

gratifying to find the old settlers, disturbed with the same anxiety, their hearts throbbing with excitement, their blood fired with patriotism, assembled in their territorial council and house of representatives sending them greeting, as with weary steps they pushed on over the burning sand of the sunny South, on to the sea, expressing their admiration for their achievements in the cause of humanity, their words best expressed and show their unselfish patriotism and love of country, their appreciation of bravery and their unqualified loyalty to the principle for which they fought.

"Let us read their loyal words, the promptings of loyal hearts, and forget not that these were our fathers:

"Whereas, A wicked and uncalled for rebellion now devastates a large portion of our beloved country, threatening its very existence, and

"Whereas, Our brave men have, at their country's call, gone to fight her battles and preserve the institutions of our fathers; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the thanks of the people of this territory are due and are hereby tendered, through their legislature assembly, to the brave men that are gone from our territory to battle for the preservation of our country.

"That we look with pride and satisfaction upon the record our soldiers have made since the war of the rebellion was inaugurated, and their unsurpassed bravery on every battle field, from Fort Donelson, where the blood of Nebraska first mingled with the crimson tide of the brave of other states, who consecrated with their lives the first great victory of our war, down to the heroic defense of Cape Girardeau, where the sons of our territory, almost unaided, achieved one of the most brilliant and decisive victories that will adorn the annals of the present struggle, a record which commands the admiration of the world, and places us under a debt of gratitude to those brave men which we never can repay.

"Resolved, That our warm and earnest sympathies are extended to the friends and relatives of the gallant dead of our territory, who gave up their lives that their country might live.

"Resolved, That the governor of the territory be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions to General John M. Thayer, that gallant and intrepid soldier, that honest and faithful citizen, that magnificent statesman, and also to Colonel Robert R. Livingstone, to be by him communicated to the officers and soldiers under his command, and also a copy to Lieutenant-Colonel M. T. Patrick, to be communicated to the officers and soldiers under his command."

"Such were their words on the 25th day of January, in territorial legislature assembled, in 1864.

"Did I say that history repeats itself? Thirty-five years later, in the progress of human events, in January, 1899, our representatives in legislature assembled passed the following resolutions:

"Be it resolved by the legislature of the state of Nebraska, That the thanks of the state be hereby extended to the officers and men of the First Nebraska regiment, United States volunteers, for their gallant conduct on the field of battle, their courage in the presence of danger and their fortitude in the hardships of camp and campaign.

"Resolved, That we acknowledge with gratitude and joy the debt the state owes them by reason of the honor conferred upon it by their valor while defending in the far-off Philippines the principles of our government and adding new glory to our flag. We pledge the honor of the state that to the living shall be accorded worthy distinction and to the dead a fitting memorial to their fame.

"Resolved, That these resolutions be

transmitted by letter to the commanding officer of the First Nebraska, with a request that they be read at the head of the regiment."

"Indeed a mild expression of our feeling for these faithful and loyal sons, a mild assurance of our appreciations of their patriotism and love of country, but slight encouragement for the dangers and privations they endured in their fight for humanity's cause. But forgetting the fealty of our fathers, forgetting their unselfish courage and devotion, forgetting the example they had taught us at a time when the nation was in peril, we hesitated, we denied them the empty consolation of these words of encouragement, either because we were not sufficiently imbued with the 'new idea' or else it should interrupt personal ambition, and I am chagrined to say that for once history failed to repeat itself. In this we were not progressive and it was only a temporary deviation from the lines given us to follow by those that planned the destiny of our state and into which the divine hand will again lead us.

"No, let us not think that we are better or know more than did our fathers, or are half so courageous and, may I say, as honest of principle as they were, for again at a time, the darkest hour of the nation's history, when the life of the new republic hung in the balance, we again find the old settlers of Nebraska, in legislature assembled, speaking in terms that showed the stuff of which they were made with an honesty and courage of conviction that must have thrilled the very soul of that honest, homely man, holding the helm of the ship of state as it tossed upon the turbulent waves of civil strife, giving him encouragement, strength and greater force in his noble purpose in establishing as one of the fundamental principles of our government the 'new idea.' Do you doubt their patriotism as you harken to these burning words:

"Whereas, The president of the United States did on the 1st day of January, 1863, issue a proclamation emancipating the slaves of states in rebellion against the United States, a paper which has caused a greater sensation than any other since the adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the fathers of the Revolution, and which in a moral and political point of view is of greater moment than any other issued in the United States, and

"Whereas, It is the duty of patriots everywhere, individually and collectively, to do all within their power to hold up the hands of our President in his efforts to suppress the rebellion, therefore

"Be it Resolved, That we heartily endorse the general policy of the administration and especially the President's Emancipation Proclamation, and the arming of the negroes, measures imperatively demanded, to aid in the suppression of the rebellion, and which have been wisely followed by the President's Amnesty Proclamation, a paper statesman-like in its views, and humane in its provisions, and which creates in those portions of our lands, so terribly cursed and devastated with rebellion, a nucleus around which the true and loyal may speedily rally to bring back to allegiance their native state, free from the taint of treason and of slavery, a sure guaranty of a lasting peace, and the harbinger of that day when our beloved country shall become a monument of universal liberty, a nation without a traitor and without a slave."

"Need I ask you: Will we falter in the performance of the trust that is bequeathed us? Will we make this an age of retrogression? Will we forget the new idea and fail to emulate those that have gone before us, by staying the hand of progress and acknowledg-

ing our inability to meet the emergencies occasioned by the advance of a higher civilization? No! We may hesitate through misconceived duties. We may waiver in the gratification of personal ambition. But it is yet to be written in the annals of our history, that Nebraska's son reiterated the patriotic sentiment, as expressed by our fathers in '64, with a force that will guarantee us a lasting peace, and bring the day when our beloved country shall become a monument of universal liberty, a nation without a traitor, a nation without a slave.

"How fitting! How appropriate! Of the legendary of Nebraska to the part that we have played in the rapid events of the recent days as legendary lore records it Marcos D'Niza a Franciscan Monk Don Diego, a Spanish knight, and Coronado the Spanish explorer, were the first of civilized men to set foot upon Nebraska soil, spurred on by the love of gold that characterizes the Spanish race, in search of the mythical kingdom of Quivera, where lived the monarch Tartarax in regal splendor, lulled to sleep by the tinkling of golden bells fastened on the boughs of drooping trees, as they were fanned by the zephyrs from heaven, worshipping the golden image of a woman, the representative of the Queen of Heaven, and while the beautiful land of Quivera, with its seven cities, their streets paved with silver and gold, and the wealth and splendor of its mighty monarch, was never discovered, as runs the fabled story. It was indeed most fitting and appropriate that four centuries later, it should be left for Spain to finally discover the beautiful kingdom of Quivera, transformed into this magnificent common-wealth, where the people wielded the scepter of a Tartarax.

"Let us look for a moment to those that came to perform this mission in our own immediate community, and you will agree with me that I advance no idle theory, or else we were most fortunate in the happening of human events. Accept either theory, if you

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