

the roll of officers and members called, some one or other, perhaps, is found absent. We think to-night of *one*, an *honoured* and *prominent* office-bearer in this Association, who, by his counsels, helped in the planning of arrangements for this Exhibition, whose place is now found vacant; and a feeling of deep sadness comes over us, as we think that that one of our number will never again answer to the roll call, or again occupy his accustomed place in our association. We refer to our late respected President, Dr. Charles C. Hamilton, who departed this life October, 1880. He was a good citizen, a gentleman possessing rare abilities, and many virtues—generous hearted, kind, and hospitable.

In the interests of this Association, he bestowed much thought, time, and hard toil; and as we trace his work from its organization to his last act, it was one of devotion to the general good, and that of a *patriot* in the truest sense.

Realizing the splendid opportunity the farmers in this region possessed, for the development of this industry, he strove with all his might, both by example and otherwise, to encourage them onwards towards the securing of the noble object. And this seemed to become a very important part of his life work—his heart and soul were in full sympathy with it—earnestly desiring the full development of the energies of the people in this particular. Though the high aspirations of his mental and physical powers were but in part realized, he nevertheless felt the assurance, that through patient continuance in this noble work, the ultimate reward was certain. He therefore could anticipate in contemplation, as if from some lofty eminence, this magnificent valley, and these mountain slopes, as one vast forest of fruit orchards, teaming with golden, luscious fruit, under the autumn sky; and the hearts of all those engaged in its culture rejoicing in happiness and prosperity. And now, amid those pleasing anticipations, with the energies of his active mind unabated, and his keen eye intently fixed on the absorbing scene, so full of promise to all who would make the subject their study and labor, he calmly retires from the turmoil of active life to the quiet chamber, and there, surrounded with dear family and loving friends, "*ceases to work and live.*"

It will, we think, be exceedingly interesting to briefly review the history of this Association from its commencement, and the circumstances leading thereto. In the autumn of 1862, certain gentlemen

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