. Then at the age of twenty-three years he removed to Chicago, arriving there in 1836, publishing his card as a lawyer; and notwithstanding all the trials and temptations of that strange city for any young man, yet he weathered the storm, and has now gone to his rest, at the age of seventy years, beloved and honored as a friend, a citizen, a lawyer, a churchman, a statesman, and an author whose works will be forever identified with the history of the country. All this not from any peculiar genius or special brilliancy of intellect or advantages of education, but simply and solely because of his untiring industry, his good common-sense, his sincerity and honesty of character, and his fidelity in acting upon that response of the catechism as to the two things which we chiefly learn from the Ten Commandments, "my duty towards God and my duty towards my neighbor."

My mind goes back to the time of my first acquaintance with Mr. Arnold, now more than forty years ago, and when I contrast the results with the prospect, there arises before me at once the evidences of that supernatural grace and strength which were promised to him in his holy baptism, and which enabled him so to "pass the waves of this troublesome world" as finally to "die in the communion of the catholic church, in the confidence of a certain faith, in the comfort of a reasonable, religious, and

holy hope, in favor with God and in perfect charity with the world." O how many thousands have fallen beside him in public life, making "shipwreck of faith and a good conscience," and yet, God be praised, our dear friend was enabled to "withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil," and to continue "steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord."

But the best and crowning act of his life, was undoubtedly the document read by him before the Philosophical Society of Chicago, Dec. 16, 1882, only a little more than a year before his death, and which he entitled "The Layman's Faith." Both as a lawyer and a politician, Mr. Arnold had been associated with a certain distinguished atheist whose name I will not mention, but who as a lecturer had been received in Chicago with marked success. "The Layman's Faith" is a complete and unanswerable response to all the ribald, invective, and blasphemous enormities of that atheistic lecturer to whom he alludes at the beginning of this noble and splendid defence of the Christian religion. The questions raised are these:—"If a man die, shall he live again? Is there a God, our great Father? Has He revealed Himself to man?" "For me," he says, "these questions must soon be solved by death. Not many years, at most, can elapse before I shall 'sleep with my fathers,' 'lie in cold obstruction's apathy,' or, as I hope and believe, live again in a brighter life."

I wish I could quote largely from this admirable essay on "paper" as he modestly calls it; for there is no argument against Christianity by any of our modern unbelievers which is not fairly and squarely met and exposed; and I think it should be printed as a tract and put into the hands of every young lawyer in the country. But I can only call attention to it as embracing a full discussion of the following subjects, *viz.*: The Mysteries of the Faith; the Existence of God; Christianity and its Triumphs; The Life and Character of our Blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; The Results of His Life and Death, both as a Suffering and a Conquering Saviour; The Testimony of Great Men; The Desires and Longings of the Human Soul; all these subjects are thoroughly examined and interwoven with some of the most touching appeals to the human heart which have ever been conceived or uttered.

The document concludes with an interesting account of a Sunday in the Alps at Chamounix, in 1873, attending the English Chapel, with travelers from all quarters of the world, worshipping the same Almighty God, according to the Book of Common Prayer, "all one in Christ Jesus," and then all assembling in the evening, in one of the parlors of the inn, to listen to that wonderful poem of Coleridge, "The Hymn to Mount Blanc."

“Oh, dread and silent mount, I gazed upon thee  
 Till \* \* \* \* \* entranced in prayer  
 I worshiped the Invisible alone.”

“And what do they offer you in place of this sublime religion? Darkness and doubt—agnosticism. Poor children, groping here in thick blackness; and in the future, death and annihilation! \* \* \* But all this, like the meteor that rises above the marsh, and the glare of ‘false science that leads to bewilder and dazzles to blind,’ shall pass away. Christianity shall live until its great work shall have been accomplished, and man shall be restored to purity and happiness and to God. Such, gentlemen, is my *hope—such is my faith!*”

Blessed words, now sealed and attested by death!  
 What greater comfort can there be to surviving relatives  
 and friends!

“When Faith grows dim and Hope seems gone,  
 The dead in Christ shall cheer us on.”

Affectionately contributed by

JAMES A. BOLLES.

CLEVELAND, May 15, 1884.

From among the many letters received by Mrs. Arnold after her husband's death, the following of Mr. Lay's is selected because in it is mentioned a trait of Mr. Arnold's character—his kindly interest in the younger members of his profession—not alluded to in the other papers:

TRIBUTE OF GEO. W. LAY.

BATAVIA, N.Y., April 28, 1884.

DEAR MRS. ARNOLD:

Imagine my surprise when I saw the telegraph announcement of Mr. Arnold's death, not knowing that he was seriously ill. Immediately I was carried back to the first time I came to Chicago, in June, 1847, and went into the law-office of Arnold & Ogden. By the kindness of Mr. Arnold, I was soon taken as his partner in business. From that time until the date of our separation, a period of over sixteen years, he always treated me with the utmost kindness and consideration. Never, during our long association, did we have any disagreement and never, although for over sixteen years together, did we have any settlement of our partnership, each apparently satisfied, and fully trusting each other.

At our last meeting, when I visited him at his home, we talked over old cases in which we were interested, and the many amusing incidents in our long partnership. He then told me he was carefully rewriting the life of Lincoln,

and seemed to me then to be as young in his feelings as ever, as hopeful, seemed to enjoy his life, his work, and talked of the future as happily as of the past. You, knowing well the intimate relations we had, can easily and readily appreciate my feelings, my recollections, as I thought of the past, thought of the struggles and perplexities of our business. To Mr. Arnold I attribute in a great measure my success in life. He was to me a firm, constant friend, an adviser, a counselor, always to be trusted.

Truly a good man has been called away. Permit me to sympathize with you in your loss, to mourn for my steadfast friend, who took me by the hand, a stranger among strangers, unknown, unnoticed, ignorant of business, of the ways of the world, and led me on to prosperity, to happiness, with always a kindly, fatherly interest. Others may speak of his undoubted success in law, in politics, in literary pursuits, and of his high standing socially; but I can only write of that kindness of heart that prompted him to take me as I was and to make me what I am. That will remain in my memory forever.

I had hoped that years of tranquil rest were left him, and that after the publication of the life of Lincoln he would rest from his literary labors. But such rest was not for him in this life. Again I mourn with you.

Mrs. Lay joins me in kind remembrance to yourself and family.

Truly yours,      GEO. W. LAY.



PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

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The Hon. ISAAC N. ARNOLD, president of the Chicago Historical Society, died at his residence in Chicago, on the 24th day of April, 1884. At the first meeting of the Society after his death, May 20, 1884, the following resolution, offered by Judge Skinner, was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Hon. E. B. Washburne be requested to prepare and deliver before this Society, at his convenience, a Memorial Address, commemorative of the life and character of the Hon. Isaac N. Arnold.

Before the adjournment, Mr. Washburne, the acting-president of the Society, said:

“I am certain that all the members of the Chicago Historical Society, and all others present, will have heard with emotion the resolution in respect to our late President, first presented by Judge Mark Skinner.

“The Society has met with a great and almost irreparable loss in the death of Mr. Arnold. Long identified with it, giving to it his attention and his services, he has done much to elevate its character and increase its usefulness. We can never forget with what courtesy and dignity he presided at our meetings. Dying, as it were, in the harness, he has left us the recollection of an honest man,

a cultivated gentleman, a good citizen, and an honored public servant. At some time in the future, the Society will pay appropriate honors to his memory."

A regular monthly meeting of the Society was held at the Society Rooms, on Dearborn Avenue, Tuesday evening, October 21, 1884. After the disposal of the preliminary business, Mr. Washburne delivered the following Address.

## ADDRESS OF HON. E. B. WASHBURN.

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GENTLEMEN OF THE CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AND  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

THE Chicago Historical Society has been called upon to mourn the death of our esteemed and distinguished associate, Hon. Isaac Newton Arnold, its late president.

On the evening of 20th of May, 1884, the Society passed the following resolution, introduced by our honored friend and fellow-member, Judge Skinner, the cotemporary and almost life-long friend of Mr. Arnold:

*Resolved,* That in the removal by death of Hon. Isaac N. Arnold, the Chicago Historical Society mourns the loss of one of its original founders, of one of its most active, efficient, and reliable members, and its honored and greatly-respected president. During all the active years of a long and well-spent life, Mr. Arnold had been a citizen of Chicago, contributing by his indefatigable industry, his unimpeachable integrity, his patriotism, his public spirit, his rare abilities, his great acquirements, his spotless moral character, his high social qualifications, and his instincts as a thorough gentleman to give lustre to the city of his residence and to the generation to which he belonged; a successful lawyer that stood in the front rank of his profession; a cautious, far-

seeing, and wise legislator, distinguishing himself in the halls of legislation, National as well as State; a successful public speaker and a writer of great power and wide-spread popularity, he has left to the generations that succeed him the legacy of a noble example and a good name.

At the same meeting, another resolution was passed requesting me to deliver before the Society a "Memorial Address commemorative of the Life and Character of Hon. Isaac N. Arnold." It would have been well if that task could have been confided to some older resident of Chicago, and one better able to do justice to the memory of Mr. Arnold. I overcome my hesitation, however, when I consider the opportunity it gives me of appreciating the character of a man to whom I was allied by so many ties of friendship and whom I held in the highest esteem for his private and public virtues, for his ability, his statesmanship, and his patriotism.

At the threshold of my remarks, I may perhaps be pardoned for recalling an incident which took place a few months prior to Mr. Arnold's death. About Christmas time, 1883, he sent me an elegantly-bound copy of the "Proceedings of the Royal Historical Society," which contained his admirable paper on Mr. Lincoln, and which, on the invitation of the Society, he went to London to read.

In a letter written on the 20th of December last, I acknowledged the receipt of the address, and said:

"I have re-read your paper with renewed interest, one of the most complete and most polished produc-

tions that I now recall to mind. The simple and eloquent story of Mr. Lincoln's life awakens in me some of the most pleasant as well as some of the saddest memories of that remarkable man.

You know what answer Queen Katherine made to Griffith after his eulogy on Cardinal Wolsey. I would say with her, substituting Arnold for Griffith:

"After my death, I wish no other herald,  
No speaker of my living actions,  
To keep mine honor from corruption,  
But such an honest chronicler as Griffith."

In answering my note on the 20th of December, Mr. Arnold says:

"How strange, as I write, Lincoln's Shakespeare, given me by Mrs. Lincoln and Robert, with his autograph, lies before me, the book which so familiarized him with the great poet. You, his friend and co-laborer, quote from it. I can only promise in reference to him that I shall try to be like Griffith, 'an honest chronicler'. But I have this great advantage: Wolsey's character was made up of good and evil, and although he was

'A scholar, and a ripe and good one,'

yet he had his faults; but of Lincoln,

'All the ends he aimed at were his Country's, God's, and Truth's.'

And so the 'honest chronicler' has but the simple truth to tell.

You are younger than I, and in the course of nature will survive me. Whoever goes first, the survivor will speak some kind words."

Mr. Arnold has preceded me to that undiscovered country from whence no traveler returns. On the 24th day of April, 1884, in peace with himself and all the world, at his residence in this city, surrounded by his sorrowing family, he died, fearing God. Surviving him, and with a heart filled with sadness, it now comes to me in this presence "to speak some kind words" of my friend and our late president.

Hon. Isaac N. Arnold was born in the town of Hartwick, Otsego Co., N.Y. His father was a country physician, who while conscientiously attending to the demands of his profession added something to his limited income by cultivating a small farm in a town where all the people were devoted to agriculture. In that beautiful county of Otsego, with its picturesque scenery, its clear and limpid lakes, and its extensive forests, amid a population made up of the best type of the American character, Mr. Arnold first saw the light of day. It was in that comparative solitude that he drew his earliest inspirations and laid the foundations, deep and broad, of that future life, distinguished for so much honor and illustrated by so many virtues. Thrown upon his own resources at an early age, he became the architect of his own fortune, and has furnished an example to the young men of the present day, who can see in his career that the pathway to greatness and usefulness is opened to all who enter

upon it in a spirit of loyal devotion to the great objects of life.

Having prepared himself for the study of law, he first commenced his studies under Richard Cooper, Esq., of Cooperstown, N.Y., and afterward continued them in the office of Judge E. B. Morehouse of the same place until he was admitted to the Bar in 1835, at the age of twenty-one years.

Taking up his residence in Chicago in 1836, his career from that time was one of honorable success; and at the time of his death no citizen of Chicago was more widely known and more highly respected and esteemed than was Mr. Arnold. The story of his professional life must be told by some one of his associates at the Bar who had personal knowledge of his ability as a lawyer and of the distinction he acquired in the practice of his chosen profession.

Interested always in questions of great public interest, he often stepped outside the limits of his profession to make himself heard and his influence felt. When the question of the repudiation of the State debt arose, as was natural for a man of his stamp, Mr. Arnold revolted against the proposition, and gave the influence of his high character and great ability to sustain the public faith. He made himself known to the people by voice and pen in his efforts to sustain the honor of the State and to have the people stamp out the dishonorable but insidious proposition to repudiate the public debt.

In the session of the Legislature of 1842-3, Mr.

Arnold rendered a great and inestimable service to the State in carrying through that Canal Bill which laid the foundation of our State credit and which contributed so much to make Illinois what it is today, the pride of all its loyal sons and the admiration of our country and the world. On all questions of good faith and public morality, Mr. Arnold was always on the right side; and for the conspicuous service he rendered the State and the cause of honesty, both in public and private life, in a most critical period of our history, his memory deserves to be always honored by every citizen of Illinois.

As we all knew him, Mr. Arnold was a man of great independence of character, thought, and action. Making up his mind as to what was *right*, he always acted up to his convictions. He never pandered to low tastes or popular prejudices. There was not the slightest tinge of the demagogue in all his composition. The quotation from Horace, made by Morris Birkbeck for the encouragement of Gov. Coles during the great slavery struggle in 1823-4, when that great and good man was so fiercely assailed by all the worst elements in the State for his efforts to prevent slavery from defiling the soil of Illinois, might be applied to Mr. Arnold with great force:

“Justum et tenacem propositi virum,  
 Non civium ardor prava jubentium,  
 Non vultus instantis tyranni,  
 Mente quatit solida.” \*

\* “Neither the ardor of citizens ordering base things, nor the face of the threatening tyrant, shakes a man just and tenacious of principle from his firm intentions.”



I now approach that portion of Mr. Arnold's life and career with which I was most familiar and in which I have always had the greatest interest. At the same election that Mr. Lincoln was elected president, in 1860, Mr. Arnold was elected a representative in the thirty-seventh congress from the Chicago district. I had known him before as a gentleman and a lawyer, meeting him frequently at the sessions of the supreme court at Springfield and Ottawa. That congress met in extra session on the 4th of July, 1861. Its meeting was one of the most momentous events ever recorded in the history of our country. President Lincoln, great, magnanimous, peaceful, patriotic, just, had made every effort consistent with his duty and his oath to support the constitution and enforce the laws, to bring the rebellious States back to their allegiance. The rebels, lawless, defiant, aggressive, had spurned every proposition that might lead to an understanding between the sections. Therefore, it was that at the opening of this congress, Mr. Lincoln's administration was confronted by an open rebellion. Blood had been shed and the flames of a civil war had been lighted in the country. It was under such circumstances Mr. Lincoln had convened Congress in extra session. The members of the Senate and House of Representatives met under this call for an extra session under a weight of responsibility which has rarely rested upon public men.

At such a crisis men became naturally allied to each other. Intelligent, patriotic, courageous, firm of

purpose, and of undying loyalty, Mr. Arnold took his seat in that celebrated Congress and then commenced an intimacy and friendship between us, existing unbroken to the day of his death. The President and Mr. Arnold had known each other long and well. They had been associated as lawyers in the trial of causes and had been opposite counsel in important litigation. This long association at the Bar had made them to know one another well, and had engendered mutual respect and mutual regard. Mr. Lincoln hailed the election to Congress of Mr. Arnold with pleasure, for in him he saw the faithful friend, the wise counsellor, and the loyal and patriotic citizen. And hence it was, during all his administration, that he gave to him his fullest confidence and extended to him so many evidences of the high regard in which he held him.

Though a new member, the consideration in which Mr. Arnold was held by his colleagues was shown by the unanimous request made to him that he should pronounce the eulogy in the House on behalf of Illinois on the occasion of the death of Mr. Douglas. His address was a glowing and merited tribute to the memory of that distinguished man. Trained in the arts of legislation by his service in the Illinois Legislature, conscious of his own ability and capacity, Mr. Arnold participated at once in the business of the House. On the 29th day of July, he entered into the discussion of the Internal Revenue Bill, and in a short and apt speech which convinced

the House of his ability as a debator, and what was to be his usefulness as a legislator.

The *regular* session of the Thirty-seventh Congress met on Monday, the second day of December, 1861. The country had then been plunged into all the horrors of a bloody civil war, and the loyal people looked forward to the opening of this regular session of Congress with the most intense interest. Mr. Arnold appeared and took his seat. He had felt his way somewhat cautiously in the extra session, but now he believed himself equal to taking a more prominent part in the legislation of the House. He participated in the discussion of nearly all the important questions which came up for action, and he soon took rank as one of the ablest members of the body.

I was in the House of Representatives for sixteen years, and during the most important epoch of our country's history and at a time when so many of the ablest men of the nation were members of the House of Representatives, and was in a position to estimate and judge of men; and I can conscientiously say that I consider that Mr. Arnold was one of the ablest, the most useful, and most conscientious members with whom I was associated. Always at his post in the House and in the committee-room, he shunned no labor nor left any duty unperformed. He studied all questions and weighed all the arguments, *pro* and *con*, on every subject on which he was called upon to act. And then in deportment and bearing he was what a public man should be, amiable, courteous,

affable, polite, and always a gentleman, making himself esteemed and respected by all who had the good fortune to know him. I have sometimes thought that Chicago never did full justice to its congressman in those two celebrated Congresses during the war. In the excitement of the time and the whirl of events, men were often lost sight of. Mr. Arnold never dazzled by brilliant speeches, got up for effect and to gain popular applause and cheap glory, but he devoted himself rather to the serious subjects of legislation with assiduity and intelligence. The *Congressional Globe*, during his term of service, is an enduring monument to his great and useful labors, and that will remain as long as the Republic shall endure.

In all matters of local importance before Congress, as well as in all matters in which his constituents were interested, either in the Departments or in Congress, Mr. Arnold was especially active and efficient. He gave the Ship-Canal Bill a warm support, and his speech on the subject was one of the ablest which was made.

Coming from good old Revolutionary and Rhode Island stock, born and bred among the freedom-loving people of Northern New York, it could hardly have been otherwise than that Mr. Arnold should have imbibed the strongest feelings of hostility to human slavery. Through all his political associations, neither his opinions nor actions on that subject ever changed. He always acted with the anti-slavery men wherever he found them, and when slavery raised the

standard of rebellion against the government, he took the most radical ground on the subject. He voted for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and as early as March, 1862, he introduced a bill, sweeping in its provisions, to prohibit slavery in every place subject to national jurisdiction. This bill was stoutly resisted, but Mr. Arnold pressed it with ability and persistence, and after some amendments, it became a law, June 19, 1862. He made a speech in the House on this bill, on the 19th day of May, 1862, and from a man of his naturally calm and conservative temperament, it was not only very able, but very radical and aggressive. He denounced slavery as a monster attempting to destroy a government which it had so long controlled. He said no man who loved his country and the Constitution could hold any other position toward it than one of hostility, and that every effort should be made to weaken and destroy it. "Whenever we can give it a Constitutional blow," he exclaimed, "*let us do it.*" And it may be said to his honor, few men in Congress, or out of Congress, dealt harder blows at the institution than he did.

The ablest and most notable speech that Mr. Arnold made while a member of Congress was that on the bill to confiscate rebel property, made May 2, 1862. After passing in review the wickedness of the Rebellion, and the inhuman manner in which the rebels had conducted the war, and the necessity of prompt and vigorous action, he addressed himself to the legal questions involved, in an argument of great

ability and research, and which challenged the attention of the lawyers of the House. He was an able lawyer, and all legal questions to which he gave his attention he treated with conspicuous ability and with a felicity of language quite rare in the discussion of points of law.

From the high standing of Mr. Arnold in the House, and the advanced position he occupied on the slavery question, it was fitting and proper that he should take the initiative in a great measure of legislation with which his name will ever be honorably associated, and which was the foundation of an enactment of more transcendent importance than any which ever adorned the statute-book of any nation.

On the 15th day of February, 1864, Mr. Arnold introduced into the House of Representatives a resolution, which was passed, declaring that the Constitution should be so amended as to ABOLISH SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES. This was the *first step* ever taken by Congress in favor of the abolition and prevention of slavery in the country. The ball was set in motion -- the popular branch of Congress had made a solemn declaration which sent a throb of joy and hope to the heart of every lover of human freedom. The Senate was then so constituted that the two-thirds' majority, necessary to submit a Constitutional amendment, was easily obtainable. The House having led the way by passing the declaratory resolution of Mr. Arnold in favor of a Constitutional amendment, the Senate passed the resolution on the 8th day of

April, 1864. But it failed to pass the House at that session of Congress, and it was not until the next session, on the 1st day of February, 1865, that the two-thirds' majority was obtained in the House, and in the homely language of Mr. Lincoln, "*the job finished.*"

In the debate in the House, Mr. Arnold made a passionate appeal for the passage of the joint-resolution. Warming up in his remarks, and in a tone of true eloquence, he exclaimed: "In view of the long catalogue of wrongs that slavery has inflicted upon the country, I demand today of the Congress of the United States, the death of slavery. We can have no permanent peace while slavery lives. It now reels and staggers in its last death-struggle. Let us strike the monster this last decisive blow." "Pass this joint-resolution," he continued, "and the thirty-eighth Congress will live in history as that which consummated the great work of freeing a continent from the curse of human bondage. The great spectacle of this vote which knocks off the fetters of a whole race, will make this scene immortal." And further on he continued: "I mean to fight this cause of the war—this cause of all the expenditure of blood and treasure from which my country is now suffering; this institution which has filled our whole land with sorrow, desolation, and anguish. I mean to fight it until neither on the statute-book nor in the Constitution shall there be left a single sentence or word which can be construed to sustain the stupendous wrong. \* \* \* Let us

now, in the name of liberty, of justice, and of God, consummate this grand revolution. Let us now make our country *the home of the free.*"

No member of the House of Representatives who was present when this resolution passed can ever forget that extraordinary scene. Mr. Arnold was full of rejoicing. In a graphic, racy, and interesting paper, entitled "Reminiscences of Lincoln and of Congress during the Rebellion," read by him in July, 1882, before the New-York Genealogical and Biographical Society, he gave an account, among other things, of the passage by Congress of the "joint resolution to submit to the States the amendment to the Constitution abolishing slavery." After seeing the great work, so near to his heart, accomplished, he tells of the steps he took to obtain certain souvenirs connected with the legislation. When the resolution had been engrossed he procured an exact duplicate of the original, which was to go on file in the State department, and to that obtained the signatures of all the members of both Houses who had voted for it, to be treasured up as a memento of the occasion; and with sadness he tells the story of the Chicago Fire, which consumed that and so many other treasures. Profiting from his inspiration in this regard, I followed his example and procured precisely the same thing for myself; and looking at the names of all the members of both Houses, in their own proper handwriting, who voted for the resolution, there will be seen the name of Isaac N. Arnold, written in



his own bold, clear hand. Now that he has passed away, I never look upon it without emotion.

It is impossible in the limits of this paper to do full justice to Mr. Arnold's congressional record. The *Congressional Globe* shows with what zeal and ability he entered into the business of the House, and what light he shed on all subjects to which he gave his attention. He went to Congress to serve the country in its hour of peril and not for the objects of an unworthy ambition. His colleague and his friend, I know how conscientiously and laboriously, how honestly and how ably he discharged his every duty. To those who knew him it goes without saying, that he was thoroughly incorruptible. There was never a lobbyist or corruptionist bold enough to approach him with even the slightest suggestion as to any action on his part favoring any object for private gain, and not for the public good. Such was his high character, his incorruptible integrity, and his elevated code of morals, that no man ever dared to approach him with an improper suggestion in respect of his official action.

Mr. Arnold's congressional career ended with the Thirty-eighth Congress, March 3d, 1865. During his whole term of service, not only from a sense of duty, but from his high personal regard for the president, he had given the administration of Mr. Lincoln a loyal, able, and an efficient support. It was a matter of great regret and disappointment to that distinguished man, as well as to all of his colleagues, that he did not return to Congress. He had served his

country and his constituents so faithfully and with such marked ability that he had challenged the respect and confidence of all familiar with his public career. On his return to his home in Chicago, at the adjournment of the long session of Congress in July, 1864, he was tendered a magnificent reception, and a vote was passed, giving to him the thanks of the meeting for the able and valuable services he had rendered his country and his constituents in Congress. While not a candidate for re-election in 1864, he entered into the canvass for the re-election of Mr. Lincoln with great spirit, and his voice was heard in many States urging the people to sustain him in the great work of suppressing the rebellion.

After the assassination of Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Arnold being then already engaged in writing a "History of Abraham Lincoln and the Overthrow of Slavery in the United States," he accepted the appointment from President Johnson of auditor of the treasury for the post-office department, as a residence in Washington afforded him a more ready access to documents necessary for him to have in preparing his work. Subsequently, differing with President Johnson in respect of the policy he had adopted, he resigned the office which he had received at his hands. Returning to his home in Chicago in 1867, he completed his "History of Abraham Lincoln and the Overthrow of Slavery." He brought to the preparation of that work the qualities of an able and conscientious historian, who wrote very largely from

personal knowledge and personal observation. His long and intimate acquaintance with Mr. Lincoln had given him a thorough knowledge of his character and his mode of thought and action. As a member of that Congress for four years during the war, and which had accomplished such prodigies for the country, he was from his own participation in it enabled to speak with authority.

I have recently read again this work and am more impressed than ever with it as a work of surpassing interest and of exceptional historic value. No where else can be found a more just appreciation of Mr. Lincoln and a more graphic and truthful recital of events then transpiring in Congress and on the theatre of military and political action throughout the country. Important and interesting facts are to be obtained therein which are not to be found elsewhere.

Resuming his law practice in Chicago in 1872, Mr. Arnold continued actively in his profession for two or three years, when failing health compelled him to abandon it. From that time till his death, he lived the life of a retired gentleman in his pleasant home on the North-Side, among his books and papers, where, surrounded by his interesting and amiable family and congenial friends, he dispensed an elegant and gracious hospitality. It was then he found leisure to devote himself to favorite literary pursuits. With an inclination for historic research, with that power of analysis which a long practice at the Bar had given him, and with a rare felicity of composition, he devoted himself to historic themes.

It was in 1880 that Mr. Arnold brought out his "Life of Benedict Arnold—his Patriotism and his Treason," a most comely volume of more than four hundred pages. The book has been extensively read in the most intelligent circles. While it provoked a certain measure of criticism in some quarters, yet it was generally commended for the ability, fairness, and independence shown by the author. It was perhaps a bold undertaking to write the life of a man whose name and memory were so loaded down with infamy as were those of Benedict Arnold. But the author frankly tells us in his introduction what led him to undertake to tell the story of Benedict Arnold's life truthfully and impartially. He was conscious of the deep and universal prejudice existing against him, and was aware that the American people would listen with impatience to his narrative. He had no desire to change the indignation and resentment felt against him, nor could he either excuse or extenuate his guilt. He wished "to make known his patriotic services, his sufferings, heroism, and the wrongs which drove him to a desperate action and induced one of the most heroic men of an heroic age to perpetrate an unpardonable crime." Influenced by such considerations, and responsible only to himself for his opinions and judgments, Mr. Arnold did not hesitate to write the "Life of Benedict Arnold." It is the province of history to record facts, to pursue investigations, and narrate circumstances without regard to the characters of individuals. To sum up, Mr. Arnold has given to

the world a book of exceptional historic value, and for which all the lovers of biography and students of our Revolutionary history must be grateful.

It is not the first time that there has been written the life of a man who has been set up in the "pillory of history." Dr. Robinet never lost anything in the estimation of the French people by writing the memoirs of Danton, nor Ernest Hamel for his history of Robespierre, nor Alfred Bougeart by his life of the monster Marat. Everywhere, Mr. Arnold has added to his reputation among literary, thoughtful, and reading men, by his "Life of Benedict Arnold." In the somewhat heated controversy which arose over the question of Gen. Arnold's military services, the historian fully vindicated the positions he had taken, for no man was more successful in marshalling facts or in presenting deductions from established premises.

But the great work of Mr. Arnold's life, and upon which his reputation as a biographer and historian must rest, is his "Life of Abraham Lincoln," now in course of publication. His history of Mr. Lincoln and the overthrow of slavery, through an able, valuable, and interesting work, as I have described, was never entirely satisfactory to the author, so far as it treated of Mr. Lincoln. He determined, therefore, two years since, to write anew the "Life of Abraham Lincoln," in the light of all the new material he had gathered. Stimulated by his admiration and friendship for that illustrious man, he devoted himself to the preparation of a life of one of the greatest men

who ever "lived in the tide of time"—a man whose name is on all our lips and whose memory is in all our hearts—ABRAHAM LINCOLN. He entered upon the work *con amore*, and devoted to it all his efforts and all his thoughts. The preparation of the work occupied all his time and absorbed all his attention. So closely did he pursue his labors, and so intently were his thoughts occupied thereon, that his health, at no time rugged, within the last few years, began perceptibly to give way. Still he persevered, and still he labored on, till the last chapter was finished, and the last finishing touches given. Never shall I forget the last interview I had with him only a few days before he died, as he lay pallid and emaciated on his bed of death. Knowing all the interest I had felt in his book, he began to speak of it in feeble and even plaintive tones, and closed by saying: "It was only when I had completed the last chapter that I collapsed." And so it was, strengthened and buoyed up in his purpose to complete the great work of his life, when the task was finished, he laid down to die. The hour of his earthly existence had come finally to strike. Neither the prayers of wife and children, who did so much to sooth the pangs of his parting life, nor all their love, care, and devotion; neither the hopes of friends, nor the skill of physicians could stay the hand of death. His work was done, and peacefully and calmly and in Christian resignation he yielded up his soul to the God who gave it.

Mr. Arnold's "Life of Abraham Lincoln," en-

riched by a captivating style, carefully studied and drawn from the most reliable sources of information, will become the standard life of a man whose name, linked in glory to that of Washington, will go down to the end of all the ages.

Of an active mind, taking an interest in all passing events, Mr. Arnold always found some subject to occupy his attention and to engage his pen. Independent of the books he had written and published, he was the author of a great number of sketches, papers, biographies, and reviews, many of which have been published, and all of them are interesting and valuable in a personal and historical point of view. Associated for half-a-century with Illinois, and having been long and honorably identified with the State, he was always interested in all that appertained to our history and our public men. As a member of the legal profession, and as a man in public life, he was closely allied to many of the lawyers and judges, and to many men in official stations in the State, and he was never happier than when recounting the reminiscences of his earlier professional and political life.

To everything he undertook, Mr. Arnold brought the qualities of a ripe intelligence, great vigor, and a sound judgment. When at an age when most men rest, he was pursuing to its legitimate honors and rewards the career of a man of letters and of an historian. Of the productions of Mr. Arnold's busy and gifted pen which have been published in pamphlet form, I may mention :

1. His Address before the Chicago Historical Society of Nov. 9th, 1868, giving a history of the Society, etc.
2. "Sketch of Col. John H. Kinzie": read before the Chicago Historical Society, July 11, 1877.
3. "Recollections of the Early Chicago and Illinois Bar": a lecture before the Chicago Bar Association, June 10, 1880.
4. "Reminiscences of the Illinois Bar Forty Years Ago": read before the Bar Association of the State of Illinois, at Springfield, Jan. 7, 1881.
5. A Paper on Abraham Lincoln: read before the Royal Historical Society in London, June 16, 1881.
6. A Paper on William B. Ogden: read before the Chicago Historical Society, Dec. 20, 1881, on the presentation of a portrait of Mr. Ogden, by Healy, to the Historical Society.
7. "Reminiscences of Lincoln and of Congress during the Rebellion": being the anniversary address, delivered before the New-York Geneological and Biographical Society, April 15, 1882.
8. "Benedict Arnold at Saratoga"; reprinted from the "United Service." "Reply to John Austin Stevens, and new evidence of Mr. Bancroft's error."
9. A Paper on James Fennimore Cooper: read in 1883 before the Chicago Literary Society.
10. Letter of Isaac N. Arnold to Bishop Clarkson: "Was Dr. De Koven legally elected Bishop of Illinois?"



11. A Paper read before the Chicago Philosophical Society, Dec. 10, 1883, entitled, "The Layman's Faith."

Mr. Arnold had been one of the founders of the Chicago Historical Society, and served many years as one of its vice-presidents. On the 19th day of December, 1876, he was elected president, and held the position uninterruptedly until the day of his death—a period of about seven and one-half years. So long identified with the Society, and giving to it his attention and services, he did much to elevate its character and add to its usefulness. We can never forget the regularity of his attendance upon all the meetings of the Society, his watchful care over all its interests, nor the dignity and courtesy which he presided over our deliberations.

With an intellectual and finely-chiseled face, of an erect and well-formed person, of quiet and gentlemanly manners, and courteous carriage and bearing, Mr. Arnold was a man who always attracted attention. He was the soul of probity and honor. Neither the purity of his private life, nor the integrity of his public conduct was ever challenged; but in every position of life he stood before the world as an honest man, a cultivated gentleman, a good citizen, and a public servant without reproach. Those of us who have known him so well in this Society and in the daily walk of his life and conversation, will always guard for him a profound souvenir of respect and affection.

Husband, father, friend, neighbor, citizen—his ashes repose on the shores of that lake where he had passed a long and an honored life, and its waves shall forever sing his requiem.

## TRIBUTE OF HON. THOMAS DRUMMOND.

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MR. PRESIDENT:—I propose only to make a few general remarks, leaving details to others.

When Mr. Arnold came to Chicago in 1836, if some one had asked what were the qualities which would make him one of the principal men who would form and influence the elements of the growth of a great city, he would have said that, as a professional man, he must be able and true to his clients; as a public man, conscientious and faithful in the discharge of all trusts committed to his hands, and as a citizen, honorable in all the relations which attach to that name. Mr. Arnold, in his life, from that time, when tried in these various positions, proved that he possessed all these qualities, and he was thus one of the leading men of the city, whose influence was always exerted for good.

By his talents, industry, and fidelity, and conscious that success was with him a necessity—for it is not those who have, but those who gain a competence who achieve great distinction at the bar—he became one of the most eminent lawyers of the city and of the State. No man ever had his heart more in his cause, or more fully bent every faculty of his mind to succeed.

As a public man, the sphere of his usefulness was greatly enlarged. He, as a member of the legislature and as a citizen, made the most strenuous efforts and exhibited great ability in his arguments and speeches to maintain the honor of the State in its dealings with its creditors. As a member of Congress, he gave the whole energy of his mind and heart to sustain the administration of Lincoln; to uphold the rights of man; to destroy slavery, and to preserve and consolidate the union of these States. We who were acquainted with him in those trying days know with how much devotion he sought to accomplish these great objects. A warm personal friend of Lincoln, he was one of his most trusted counsellors and advisers.

It would be difficult to overrate the value of the services which he rendered to his State and the Nation while in public life.

As a man and a citizen, his influence and efforts were always exerted in favor of sound morals and good government. When we look back to the condition of affairs that existed here nearly fifty years ago, we can appreciate the effect produced on professional, social, and political life by the character, habits, and conduct of Mr. Arnold, and can say, as the influence of a man so conspicuous is all-pervading, that the world is better for the life of such a man.

It is fitting, therefore, that there should be placed on

record, and especially in this Society, in which he took so deep an interest, and of which he was so long the presiding officer, an enduring memorial of the estimate which has been formed of his life and public services by his contemporaries, in order that those who come after us here may know that he, of whom we now speak, was, in our judgment, thus of record, an eminent lawyer, a true patriot, and an honorable citizen.

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## TRIBUTE OF HON. VAN H. HIGGINS.

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MR. PRESIDENT:—I feel great distrust and diffidence in my ability to say what I think ought to be said of the honored deceased, whom I had known since his early manhood, now more than forty years, and with whom I had been on terms of great intimacy and friendship for more than thirty years. I am proud of that intimacy and friendship. I am proud of his record as a man and as an honored citizen of Chicago, and I am grateful for the example of his life and character. We owe a tribute of respect to the late Isaac N. Arnold, who devoted the best energies of his whole life to objects of benevolence and to the advancement of the cause of human freedom. His patriotism and devotion to the cause of the Union and its preservation were untiring and ceaseless. In Congress and

out of Congress, he was ever active and zealous, watchful and constant. In the beginning of the great struggle for the preservation of our national existence, Isaac N. Arnold was foremost in all that could be done to preserve and perpetuate this Union. Chicago had no truer patriot, no better friend of the enslaved negro, no more sympathizing friend of the wretched and suffering everywhere and at all times than Isaac N. Arnold. Although I had known him in all the relations of life, socially, politically, and professionally, I am here to speak only of his professional life, and of Isaac N. Arnold as a lawyer. Other friends more eloquent will speak, I am sure, of the usefulness of the life of the deceased, and of the beauty and loveliness of his general character, which, during a long lifetime, so gained and held our love and affection. They will speak of him in the domestic relations of his life, as a trusty friend, a faithful husband, a kind father; as a distinguished and honored citizen; as a true gentleman, pure and spotless in all things, and in all the relations of life. They will tell of his philanthropy. Isaac N. Arnold was from his youth a philanthropist. He was the friend of enslaved and wretched bondsmen. He consecrated his best energies during his whole life to the emancipation of the poor slave, one of the noblest objects within the range of human benevolence. It was in the cause and interest of the poor slave that his heart swelled with more tenderness and his

purse was opened more freely than in any other. They will speak of his great and untiring efforts in his early manhood in originating and organizing the Free-soil party of the United States. They will speak of patriotic, unselfish, and untiring devotion to the Union cause during our late struggle, and of his active, constant, zealous, watchful care of the public interests and the public trusts confided to him; of his eminent and useful services throughout a long life, and of him as a citizen of whom Chicago has always been proud.

I will not attempt to speak of the honored deceased, save of him in his professional character as an advocate and as a lawyer. Mr. Arnold, in his early life, was not favored by fortune. He had not the advantages of a collegiate education. He had only such opportunities as were afforded by the country-schools and village academy. These he improved to such an extent as to fully prepare him for the prominent positions which he afterward occupied during his life, and which he filled so creditably to himself and so satisfactorily to his friends. At the early age of fifteen years, young Arnold found himself thrown upon his own resources, and from that time began the struggles of life for success and for future usefulness. He was emphatically "the artist of his own fortune." From seventeen to twenty, he occupied his time in teaching half the year, to enable him to pursue his studies the other

half. He divided his time during this period between academic study, teaching, and reading law. During this period he entered the law-office of Richard Cooper of Cooperstown, N. Y. He subsequently became a student in the office of Judge E. B. Morehouse. In 1835, when he had scarcely attained his majority, he was admitted to the Supreme Court of New York. He immediately thereafter formed a partnership with Judge Morehouse, which continued until his removal to Chicago. In 1837, he formed a partnership with Mahlon D. Ogden of this city, which continued for several years, building up a large and lucrative business. While a member of that firm in 1841, Mr. Arnold, being then only twenty-seven years of age, commenced and carried through to a successful termination, unaided and alone, the celebrated case of *Bronson vs. Kinzie*, which was finally determined by the Supreme Court of the United States in the winter of 1842. I mention this case because of its being a leading case in this country, among its celebrated cases, and because of its involving grave constitutional questions which Mr. Arnold was able to grapple with at that youthful period of his life, arguing this case at twenty-seven years of age in the highest court in the world, and contending against the ablest lawyers in the Nation. It demonstrates the learning and capacity, the courage and fixedness of purpose of the young lawyer more satisfactorily than any words of eulogy.



Mr. Arnold was more than a powerful and successful advocate and trial lawyer. He was a learned lawyer—a jurist, in the just sense of that term. For more than thirty years Mr. Arnold stood at the head of the Chicago bar. As a *nisi prius* or trial lawyer there was scarcely his equal in the State; probably it can truthfully be said that he was one of the most successful, ingenious, and powerful jury lawyers in the Western country. The records of the various courts, State and Federal, show Mr. Arnold to have had an extensive and varied practice. Few lawyers in this or any other city have had a greater number of cases before the courts than Mr. Arnold, and these cases were generally of great importance, and involved the most varied learning, and called for the application of the most intricate and abstruse questions of law. For a time, Mr. Arnold made a specialty of criminal practice, and such was his success for many years that no man defended by him was ever convicted. His first important criminal case was the trial of a negro named Davit, who was accused of murdering his brother. Mr. Arnold being satisfied of his innocence, volunteered to defend him, and procured his acquittal. Among other noted criminal cases in which he appeared as counsel, that of Taylor Driscoll, charged with the murder of John Campbell, the leader of a band of "regulators" in Ogle County, Ill., is perhaps the most noted. He defended many other persons charged

with murder in this and other counties, and, except in the case of Green, in this city, in 1854, who committed suicide before the final trial, it is believed he was successful in every instance.

There is no one of the older members of the Chicago bar but will accord to Mr. Arnold the credit of having been one of the best trial lawyers that ever belonged to the Chicago bar. Mr. Arnold attained in life and in his profession all that an honorable and well-ordered ambition could hope for. He attained great eminence and distinction in his profession and as a citizen. He acquired a competency, and his later years found him enjoying the comforts which wealth brings. He was a marked and conspicuous figure in the growth and development of our city, and his name will long be remembered as one of the originators and members and as the president of this Society, and as being connected with nearly every enterprise of benevolence, culture, refinement, and growth developed in our city since he has been amongst us.

I may say of him as a lawyer and as a citizen, in the language of Edmund Burke: "In all the qualities in which personal merit has a place, in culture, in erudition, in genius, in honor, in generosity, in humanity, in every sentiment and every liberal accomplishment, he was the peer of any man."

Wm. F. DeWolf, Esq., then offered the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the thanks of the Chicago Historical Society be and are hereby presented to the Hon. E. B. Washburne, the Hon. Thomas Drummond, and the Hon. Van H. Higgins for their graceful tributes to the memory of our late president, the Hon. Isaac Newton Arnold, and also to the Hon. John Wentworth for his tribute to the memory of our late vice-president, the Hon. Thomas Hoyne; and that the Committee on Publication of the Society cause these tributes to be printed, for the use of the Society, in pamphlet form.

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TRIBUTE OF WM. F. DEWOLF.

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In connection with this resolution in respect of Mr. Arnold, may I be permitted to say a word expressing my love and admiration for our departed friend and president. It was my great privilege from the time I came to Chicago to be able to call him my friend. We lived many years adjoining neighbors. Our children grew up together, loving and beloved, until at last I came to look upon him as my best friend outside my own family. I dare not trust myself to relate his acts of kindness. You will pardon me for thus alluding to what, perhaps, some might

think had better be sealed within the sacred precincts of individual memory. Our doors were open to each other, and we went in and out without restraint. In his family, Mr. Arnold came up to the highest standard of husband, father, and friend. He did "not dull his palm with entertainment of each new-hatched, unfledged comrade, but the friends he had, and their adoption tried, he grappled to his soul with hooks of steel." "He was the son of his own works," and those works live after him and will always remain to testify to his worth and praise him in the gates.

## ILLINOIS STATE BAR ASSOCIATION.

ADDRESS OF HON. E. B. WASHBURNE.

ON the invitation of the Illinois State Bar Association at their annual meeting at Springfield, Ill., Tuesday, January 13, 1885, Hon. E. B. Washburne read the following paper:

GENTLEMEN OF THE ILLINOIS STATE BAR ASSOCIATION,  
AND LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

In the death of Hon. Isaac N. Arnold, who expired at his residence in Chicago, April 24, 1884, the bar of the State of Illinois lost one of its oldest and most distinguished members. Mr. Arnold commenced the study of his profession in the office of Richard Cooper, Esq., of Cooperstown, N. Y. He subsequently entered the office of Judge E. B. Morehouse of the same place, and where he remained until his admission to the bar of the State of New York, Nov. 7, 1836. As soon as he had obtained his license, and in the fall of that year, he came to Chicago and entered upon the practice of his profession, but he was not enrolled at the bar of the supreme court until Dec. 9, 1841. He soon gave evidence of that legal ability which in later years put him at the fore-front of the profession.

He was careful and painstaking and always devoted

to the interests of his clients. In the collection of moneys and administration of all trusts he was scrupulously exact, and it could be said that his clients never had to collect their money twice. Chicago was then but a small village, and Cook County embraced a half-dozen or more large counties that now surround it. As new counties were organized out of the territory of Cook County, Mr. Arnold was sought for in the most important cases, and whenever he appeared he achieved a high reputation as a jury lawyer and as a counsellor. It was quite early in his professional life (in 1841) that Mr. Arnold was brought to the special notice of the profession by his connection with the celebrated case of *Bronson v. Kinzie et als.*, and which he prosecuted to a final decision in the supreme court of the United States, and which is reported in the first of Howard. This case has gone into the judicial history of the country as a leading case, and one of the most important ever decided by the highest judicial tribunal of the land.

The case arose in a critical period in the history of our State. In the midst of a great and sweeping depression of business, and the depreciation of all values, demagogues had risen up all over the State, who sought to debauch the public credit and stain the public faith. Popular clamor threatened the repudiation of our State debt and attempted to postpone the enforcement of private contracts.

Mr. Arnold was vehement in his denunciation of stay-laws and of repudiation, and determined to test the constitutionality of the act of the legislature which provided that property should be appraised, and unless two-thirds of its appraised value should be bid, it should not be sold. Mr. Arnold took the ground that such legislation, so far as regarded contracts already entered into, was in violation of the constitutional provision which inhibited any State from passing any law impairing the obligation of contracts. He soon found a way to test the matter in the supreme court of the United States. A client of his, Arthur Bronson of New York, put into his hands for foreclosure a mortgage on property in Chicago, given to secure a debt before the passage of the stay-law. In 1841, he filed a bill for foreclosure in the United States court at Springfield, praying for a strict foreclosure and a sale to the highest bidder, without regard to the redemption, appraisement, or stay-laws. When the case came on for trial, Justice McLean sat with Judge Pope. There being a division of opinion between the judges, Mr. Arnold took the case to the supreme court of the United States in Washington. The case came on in January, 1843. Mr. Arnold presented it for his client in a written argument.

In view of the great importance of the question to be decided, Chief-Justice Taney expressed his regret that an oral argument was not had. In the absence of such

oral argument, we can but regret, also, that the written argument was not set out in the report of the case. And in this connection, Mr. Arnold himself relates a pleasant incident which shows the generosity of his client and which must make his memory respected by all our professional brethren. Mr. Arnold sent to Mr. Bronson a modest bill for \$150 for services, which was immediately remitted, together with a check for \$500 additional. And that was not all. Mr. Bronson had published a pamphlet copy of the argument of Mr. Arnold and also of the opinion of the court, and bound in Levant morocco, with beautiful ornamentation. Mr. Arnold's copy was burned in the Chicago fire, and it is not probable that a copy of that most interesting pamphlet can now be found anywhere. Mr. Arnold justly acquired much reputation for the able manner in which he had presented the argument, for it was understood at the time that the principal points he made were fully sustained by the court.

The opinion of Chief-Justice Taney was one of the ablest and most elaborate ever delivered by that illustrious jurist. No one can read it at this day without being filled with admiration at the masterly manner in which he treats the great constitutional questions involved, and demonstrating that the provision of the Constitution, that no State should pass any law impairing the obligation of contracts, was something more than a "barren ideality."



He swept away the pretences and subterfuges which had been advanced in order to obscure the true meaning of that great provision in our national charter, which has been the sheet anchor of our national honor and public faith.

There has not been a more just appreciation of Mr. Arnold than that of George W. Lay, Esq., now a citizen of Batavia, N. Y. Mr. Lay is a son of the late Hon. Geo. W. Lay of Western New York, and who was our *chargé d'affaires* to Sweden and Norway from 1842 to 1845. Admitted to the bar in the State of New York, Mr. Lay came to Chicago in 1847, and in the fall of that year entered into a law partnership with Mr. Arnold, which was continued for some fifteen years, and until about the year 1862. Mr. Lay then returned to his former residence in Batavia. He was well known to most of the old lawyers of Chicago, a man of excellent standing in his profession, and of the highest character for probity and honor. From his long and intimate association with Mr. Arnold, no one was better able to speak of him as a lawyer and a man.

This valuable paper has been placed at my disposition, and I am enabled to quote some of its most salient points. After giving his idea of what a lawyer should be, and what position he should occupy toward his clients and the court, Mr. Lay says "that Mr. Arnold was strictly

conscientious and honorable as a lawyer, and never lowered the standard of the relation of lawyer and client. Many times he had known of his canvassing the rights of his clients, and questioning the propriety and duty of taking up a certain cause, but he had never in his long experience and association with him known him to be aught but the soul of honor. He had no tricks nor low standard of duty. He was always the friend of the friendless, and kind and considerate to the feelings of others, and always thoughtful and ready to assist the struggling lawyer just commencing. To all the profession he was courteous, polite, and gentlemanly, with due respect to the court, the judge, and the opposing counsel, and indulging in no undignified and bitter language, and never wrangling. He was firm in his advocacy of what he deemed his duty to his client who had intrusted his rights and interests to his care; indeed, a model for the profession, always dignified and upholding the dignity and importance of his position as a lawyer, an advocate, and a man. In conversation he was affable, instructive, and high-toned, and never given to low badinage. His friends and associates were selected from among those who were seekers after intellectual improvement and whose ideas were of a cultured and high order.

“To some he appeared haughty and distant, but this was merely the reserve incident to his character. To

those who were near to him he was affable, considerate, and kind, and attached them to him with hooks of steel.

“As a lawyer, he was careful and painstaking, examining and studying the law and decisions critically before expressing an opinion or giving advice, which was generally well grounded, owing in a great measure to that inherent love of strict justice pervading his mind and influencing and controlling his actions.

“His great forte, however, was as an advocate before a jury, and in the examination and cross-examination of witnesses. The cause of his client was presented with its full force, carefully prepared, and with wonderful ability. I have never seen or heard his equal in the presentation of his side to the jury. The strong, salient points in the evidence were fully, clearly brought out and enforced by a masterly argument. He seemed to have complete control of the jury, and to carry them with him as he progressed. He was truly eloquent, clear, and concise, no useless verbiage, no prolixity, but straightforward and to the point, pleading, arguing, convincing with stirring, breathing words full of expression, thought, reflection, and argument.

“In his addresses he used no slang expressions, but choice, pure English, strengthened in delivery by action and gesture, forcible and graceful, and with a clear, ringing voice, changing and varied in its tone as demanded by

the subject, the occasion, the parties, and the surroundings. In all respects, without exception, he was the ablest, the most versatile, and most powerful advocate I had the pleasure of listening to during my long acquaintance with the Chicago bar."

Mr. Lay turns aside from his reminiscences of Mr. Arnold to speak of the Chicago bar as he found it in 1847, of the judges, juries, lawyers, witnesses, and spectators. At the bar there was an array of legal lore and intellectual worth and power. He passes in review many names well known in the legal profession in this State—Isaac N. Arnold, Justin Butterfield, Giles Spring, J. Young Scammon, Grant Goodrich, Patrick Ballingall, James H. Collins, Norman B. Judd, Buckner S. Morris—men who made the Chicago bar at that period distinguished by its power, its eloquence, and its legal accumen, almost without an equal in this country. "Upon the death of Justin Butterfield, Mr. Arnold was appointed in his place as attorney and counsellor of the board of trustees of the Illinois - and - Michigan Canal, and had charge of very important litigation. He defended many cases brought against the trustees where it was attempted to enforce preëmptions of tracts of land in the city which the trustees had subdivided and confined and restricted the right of preëmption to that part of the land or block actually occupied and improved, and not allowing the subdivision made by the United States to govern.

“This was a very important question and involving large amounts. It was carried to the supreme court of the State, where Mr. Arnold obtained a decision in favor of the trustees. I have not the time to refer to the many important cases which Mr. Arnold tried in the courts below and argued in the supreme court of the State.”

Mr. Arnold did not confine himself entirely to the common-law and equity practice, but was frequently employed in criminal cases, where he displayed his great intellectual and forensic powers. Mr. Lay says that he was particularly successful in cross-examination. He seemed to read the feelings, motives, and countenances of the witnesses. In this our honored president, Judge Davis, has also borne his testimony to the same effect, for in a recent letter to me he said: “Mr. Arnold, in his time, was one of the best cross-examiners in this country.”

I can not do better than to quote here an extract from the admirable address of Judge Van H. Higgins before the Chicago Historical Society, in respect of Mr. Arnold as a lawyer:

“Mr. Arnold was more than a powerful and successful advocate and trial lawyer. He was a learned lawyer—a jurist, in the just sense of that term. For more than thirty years, Mr. Arnold stood at the head of the Chicago bar. As a *nisi prius* or trial lawyer there was scarcely his equal in the State; probably it can truthfully be said

that he was one of the most successful, ingenious, and powerful jury lawyers in the Western country. The records of the various courts, state and federal, show Mr. Arnold to have had an extensive and varied practice. Few lawyers in this or any other city have had a greater number of cases before the courts than Mr. Arnold, and these cases were generally of great importance and involved the most varied learning, and called for the application of the most intricate and abstruse questions of law.

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“There is no one of the older members of the Chicago bar but will accord to Mr. Arnold the credit of having been one of the best trial lawyers that ever belonged to the Chicago bar. Mr. Arnold attained in life and in his profession all that an honorable and well-ordered ambition could hope for. He attained great eminence and distinction in his profession and as a citizen.”

Before entering Congress, in 1861, the political life of Mr. Arnold was measured by three terms as a member of the House of Representatives in the State Legislature from Cook County. He was elected as one of the two members of the House from Cook County in 1842. His colleague was Gen. Hart L. Stewart. It then took five counties, Cook, Will, DuPage, Lake, and McHenry, to send John Pearson to the State Senate. There were many men of distinction in the House at that time, and

some of whom have acquired a national reputation. Samuel Hackelton of Fulton County was the speaker. He had been previously a register of the United States land-office at Galena, a native of Maine, and of an adjoining town to the one in which I was born and raised. Gen. Wm. L. D. Ewing was the clerk. He had been for fifteen days governor of the State in 1834, and subsequently a senator of the United States for two years—a gentleman whose courtly manners and genial deportment will never be forgotten by any one who had ever known him. Robert Smith was enrolling clerk, a young man recently from New Hampshire, who afterward served for ten years as a member of Congress, with great credit and usefulness; a man whose popular and captivating manners everywhere made him hosts of friends.

Then there was Gustavus Koerner of St. Clair, the best type of the German-American, the accomplished scholar and lawyer, subsequently judge of the supreme court, lieutenant-governor, and minister to Spain; Maj. Andrew J. Kuykendall, who, serving in the war of the rebellion, was elected to the Thirty-ninth Congress from the Cairo district; Stephen T. Logan, the great lawyer, and as a *nisi prius* judge who never had an equal in the State; Orville H. Browning, the distinguished lawyer and advocate, senator in Congress, and secretary of the Interior, and once the honored president of our bar associa-

tion; John A. McClernand, for ten years a member of Congress, who added to his reputation as a statesman a distinguished and honorable service as a soldier, subsequently a judge, and now at the bar. Orlando B. Ficklin was a member of this House, as he had been of the Houses of 1836 and 1838. Subsequently he served four terms in Congress, and is still at the bar, but his love of the early history of our beloved State leads him in historic paths; the brilliant lawyer, Julius Manning of Knox; Alexander Stearne, subsequently secretary of state; the modest and unassuming Pierre Ménard of Tazewell, the son of that grand old Frenchman, Pierre Ménard, our first lieutenant-governor; the thorough and warm-hearted Englishman, Gen. William Pickering, the worthy representative of the English settlement in Edwards County; David L. Gregg, once secretary of state, and subsequently commissioner to the Sandwich Islands; Newton Cloud, so well known in our State history; Richard Yates, governor and United States senator; and I must not forget to mention that bluff old sailor, Capt. Curtis Blakeman of Madison County, and one of the founders of the "Marine Settlement" in that county, a spot which Judge Joseph Gillespie declared had no equal for beauty of scenery and fertility of soil. He commanded the ship which took Gen. Moreau to Europe, when he left the United States to join the allied armies of Europe against Napoleon in 1813.



In 1844, Mr. Arnold was again elected to the House from Cook County, having again for his colleague Gen. Hart L. Stewart. Norman B. Judd was elected senator from Cook and Lake counties. William A. Richardson was the speaker. He was subsequently elected to Congress for four terms, then was appointed governor of Nebraska, and elected United States senator in 1863 to succeed Judge Douglas. In the house at this session there were Cyrus Aldrich of Jo Davies County, and afterward member of Congress from Minnesota; Almon W. Babbitt, Mormon, and Jake Backentos, Jack Mormon, both from Hancock County; David Davis, afterward a distinguished judge of the supreme court of the United States, and then serving the State and country with ability and usefulness in the Senate of the United States. Returning among us, after having worn so many honors, he shows his regard for our noble profession by accepting the position of president of our bar association. John D. Whiteside, ex-State treasurer, Major Kuykendall, Judge Logan, Julius Manning, Alexander Stearne, and Richard Yates were also again members of this House, as well as Newton D. Strong of Madison County, one of the ablest lawyers in the State in his time, and brother of Judge Strong, late of the supreme court of the United States.

After closing his service in the Legislature, in 1846, Mr. Arnold did not enter public life again till 1856. In

politics he had always been a Democrat of the strictest sect, and in 1844 he was a presidential elector on the Polk ticket. Indignant at the repeal of the Missouri compromise, he became an anti-Nebraska Democrat, and in 1856, upon the urgent insistence of the Republicans and anti-Nebraska Democrats of Cook County, he consented again to become a candidate for the House of Representatives in the Legislature, and was elected. This was an exciting session of the Legislature. The Democrats were in the majority in the House, and Samuel Holmes of Adams County was elected speaker. Col. Wm. H. Bissell had been elected governor in November, and for whom Mr. Arnold had voted. There were not many of the old wheel-horses of either party in the House at this session, but if you will look over the list of members you will find that eight of them subsequently were elected to Congress,—Ebon C. Ingersoll, John A. Logan, Morrison, Sparks, Moulton, Cullom, Lathrop, and Arnold. It being alleged that Bissell had accepted a challenge from Jeff Davis to fight a duel at Washington, his right to take the oath prescribed by the Constitution was, in the heat of party feeling, vehemently challenged.

Mr. Arnold became the champion of the governor, and, in a legal argument of great force and power, demonstrated that the governor had not brought himself within the meaning of the constitutional provision, and could

properly take the oath, and that it was his duty to take it. This speech of Mr. Arnold settled the question, and gave to him a high reputation over the whole State, marking him as one of the ablest of our public men at the time. Bissell had already been stricken down by a partial paralysis, and was unable to go to the State House to have the oath of office administered to him, and so the Legislature went to the Governor's mansion to receive his oath. A great invalid during his term of service, he died before it was ended. On March 16, 1860, his brave and noble heart ceased to beat, and the State mourned the loss of one of its bravest, ablest, purest, and most devoted sons.

If I could be pardoned a digression, I would attempt to make known to the present generation, so forgetful of our history, and often so frivolous, something of the real character of the founders of our commonwealth, to render homage to the honesty, the firmness, and the fidelity which belonged to their characters; but the attraction of pleasures, the greed for gold, and the ambition for place have usurped the thirst for justice, contemned the spirit of sacrifice, and belittled the austerity of duty.

No loyal son of Illinois can pass in review the earlier of our public servants without a feeling of admiration and gratitude. I can not go over the whole list of our public men, but must limit myself to a few of the more promi-

ment, whose lives, services, and character illustrate our earlier history. We call to mind our first governor, the plain and honest Shadrach Bond, and we pause in reverence before the comely figure of our second governor, Edward Coles, a man who rendered a service to the State which can never be forgotten so long as a love of freedom shall find a lodgment in the hearts of men. Ninian Edwards, our third governor, whose talent, integrity, and commanding presence carried the people back to the memories of the fathers of the Republic. But of the late governors, there was a man elected after I came to the State whom I can not refrain from mentioning, Thomas Ford, a man of the most aggressive honesty and of Roman incorruptibility; disdainful of the clamors of pestiferous demagogues, he stamped out with a giant tread the heresy of repudiation. He served the State with fidelity and courage, and he laid down his robes of office with honor untarnished, though in extreme but honorable poverty, a poverty of more value to his name and to the State he served than all the wealth of "Ormus and of Ind."

And we will never pass over the name of our first lieutenant-governor, that honest and unpretending Canadian Frenchman, Pierre Ménard, whose name was the synonym of patriotism, honor, fair dealing, and benevolence. A distinguished citizen of St. Louis, allied to him

by ties of family, holding him in the highest reverence for all the virtues which adorned his public and private character, has already undertaken the erection of a monument to his memory to be placed in our State-House grounds. I refer to Charles Pierre Chouteau, in whom survives those great traits of character that made his family so illustrious for half a century, not only in our neighboring State of Missouri, but in the whole Northwest.

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## CHICAGO LITERARY CLUB.

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### MEMORIAL.

**R**EPOR TED by Walter C. Larned, for the Committee, and adopted at a meeting held Monday evening, May 12, 1884:

Since our friend and associate, Isaac N. Arnold, has been taken from among us by death, we, the members of the Chicago Literary Club, desire to express our sorrow for his loss, and our earnest appreciation of his worth. We think also that the expression of our high regard for him will serve as the best utterance of the hearty sympathy which we feel for his bereaved family.

This Club is proud to have numbered among its members a man whose private character has been so blameless, and whose public services have been so noteworthy. We wish to pay our tribute of admiration to Mr. Arnold as a lawyer, as a statesman, and as a writer. Few men at the bar of Chicago could equal his persuasive eloquence before a jury, or better sift the evidence in complicated cases. As a statesman, he came to his country's help in a time of trying need, and his services in the cause of liberty for the oppressed will do him immortal honor. His biographical works are in every library, and

his name is thus associated in history with that of Abraham Lincoln. We also greatly honor him for the perfect purity and integrity of his character, which he kept without stain in all the varied circumstances of his life, and we lament the loss in him of a friend whose gentle dignity of manner and kindness of spirit endeared him to us all.

We can not but feel that the grief of those who loved him best will in time be softened and made less bitter by the thought that he has done no evil to live after him, but only good deeds, which can not pass away with his body, but will remain to his enduring honor.

## LINCOLN-PARK COMMISSIONERS.

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THE following resolution of respect to the memory of Comr. Arnold was adopted by the Commissioners of Lincoln Park, May 13, 1884:

### IN MEMORIAM.

The death of our late associate, the Hon. Isaac N. Arnold, an honored and useful member of this Board for the last four years, calls for an expression of the feeling of profound regret with which we deplore his loss. Mr. Arnold was a man who stood so high in this community in all the relations of life, that while no word of eulogy would seem inappropriate when applied to his character, none is needed to establish or embellish it.

The Board of Commissioners of Lincoln Park desire however to place upon record our high appreciation of the citizen and the man. His great fidelity to the interests of the Park, his devotion to the development of its natural beauties, his æsthetic taste so cultivated and refined, and above all, his courteous and gentlemanly bearing in all the meetings of the Board, and in all his intercourse with his associates, endeared him to each and all of us, and will cause us to cherish his memory with profound and lasting affection; and the Secretary is ordered to enter this minute upon the records and to send a certified copy to the afflicted family of our late associate. F. H. WINSTON, President.  
E. S. TAYLOR, Secretary.



## UNION CATHOLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

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**A**T a meeting of the board of managers of the Union Catholic Library Association, held at the library rooms, April 26, 1884, the following resolutions were introduced by Mr. Edward T. Cahill, and unanimously adopted:

The Union Catholic Library Association, desiring to join with the common sympathy and condolence expressed by the citizens of Chicago, irrespective of race, creed, and condition, in their bereavement for the late and highly-esteemed citizen, Isaac N. Arnold, give expression to the following:

That in the person of Mr. Arnold we had a man who possessed in no small degree the true qualities of a Christian gentleman—amiability, benevolence, and charity. His mind was of such breadth of comprehension, so deep and penetrating in its grasp, that in all the walks of life which he was called on to tread, he was ever to be found in the path of virtue, truth, and justice. His kind and sympathetic nature shone so beautiful in his defence of the unfortunate and lowly, especially so in the case of the slave. His zeal and devotion to his cause made him and his illustrious co-laborer, Abraham Lincoln, benefactors of a whole race of people.

His kindness toward our church and its communicants was shown on numerous occasions in his public life. His charity often brought thanks and prayers from those who can not in public give expression to their feeling of appreciation. Our association is indebted to him for his interest shown it, he having favored us with lectures and essays, and joined us in honoring Mgr. Capel on the occasion of his visit here.

In his character are to be found those qualities which today are deemed of but too little importance—that no educated man can conscientiously be a Christian. His plea for immortality, delivered before the Philosophical Society of this city, will warrant the assertion that Christianity does not tend to debase or lower the intellectual qualities, but to strengthen, beautify, and enlarge them, and that the future of our republic can not subsist without it. Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That in the death of Isaac N. Arnold we, in common with our fellow-citizens, extend to his bereaved family our sincere and heart-felt sympathy in the loss of so kind and affectionate a protector, and deplore the loss to the State of a citizen of such worth, literature of so able an exponent, and the nation of such a benefactor.

LETTER OF GEO. W. LAY.

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BATAVIA, N. Y., Dec. 20, 1884.

MY DEAR MISS ARNOLD:

I shall try and write as fully as I can what I know of your father as a lawyer, with reference also to some of the cases of importance which I can now recall.

I came to Chicago in June, 1847, seeking for a place to practice law, and went into the office of Arnold & Ogden, then in the old Saloon Building (so called), to learn the course of procedure in the State of Illinois, having already been admitted in the courts of the State of New York. In the fall, I became a partner with your father, under the firm name of Arnold & Lay, and remained in partnership until about the year 1862, when I removed to Batavia, N. Y.

My idea or ideal of a lawyer would not, in these days of feverish excitement, be considered correct. To my mind, a lawyer should be on the side of right, always searching for truth and justice, and should never undertake a cause unless satisfied in his own mind of its merits. He should never descend to the low arts of cunning or chicanery to obtain success. He should be above reproach, a friend as well as counsellor of the court, so

that even-handed justice should be meted out. The popular delusion as to the position and duty of a lawyer is that he should descend to low tricks, mean subterfuges, all representations false or specious, so that he accomplishes or obtains success—no matter how. So that to win a cause, a lawyer must sacrifice honor, honesty, manliness, and all the nobler attributes of true manhood, such as truth, free will, and regardless of self, act wholly for his client.

I say it with pride, your father was strictly conscientious and honorable as a lawyer, and never lowered his standard of the relation of lawyer and client. Many times have I known of his canvassing the rights of his clients, and questioning the propriety and duty of taking up a certain cause; but never in my long experience and association with him have I known him to be aught but the soul of honor, never lowering himself to this common and low idea, so prevalent and popular, of the relation of lawyer and client. No tricks or trickeries for him, no low standard of his duty, but a firm resolve always to act well his part. Possessing and holding such an elevated idea of his duty, he was always the friend of the friendless, kind and considerate of the feelings of others, always thoughtful and ready to assist the young and struggling lawyer just commencing.

I often think with what kindness and consideration

he overlooked the many mistakes I made, so common to the young in the profession, and how like a father he encouraged me, rendering me such valuable counsel and assistance, so much so that words are unable to express my debt of gratitude to him. Not to me alone, but to all the profession was he courteous, polite, gentlemanly; with due respect for the court, the judge, the opposing counsel; indulging in no undignified and bitter attacks upon the opposing counsel or the court, and in no wrangling, and yet withal firm in his advocacy of what he deemed his duty as an attorney or lawyer to his client, who had intrusted his rights and interests to his care. He was truly an example of an honorable lawyer and advocate, impassioned and zealous, a Chevalier Bayard, without fear and without reproach. A model for the profession, always dignified, never low, but full of the dignity and importance of his position as a lawyer, an advocate, and a man. In conversation, affable, instructive, high toned; no low, common badinage for him. His friends and associates were selected among those who were seekers after intellectual improvement and whose ideas were of a cultured and high order.

To some he appeared haughty and distant, but this was merely the reserve incident to his character; and with those who were near to him he was always affable, considerate, kind, and attracted them to him with hooks

of steel. To know him was to love him. In all the years of our intimate relationship, I never had any other feeling toward him than one of respect, of love, and never had occasion to feel in any way offended by his manner toward me.

As a counsel he was careful and painstaking, examining and studying the law and decisions carefully before expressing his opinion or giving advice, which was generally accurate and well grounded, owing in a great measure to that inherent love of strict justice and right pervading his mind and influencing and controlling his actions.

His great forte, however, was as an advocate before a jury, and in the examination and cross-examination of witnesses. The cause of his client was presented with its full force, carefully prepared, and with wonderful ability. I have never seen or heard his equal in this presentation of his side to the jury. The strong, salient points in the evidence were fully, clearly brought out, and enforced by a masterly argument. He seemed to have complete control of the jury, and to carry them with him as he progressed. He was truly eloquent, clear, and concise; no useless verbiage, no prolixity, but straight forward to the point, pleading, arguing, convincing with stirring, breathing words, full of expression, thought, reflection, and argument. In his addresses he used no slang expressions, but choice, pure English, strengthened in delivery

by action and gesture, forcible and graceful, and with a clear, ringing voice, changing and varied in its tone as demanded by the subject, the occasion, the parties, and the surroundings. In all respects, without exception, the ablest, most versatile, and most powerful advocate I had the pleasure of listening to during my long acquaintance with the bar of Chicago.

My first recollection of the bar of Chicago, with its plain surroundings, the absence of all form and ceremony, the huddling together of judge, jury, lawyers, witnesses, and spectators, that there should be such an array of legal lore and intellectual worth and power surprised me. Plain and sometimes rough in their appearance, dress, and manners, yet their intellect, their abilities forensic and argumentative, were to me, coming from the comparatively stately grandeur of the New-York courts, somewhat surprising.

Justin Butterfield, who excelled as counsel and in equity; Giles Spring, whose quick legal mind seized upon the right, upon the law with almost intuition; Grant Goodrich, whose industry and research, as well as his address in court, rendered him a formidable antagonist; Hugh T. Dickey, then presiding judge, whose boyish appearance and face were in wonderful contrast to his clear, quick, legal mind, commanding respect and attention from the older members of the bar; Patrick Ballingall, the active, energetic, and shrewd prosecuting attor-

ney; J. Young Scammon, the able counsellor, owner of the best legal library in the city, whose earnestness and zeal as an advocate whenever he entered the arena caused him to be feared; Norman B. Judd, able and popular as an advocate; Jas. H. Collins, the indefatigable, unwearied advocate, whose forensic efforts were always listened to and highly appreciated, as he threw his whole soul and heart in his cause; Buckner S. Morris, the genial, happy Kentuckian, whose stories and startling addresses to the jury were so taking, so rich in fun, and oftentimes wonderfully successful; and many others combined to impress me most favorably. I doubt whether, at this day, there is any bar more distinguished in its power, its eloquence, and its legal acumen. Before it came many important questions as to title, jurisdiction, ways, and water-courses, and constitutional questions involving deep research and subtle argument. Having but few precedents and authorities to rest upon, they were compelled to think, reflect, and reason, with rude arguments and plain statements, striving to attain justice and right. I wondered then and wonder now at the intellectual force and energy then exhibited.

You ask me for briefs that your father prepared. I have none, as all the office papers were burned in the great fire that destroyed so much of value. In two pamphlets sent me by your father, which you probably have,



one entitled: "Reminiscences of the Illinois Bar Forty Years Ago; Lincoln and Douglas as Orators and Lawyers. By Hon. Isaac N. Arnold. Read before the Bar Association at Springfield, Ill., Jan. 7, 1881;" as also: "Recollections of the Early Chicago and Illinois Bar. By Hon. Isaac N. Arnold. Delivered before the Chicago Bar, June 10, 1880," you will find numerous cases alluded to from which one can derive much information as to the important causes in which he was engaged.

The first important case was that of Arthur Bronson *v.* John H. Kinzie, argued in U. S. superior court in January, 1843; referred to by your father in his pamphlet on page 17. Also another involving similar questions in 3 Howard, both important cases, and in which he was eminently successful. After my partnership, the case of Plumleigh *v.* Dawson, for diversion of a water-course, tried before Judge Drummond, in which he obtained a large verdict. Connected with this were several suits between same parties, one for escape, Plumleigh *v.* Cook, sheriff of Cook County, decided in Illinois superior court in his favor. Soon after our partnership, your father, upon the death of Justin Butterfield, was appointed attorney and counsel of the board of trustees of the Illinois-and-Michigan Canal, and made the argument and defence of several cases: Brainard *v.* Trustees, Granger *v.* Trustees, Laflin or Loomis *v.* Trustees, etc., when it was attempted to enforce

preëmption of tracts of land in the city which the trustees had subdivided and confined and restricted the right of preëmption to that part of land or block actually occupied and improved, and not allowing the subdivisions made by the United States to govern. This was a very important question, involving as it did thousands of dollars, and was carried to the supreme court and there after long and able arguments on both sides, finally decided in favor of the trustees. Also a leading case decided in supreme court by Judge Trumbull, I think, was one of *Case v. Hartford Insurance Company*, wherein the question as to the liability of an insurance company for losses by theft at a fire was decided in favor of their liability under their then form of policy. Immediately after this, the insurance companies inserted a clause exempting specially losses by theft at fires. I can not recall now the many, many important causes in which he was acting as attorney or counsel, but there are numerous causes in the supreme court decisions of Illinois wherein he was interested, involving many varied and important questions of law. As I have no books or papers to refer to, to refresh my memory, I can not quote them as I could wish.

Judge Drummond could undoubtedly recall many important cases that came before him, and could give a clear, succinct idea of the legal questions discussed in which Mr. Arnold was employed and interested. The

case of *Johnston v. Jones*, wherein the question of accretion on the lake shore was involved, and to which your father refers in one of the pamphlets, was important in value involved as well as legal questions. But he did not confine himself entirely to the common law and equity, but at times was employed and acted as attorney in criminal causes, to which he bent all his energies, intellectual and forensic, with unvarying zeal and fervor. In the "Recollections of the Early Chicago and Illinois Bar," several important criminal causes are there enumerated by your father in his descriptive way, giving a true insight of his keenness as a lawyer, his powers of cross-examination, as also information as to the important causes in which he was employed.

In cross-examination he seemed to read the feelings, motives, and countenances of witnesses, and to impress the jury with his views. I know of several important causes wherein he defended persons indicted for crimes, but can not of course give any idea of the questions involved, of his argument, or brief, as I never attended criminal trials; but this much I know, that he was generally successful. I think I have gone over pretty much what you requested me to write about.

There are many lawyers still living who could undoubtedly give interesting details of the causes in which he was engaged, his arguments, and possibly his briefs;

such as Judge Drummond, Grant Goodrich, Judge Trumbull, J. Young Scammon, Ezra B. McCagg, Harvey B. Hurd, Paul Cornell, and others.

To summarize, your father being always scrupulously neat in his dress and personal appearance, with a highly-intellectual and attractive countenance, with a voice well modulated and variable, with a delivery free and easy, and with impressive action emphasizing language, with pure, fervent expression, with words and language choice, refined, and striking, thus possessing all the attributes and requisites of a finished orator, no wonder he was powerful and convincing in his addresses to juries, no wonder that he interested court and audience, and that wonderful success attended his efforts.

And still further, I look upon your father as one of those rare examples of a lawyer whose daily life and daily conversation was that of a thorough christian gentleman. He was proud of and gloried in his profession, and aimed always to secure justice between man and man. He studied hard and desired always to attain the highest mark in the calling which he had selected and which he so honored. In fact, his motto was "Excelsior".

Yours truly,                   GEO. W. LAY.

# Arthur Mason Arnold.

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## MEMORIAL.

ARTHUR MASON ARNOLD was born in Chicago, May 13, 1858, and at the time of his death was approaching his fifteenth birthday. Always robust and active, he early developed a taste for athletic exercises, and with his physical development his vigorous mental powers kept pace. He loved manly sports, and under skilful training, carried remarkable thoughtfulness and readiness into all the pursuits that in later years become the accomplishments of manliness. He was an admirable rider, an adept almost beyond his years in field-sports. It deserves to be recalled with melancholy interest that on their way down the river, on the fatal trip, he playfully described to his father his experiences in the summer of 1872, when on a gunning excursion, he swam across the same stream four times successively, carrying dry, in one hand above his head, his gun, sportsman's apparatus and apparel. At another season this disaster, so fatal in termination, would have been deemed a slight misadventure, to be dismissed with a laugh. With all his boyish activity, there were abundant and

notable indications of the more sterling traits that forecast usefulness. He was well advanced in preparation for college, with an aptitude for mechanics that foreshadowed a practical turn in his future professional acquirements. He built his boat patiently after drawings of his own, and named her the "Water Witch," from his recent reading of Cooper's novels. Mental and physical activity were evenly balanced. His moral nature responded to careful culture of excellent native traits. It is his father's remark to the writer that "there is not one painful recollection associated with his whole life but the last. Dutiful, truthful, faithful, guileless, modest, manly, firm, there is not, until its closing hour, one unpleasant or painful incident connected with his memory." Is it not a life's reward to have earned such testimony though the record closes at fifteen? As they were floating down the river to the treacherous eddy where destiny waited for him, the son pleasantly said, "An epic poem must be written describing the cruise of the 'Water Witch.' Father, our next sail together must be on Lake Geneva, Switzerland." A few minutes later he crossed alone the dark river of death.

The funeral was attended on Wednesday, April 30th, at ten o'clock, in St. James' Church, Chicago, Rev. Arthur Brooks, the rector of that parish, officiating. The school-companions of Arthur were present in a body, and the

large concourse of friends attested wide-spread grief and sympathy. The remains will rest in the family lot at Graceland Cemetery. Few human lives, even the longest, win better rewards than the treasures of lasting affection and honored memory. A career ended in boyhood is not in vain when it bears so full a record as that which embalms the name of ARTHUR MASON ARNOLD.

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EXTRACTS FROM MR. ARNOLD'S JOURNAL.

The death of his son was the great sorrow of Mr. Arnold's life; while he bore it with fortitude, as he bravely entered again into life's work, it cast a shadow over his remaining years. It has seemed fitting to commemorate thus together the father and the son, who were in life so closely united.

The following extracts are taken from Mr. Arnold's journal:

"May, 1873.—The saddest and most painful event of my life is told in the annexed memorial. The incidents are, I think, substantially correct in the last account. Alas! why could I not have saved him? The question comes again and again: Did I do all I could?"

"Prof. Swing, in the most feeling note of sympathy writes: 'Do not feel that the event might have been avoided. \* \* \* Your separation from your son,

your heavy boat, the flowing stream, the wind, the chilling water, were all a part of the plan. It was not you, it was not Arthur, it was God calling one more child home.'

"I will try to think so. And now I consecrate myself to God. Oh, for help to live a Christian life! Once more I will try, and oh, Father in heaven, help me."

"Jan. 1st, 1876.—Dropped a sprig of evergreen upon the grave of Arthur. Brave, modest, manly. The moss is growing upon the cross that lays upon the turf under which his bones repose. But in my heart he is ever present. At his grave I made resolutions for the coming year; will they be broken like others? or shall the brief remainder of life be what I would have it. I resolved there I would try, and henceforth I will make a record each Sunday morning of the week. A more active life. I will try now at once to execute my literary plans. I think to keep all my resolutions would result in physical, intellectual, and moral health. Let the residue of life be more for others."

"Oct. 15th, 1874.—Today I found these lines, which seem to me so well to describe Arthur:

"'He lived to be simple, modest, manly, true.'"

"Aug. 31st, 1879.—If I felt sure that my life of Benedict Arnold would be a decided success, I would, I think, dedicate it as follows:

"To the memory of a brave, noble boy, my son



Arthur, I dedicate this book. Had he lived, he would, I believe, have done something to redeem the name of Arnold from the infamy brought upon it by the subject of the following narrative. I. N. ARNOLD."

## EXTRACTS.

[From the *Chicago Daily Tribune*, Monday, April 28, 1873.]

The sad news reached the family of Hon. Isaac N. Arnold, at their residence, No. 104 Pine Street, in the North Division, at a late hour on Saturday evening, that their only son, Arthur Mason Arnold, a lad of fifteen, of unusual promise, was drowned in Rock River on Saturday afternoon, April 26. The brief and heart-rending intelligence was confirmed, and made even more affecting in its nature by the full and distressing particulars of the event brought to this city yesterday morning by a gentleman from Dixon, a friend of the family, a special messenger, with tidings more melancholy in their purport than are usual in the visitations of human households.

Mr. Arnold and his family have, for some months, been preparing for an extended tour in Europe, and their arrangements were made and berths secured in the ill-fated Atlantic, of the White-Star Line. The appalling disaster to that steamer deferred Mr. Arnold's departure, which, however, was soon to take place. The residence

had been rented to E. H. Sheldon, Esq., and the final matters were being disposed of for immediate departure.

Mr. Arnold owns a farm on the Rock River, near Dixon, which he has made the home of a relative. It has been a familiar sight in our streets, Mr. Arnold and his beautiful boy, mounted on a gray steed and a gray pony, and many have turned on our thoroughfares to mark the pair as they were taking their rides together. The horses were to be sent to the Dixon farm to be kept during the tour in Europe, and Mr. Arnold and his son went out on Friday to see the pets disposed of and bid farewell to friends. For some weeks past Arthur, whose inventive and mechanical turn of mind his fond parent had encouraged, had been building a small boat with his own hands in the yard at his home in this city, and was very proud of his achievement. The craft was a sail-boat, and was fitted up throughout by the boy with such advice and study as he could bring to bear in the task. The little craft was finished, and the kind parent consented that it should be put on board the cars, to be left for safe-keeping at Dixon. In the mysterious dispensation of Providence it was an instrument of fate that has plunged the family and a wide circle of friends in grief.

Through our informant from Dixon (above referred to), we learn some particulars of the sad casualty. Arthur, boy-like, was eager to try his sail-boat. Mr. Arnold con-

sented, but for safety took a large, clumsy, flat-bottomed skiff, and attempted to keep with his son. A flaw of wind carried Arthur's craft suddenly to a considerable distance, and then overturned it. The Rock River was running a full spring current, icy cold. The lad bravely clung to his capsized skiff, and seemed to hold it strongly. Agonized by his peril, the father made every exertion with his clumsy boat to reach his son but the wind being against him, and his son not far from the bank, Mr. Arnold jumped ashore, ran along the bank, seized a heavy plank and floated it out toward Arthur, who sank, chilled, before reaching it. The boy was recovered after several hours research, but beyond resuscitation. It would be an idle and ungracious task to seek to add a line to paint the anguish of the blow, sad to all, but saddest to the most loving of fathers, whose son thus perished before his eyes.

A few family friends went out to Dixon last evening to meet Mr. Arnold and pay the mournful tribute of condolence in his great affliction. This party return today with the remains of the bright and noble boy, who, a few hours since, so full of hope and life, went out to place his pet pony and boat in good-keeping while he was abroad. The funeral will occur on Wednesday.

The event has caused a profound sensation among the numerous friends of the family in this city. It is mysterious that a life so bright in its promise should have

closed thus sadly. And yet may we not add that it is within human experience that among those who mourn with Mr. Arnold and his house there will be some who in after-years will envy this stricken family the cherished memory and green billow of turf that are all that will remain of Arthur as compared with the blighted life of some worse defeat of boyish promise in their own households. It is a gift from Heaven to have loved and lost such a son.

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[From the *Chicago Daily Tribune*, Tuesday, April 29, 1873.]

The many friends of Hon. I. N. Arnold will have a melancholy interest in the details of the calamity announced in yesterday's *Tribune*, which has deprived him of an only son, and thrown a dark shadow over his newly-established home and the plan of his foreign tour.

Mr. Arnold and his son arrived at Dixon on Friday evening, and spent the night at the hotel. In the morning Arthur launched his boat, and he and his father went in it down the river to the farm, about three miles. After dinner, the boy was desirous to try his boat again, having meanwhile fitted the mast and sail, and the father, anxious for his safety, accompanied him in another boat—a scow—with but one perfect oar. The breeze had freshened and Arthur was in high glee, tacking back and forth many times across Rock River, which bounds Mr. Arnold's farm

for over a mile, and is here nearly 600 feet wide, and at this time swollen with the spring flood. The boy was much pleased with the sailing qualities of the boat, the work of his own hands throughout, and as he was passing his father, swung his hat around his head and shouted, "Catch me if you can! is n't this jolly?" After indulging in this sport for some time, his father suggested that perhaps they had better go ashore, to which Arthur replied, "I will take one more turn first."

This time he took a longer reach, and Mr. Arnold, who for a moment was attending to his own boat, on looking down the river saw that his son's boat had capsized nearly a quarter of a mile distant, and that he was clinging to the bottom. He at once attempted to reach him with the scow, but the wind was blowing strongly up the river, and after using his utmost efforts for perhaps ten minutes, he found that he was making no headway, and he therefore turned to the shore, reaching which he ran along the bank, throwing off his coat as he went.

Meanwhile he attempted to hail Arthur, but the distance and head-wind probably prevented the latter from hearing his voice. Arthur, however, called, asking his father to come, but in a quiet, firm tone, indicating entire self-possession. Arthur was fifteen, large for his age, strong, and an excellent swimmer. He had often told his father what he would do under precisely such circum-

stances, and while the latter was running down the bank, he saw the boy pull off his coat and strike for the shore. He swam rapidly, and had made about two-thirds of the distance when his father arrived opposite to him, and seizing a plank, plunged into the water. The strong wind against the current caused quite a heavy swell, and the father could only see his son as he rose on the crests of the waves. When he last saw Arthur, the lad seemed not to be using his arms, but to be standing erect in the water. Mr. Arnold swam rapidly toward the point where his son was last seen, but Arthur had disappeared.

Just here the river deepens, with a rocky ledge descending abruptly, causing a strong undertow, which, with the current, taxed all Mr. Arnold's strength. The water was turbid, so that it was impossible to see beneath the surface. Mr. Arnold, with an agony that can not be pictured, searched for his son, but could not find him. Probably after the lad sank, he did not rise again to the surface. The father instantly gave the alarm and dispatched a man on horseback to the village, two miles distant, and in an incredibly short time very many citizens were on the ground, active in exploring the angry and turbid waters, while physicians made ready all the appliances for the resuscitation, should the opportunity offer; but all in vain. It was not until seven o'clock that the body was found some distance from where Arthur was last seen, in a

crevice in the rocks, in almost eight feet of water, the arms drawn up as if he had been seized with cramp.

When last seen by his father, the boy was only a few rods from him, but being disabled by the excessive cold, the undertow undoubtedly drew the unfortunate lad under and whirled him rapidly down the river.

The frantic grief of the father can only be imagined. The remains arrived in this city Monday afternoon, and were borne to his father's house by some of his young companions and school-mates.







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