

west, Mr Wheeler has reinvested the greater part of his returns in the state whence they have been derived, thus assisting the further development of its resources, and hastening that future of widespread and deep-rooted prosperity in which he has an abiding confidence.

Until January 1, 1888, Mr Wheeler remained in the firm of R. H. Macy and company, and abated no jot of the labor and responsibility which, as we have seen, was thereby necessitated. His vast and varied enterprises in Colorado, and his no less important interests in New York, compelled almost constant journeyings back and forth, and required mental and physical efforts which few could have sustained. Friends remonstrated, anxious lest even his robust constitution might not be adequate to the strain. Finally his physician presented the ultimatum, New York or Colorado, and a choice must be made. Reluctantly the New York connection was severed, and he withdrew from the house whose business, already enormous when he entered it, had been more than quadrupled in the nine years during which its operations had been directed, in large measure, by his ceaseless energy.

Whilst this record of struggle and achievement has been full of interest, I have nevertheless written it to but little purpose if the reader has not gained thereby some clear conception as to the character of this truly remarkable man. In the light of his life and deeds he stands before us a man of unflinching determination, gifted with almost unerring foresight, and truly preëminent in a knowledge of men and affairs. With an established business that would have sufficed to tax to the uttermost the energies and satisfy the ambitions of any ordinary man, he did not hesitate to seize the larger opportunities presented in a virgin section of the great west, and with boldness and vigor proceed to mould these into forms of enduring value. That Jerome B. Wheeler caused the