

[No. 85, A.]

## JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 22.

On the death of Hon. Joseph Weeks Babcock.

On the 27th day of April, 1909, the Great Master, in His infinite wisdom, again saw fit to deplete the ranks of Wisconsin's illustrious statesmen by summoning to eternal rest the Hon. Joseph Weeks Babcock, who died at his residence in Washington, D. C., on that day. Thus untimely has ended the career of one of the greatest political leaders Wisconsin has ever had, and it is but fitting in the view of his distinguished and honorable service to his State and Nation, that the legislature of Wisconsin express its appreciation thereof.

Joseph Weeks Babcock was born in Swanton, Vermont, March 6, 1850. When five years of age his parents moved to Butler county, Iowa, where he spent his boyhood on the farm. A common school education and a brief course in college fitted him for the field of labor, and thus equipped, in his early years of manhood he engaged in the lumber business. In 1881 his lumbering interests caused him to move from Iowa to the village of Necedah, Juneau county, Wisconsin, and from that time until his death his life and energy was given unsparingly, in the interest of industrial and political progress of this State and Nation.

He shared the confidence and trust of a large number of men whom he employed in his lumber business in Northern Wisconsin. Through his kindness and generosity to them, those men never lost an opportunity in after years to show their appreciation and esteem for him. Generous, kind, courageous, seeking to do justice between man and man and being a natural leader, paved the way and laid for him a foundation for a successful political career.

After serving his village as president, his county on the county board, he was sent to the legislature in 1888 to represent Juneau county. He was reelected in 1890. The appreciation of his services in the legislature found expression in his election to congress in 1892 from the third congressional district, now comprising the counties of Juneau, Richland, Sauk, Iowa, Grant, Crawford and Vernon. He was re-elected for six terms, serving in all 14 successive years as congressman from that district. During these years he made an enviable record for himself as a statesman. He served as

chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee from 1894 to 1904; in 1905 he succeeded Henry C. Payne as a member of the National Republican Committee. He was made chairman of the committee on the District of Columbia in his first term, which position he held during his long service. To him, Washington as a city noted for its beauty owes much, for it was he who planned for its aesthetic growth. He was a member of the Ways and Means Committee for six years, twice a candidate for United States senator from Wisconsin. In failing health his active political career was ended in 1907.

His influence was national in its scope and character; his resourcefulness, almost without limit, and in his death Wisconsin has lost one of her most distinguished sons. Therefore, in recognition of his faithful public service and his devoted citizenship, be it

*Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring,* That appropriate memorial services be held for the deceased at the same time that like ceremonies are held for other deceased members of the legislature. Be it further

*Resolved,* That these resolutions be spread upon the journals of each house and that an engrossed copy thereof, signed by the presiding officers and chief clerks of the senate and assembly, be transmitted to the family.

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[No. 86. A.]

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 23.

Upon the public services and death of Senator Romanzo E. Davis.

WHEREAS, Romanzo E. Davis, a former member of this legislature, died at his home in Middleton, Dane county, on the 31st day of October last, in the seventy-seventh year of his age, and

WHEREAS, Senator Davis, for many years a prominent and influential citizen of this state and through the greater part of his manhood, held some offices of public trust and though varied, always of a valuable and honorable character among which may be mentioned, four years as state senator, elected in 1869 on the republican ticket, a man of convictions and principles and in the strife surrounding Governor Taylor's term, Senator Davis was returned to the next session of the