

The Pioneer.

G. F. Rinehart, editor of the Newton (Ia.) Herald, read the following original poem at the opening of the Southern Iowa Veterans' and Old Settlers' association at Lovilia. The poem rings with lofty sentiment and proves Mr. Rinehart to be a true poet:

I love the man of nerve who dares to do—

The moral hero, stalwart through and through,

Who treads the untried path, evades the rut,

And in a forest clearing builds a hut; Removes the tares encumbering the soil

And founds an empire based on thought and toil.

Within his veins the blood of humble birth,

His purpose stable as the rock-bound earth,

His mind expansive and his pulsing brain

Resolving problems not of selfish gain; This man will never servile bend his knees—

He feels the uplift of the centuries.

Leviathans for him forsake the main And monsters leave the forest and the plain;

The future holds no terrors for his soul;

No avarice collects its robber toll; No social caste; no parties, clubs nor creeds

To multiply his cares, increase his needs.

With wants but few, no Pioneer will crave

A crown in life nor flowers on his grave.

He leaves behind the slavery of style. The myrmidons of pride, deceit and guile.

Enlisting with the cohorts of the free The motto on his shield is "Liberty."

What cares he for the monarch's jeweled crown?

For prince or plutocrat, for fame's renown?

The turmoil and the strife of endless greed

When honest toil supplies each simple need?

He seeks not glory, yet the future years

Weave all their laurels for the Pioneers.

And well they may! To them alone is due

The march of progress since the world was new.

They have explored the boundless realm of mind

And left their choicest blessings for mankind.

The realm of matter bears, in every clime,

Their works substantial as enduring time.

Then let me, once for all, propose this toast:

'Here's to those men of all we love the most;

Those living for the future, not the past,

Surmounting obstacles however vast!"

And so, through joys and sorrows, smiles and tears,

I say, "God bless the sturdy Pioneers!"

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