

**TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF
THE DISTRICT COURT FOR FILLMORE COUNTY.**

Your committee appointed to report resolutions of respect and condolence, submit the following:

Resolved that the Bar of Fillmore County deeply regret the loss of their Brother Dryden Smith, whom they had learned to esteem and respect for the manly qualities he possessed, his eminent ability, his fidelity to every trust, his patriotism, his fervent zeal in the upholding of every cause submitted to his care, and for his devotion to and fearless advocacy of such men and measures as he espoused, tending to the advancement and progress of our country in its political relations and the purifying of the administration of its affairs, as he viewed it;

Resolved that the Bar tenders to the widow and family of our deceased Brother its earnest condolence in their sorrow.

Resolved that we respectfully pray the order of the Court that this report be placed on file in the Court and that a copy thereof be forwarded by the Clerk to the widow and family of said deceased, at Spring Valley. Together with the obituary Notice annexed taken from the National Republican of Preston.

April term 1899.

/s/ H. R. Wells
/s/ Burdette Thayer
/s/ H. S. Bassett,

Com.

OBITUARY.

Died at his residence in the village of Spring Valley, Minn., on the 22nd day of February, 1899, the Hon. Dryden Smith, who was born in Pike county, Ill., on the 10th day of March, 1826. The obsequies were held from the family residence on the 25th day of Feb., 1899, Rev. McKinley delivering a very appropriate funeral sermon. The music by the choir was beautifully rendered. The floral offerings were many and beautiful, literally covering the beautiful casket. The pall bearers were six old settlers of the county, viz., Messrs. Tolmy, Clouse and Graling of Spring Valley; John Bateman, Sr., of Bloomfield; R. M. Foster of Wykoff and P. McCracken of York. The family of the deceased, consisting of his wife, five daughters and four sons, were all present at the funeral except the oldest son, Hamilton, who resides in Tennessee. The deceased grew up to young manhood in the state of Illinois and was married on the 20th day of Sept., 1849, to Miss Elizabeth A. Hines, who now survives him. He moved to Decorah, Ia., and settled there in the fall of 1853, practicing there as an attorney and counsellor at law. He came to Minnesota in 1860, settling in Spring Valley. He was judge of probate of Fillmore county from 1863 to 1870. Since 1870 he has spent most of his time in the practice of law and farming, giving all of his large family a good education. It may truly be said of the deceased that he not only possessed marked abilities and fine accomplishments, but also a heroic spirit, devoting himself by strenuous efforts to great and important ends for his country's good. His philosophical and historical researches and comparisons taught him the true value of American free institutions. He saw, as many others have seen, that here in this asylum for the oppressed of every land, was to be worked out the latest and best solution of self-government, untrammled by the chains of aristocratic and hereditary rule. He was a thorough believer in the inalienable rights of the people. In advocating the rights of the people he never waited for an attack, but would take the initiative with a boldness and courage which even his enemies admired. Being of Scotch-Irish origin, and by temperament an excellent illustration of the daring and dash of the one race and the

bull-dog tenacity of the other. His views of public questions were broad, liberal and enlightened. He was candid and bold in his opinions He detested all kinds of shams and lived above the trickster and demagogue. He was a ripe scholar and a profound thinker. His heart was as great as his mind, and he lived in sympathetic touch with the whole range of true American thought and feeling, but

Our lives are like the shadows
On satiny hills that lie,
Or grasses in the meadows
That blossom but to die.

A sleep, a dream, a story
By strangers quickly told:
An unremarkable glory
Of things that soon are old.

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Posted MLHP: March 6, 2010.