

ingly liberal grant of public lands, made by the bill itself, subject to the condition of a popular vote to be hereafter taken, at which the ballots were to read "For proposition of Congress and admission," and "Against proposition of Congress and admission." This virtually finished the business, for nobody expected the people in their then temper of mind to vote for admission under the Lecompton Constitution, even though the bribe to do it had rivaled the Satanic offer to our Saviour, of all the kingdoms of the earth. The vote took place August 2, 1858, and resulted as follows: For the proposition, 1,788; against the proposition, 11,300; majority against it, 9,512.

Thus the great Lecompton struggle was ended, and thenceforward the Kansas ship of State sailed on comparatively unruffled seas toward the final haven of admission into the Union.

HON. EUGENE F. WARE'S POEM.

Col. Anthony now introduced Hon. E. F. Ware, ("Ironquill,") who in an impressive manner read the following poem, which was received with enthusiastic applause by the audience:

JOHN BROWN.

States are not great
 Except as men may make them.
 Men are not great except they do and dare.
 But States, like men,
 Have destinies that take them—
 That bear them on, not knowing why or where.

The WHY repels
 The philosophic searcher—
 The WHY and WHERE all inquiries defy,
 Until we find
 Far back in youthful nurture,
 Prophetic facts that constitute the WHY.

All merit lies
 In daring the unequal.
 All glory comes from daring to begin.
 Fame loves the State
 That, reckless of the sequel,
 Fights long and well, though it may lose or win.

Than in our State
 No illustration apter
 Is seen or found of faith, and hope, and will.
 Take up her story:
 Every leaf and chapter
 Contains a record that conveys a thrill.

And there is one
 Whose faith, whose fight, whose failing,
 Fame yet shall placard on the walls of Time.
 He dared BEGIN.
 Despite the unavailing,
 He dared begin, when failure was a crime.

When over Africa
 Some future cycle
 Shall sweep the lake-gemmed uplands with its
 surge;

When as with trumpet
 Of Archangel Michael
 Culture shall bid a colored race emerge;

When busy cities
 There, in constellations,
 Shall gleam with spires and palaces and domes,
 With marts wherein
 Is heard the noise of nations;
 With summer groves surrounding stately homes:

There, future orators
 To cultured freemen
 Shall tell of valor and recount with praise,
 Stories of Kansas,
 And of Lacedæmon,
 Cradles of freedom, then of ancient days.

From boulevards
 O'erlooking both Nyanzas,
 The studded bronze shall glitter in the sun,
 With rugged lettering:
 "JOHN BROWN, OF KANSAS,
 HE DARED BEGIN.
 HE LOST,
 BUT, LOSING, WON."

ADDRESS OF HON. WILLIAM SIMS.

The Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, Hon. William Sims, was then introduced, and delivered the following address:

THE AGRICULTURE OF KANSAS.

Mr. President: Agriculture in Kansas, like the settlement of the Territory, was commenced under very unfavorable circumstances. The controversy between the people of the North and the South for the possession of the country, and the control of its political affairs, was such as to clog the wheels of progress and hold in check the development of the agricultural resources of the Territory until 1860, when the drouth of that year, immediately preceding the organization of the State, seemed to verify the prediction of those who, at an earlier day, had pronounced the country entirely unfit for agricultural purposes. But the home-seekers of those days, the men who had braved dangers and endured hardships to secure the Territory to free labor, were not to be discouraged by the failure of a single year. They were men of energy, courage and determination, who comprehended the value of the country as an agricultural district, remained with their homes and realized their anticipations.

In January, 1861, amid the dangers and excitements of an impending civil war, Kansas was admitted into the Union as a State. The War of the Rebellion followed within a few months, and for four years but little progress was made; but with the restoration of peace in 1865 our prosperity fairly commenced, and for twenty years