

amidst tumultuous and emulative applause.

"It is the duty and pleasure of your committee, gentlemen of the Mississippi Valley Horticultural Society, in harmony with this line of reflection, to bring before you the character and services of the recently deceased Dr. John A. Warder, of Ohio. His naturally strong mental faculties were led out and trained, in school and college, to a full and vigorous stature. His chosen profession of medicine, in the earlier years of his manhood, occupied his entire thought and stimulated him to untiring labor of mind and body, and, at the same time, gave him also that culture of the heart which, through his refined, emotional nature, was ever incarnating itself in delicate acts of kindness and generosity toward those who needed sympathy or friends.

"But he turned at last from his professional studies—from the books in his library—to those broader investigations of the mysteries of life and growth of flowers, fruits and forests, to which the fields, orchards and wild woods of Ohio ever allured him. His childhood and youth had passed amidst the rustic scenes of a home in the country, on a farm; and as the seashell, though ever so long and far away from its home in the surf, will, when placed to the ear always moan of its ocean home, so his great and tender soul ever yearned for a life among the flora and sylva of youth. His brave and benignant spirit explored all avenues of knowledge which led into flowering fields and orchards. To his eye every blossom was a poem; to his quick perception every tree a book full of useful and agreeable teachings. And to the study of these volumes—these continued annuals—fresh in new binding, embellishment, and gilding every summer and autumn, Dr. Warder devoted the choicest years of his mature manhood.

"It is the enthusiast of a cause who gives vitality and propulsive power. Dr. Warder was an enthusiast in horticulture and in forestry. To advance the race in those two vocations no labor was too great for him to undertake, no sacrifice too severe for him joyfully to make. At his own expense he went into fresh territories and states, preaching, as a missionary of a new gospel, the importance and necessity of orcharding and tree planting. His thoughts were strewn, like precious seeds, among the dwellers on the prairies of Nebraska, Dakota, Wyoming, Minnesota, and the Northwest. And they took root, so that the concepts of thousands of groves and orchards, which now stand as living monuments to his useful life, came from his own philanthropic brain. In his mind miniature forests grew on every prairie, and golden fruit flashed in the autumn sunlight of ever hillside. He knew no limit to his love of horticulture and arboriculture. He was earnest,

he was active, sincere, and his vitægraph is written wherever flowers bloom, fruits ripen and forests wave all over the country he loved so well and served so modestly, efficiently and faithfully.

"His example is worthy of the emulation of our sons and of their sons. And standing at his grave it is meet and proper for this society to recall his noble services to its cause, to wish that, with each recurring year his memory may, like the flowers and foliage he studied so well, be clothed in new verdure and its fragrance perpetuated as a grateful perfume.

"RESOLVED: That the Mississippi Valley Horticultural Society deplores the death of its friend and active member, Dr. John A. Warder, of Ohio; that our sincere condolence is extended to his family, and that we recommend to kindred societies throughout the Northwest the planting of memorial trees and groves to commemorate his labors, his achievements, and his philanthropy as a skilled orchardist and forester."

A QUESTION FOR CHRISTIANS.

WHEREAS, the custom of destroying young and tender trees for holiday festivities is on the increase among Christians.

WHEREAS, the object of this destruction is a double one; first, to enable these Christians, adult and juvenile, to enjoy a mere childish and temporary pleasure, and second, to foster a long standing delusion that the Father in Heaven is pleased to witness a thwarting of His efforts and a destruction of His works on earth.

WHEREAS, the trees lived on this earth before man did are not beholding to him for their lives and could live, if man and all his works were swept off the earth.

WHEREAS, man did not live on this earth until the trees enabled him to do so, and could not continue to exist without their aid.

RESOLVED, that man, the ignorant ingrate and dependent pauper upon the bounty of the trees, is not only acting the part of an unreasonable fool in his treatment of the trees, but he is acting the part of progressive suicide as well, for the trees are not only a conserver of the water, but a conserver of the air as well, and if man increases his mining and mechanical operations in the future the same as he has been doing in the past, the time will come where the Ass will be unable to live on the earth at all. Hark, ye people, if it were possible for the trees to assemble in a convention and pass some such resolution, would it not be a true indictment of man? Is it not a fact that man has repaid with the basest of ingratitude the friendship of the trees? Is it not a fact, that when man opened up the bowels of the earth for exploration, that he simply

opened up a Pandora's box out of which has come, and will continue to come, all sorts of imps, demons, and devils in the forms of poisonous gases that are becoming stronger every day, until some day they will rise up and strangle man their liberator? Is it not a fact that man, while he has the power to liberate this demonic gas from the bowels of the earth, has no power to control or absorb it? Is it not a fact, that the trees, that man is so ruthlessly sweeping from the face of the earth, have got the power to control and absorb these gases? Is it not a fact then, that the growth of the trees on the mountain tops must keep pace with the growth of man in the valleys? Finally people, I claim, that you are not only acting contrary to your own material interest in your treatment of the trees but you are acting contrary to the Bible as well. (Gen. I, XXIX.) "And God said: Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree in which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed to you it shall be for MEAT." Reason furnishes a connecting link between that verse and several important facts. First, if God inspired men to write the Bible, he must have inspired the man who wrote that verse; therefore, the man who wrote that verse knew exactly what he was writing and said so, and if the reader failed and fails to understand what the writer said and says, then the fault lays with the readers and not the writer. Next, as short as that verse is it covers the whole of the vegetable kingdom. Next, the writer says plainly and squarely, without any beating about the bush, that the said vegetable kingdom shall be used for meat, meaning, of course, edibles in all forms. Next, edibles in any form are certainly not utilities in any form, such for instance as boats, bridges, houses and such; neither are they ostentatious prodigalities in the form of holiday trees. And the next most important and last fact is that the people who claim the right to carry the Bible to the heathens of all lands, including this, will have to explain away the restrictive clause this verse contains. Accept the restriction or repudiate the Bible. A. TREE.

A careful investigation by a trained detective shows that the sixteen-to-one democracy in the neighborhood of the grave of the senatorial boom of Gilbert M. Hitchcock, of the World-Herald, is neither annexing new recruits nor expanding as to its influence.

Thursday, January 4, 1900, the commissioners of Otoe county make the estimate for its expenses during the next year. Tax-payers should attend that meeting. Estimates should be small. Be at the court house!