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## INAUGURAL ADDRESS

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## FRANK D. JACKSON,

GOVERNOR OF IOWA,

DELIVERED

AT HIS INAUGURATION,

JANUARY 11, 1894.

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## INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives, and Fellow Citizens: The year 1893 has witnessed the successful culmination of an event of unusual National importance, one in which every patriotic citizen has been most deeply interested. The mighty achievements of the American people during a period of a little more than a hundred years have been brought into sharp contrast and comparison with those of foreign countries that have stood in the van of civilization for centuries. While these comparisons are a source of deep gratification to the American citizen in general, the crowning triumph of the Columbian Exposition is found in the exhibit of American energy, courage and will so indelibly impressed upon all minds by its magnificent conception and its full, complete and successful consummation. Most fittingly has it fulfilled its great mission in its representation of the energies, intelligence, benevolence and Christian character of a great and progressive people.

The State of Iowa, though young in years and development, has been most deeply interested in this great National event, and along with her sister States she placed the best evidences of her resources, her intelligence, and the development of her soil into full and complete comparison. It is a matter of just pride and a subject of congratulation to every citizen of our State that in this crucial test of resources Iowa has fully maintained that high prestige and standing which fairly places her at the head of the great

producing States of this Union.

The showing of Iowa at the Columbian Exposition has published the fact to the world that her resources are not only in the depth and richness of her soil, in the value of her corn, cattle and hogs, but in her dairy products, her mineral wealth, in the value and quality of her fruits, in her mighty railway systems, her stable

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financial institutions, and her magnificent public school system. When viewed in the light of comparison with older and more experienced States and governments, this showing is a source of deepest gratification and highest congratulation. The exhibit of our manufacturing industries, though not extensive, gives positive indication that these great plants of prosperity and wealth have firmly imbedded themselves in Iowa soil. Let the spirit of fairness and wisdom on the part of our law-makers encourage and invite into our midst these powerful promoters of intelligence, wealth and prosperity, remembering that the greater the business diversity of the people the more independent, progressive and powerful will they invariably become. Therefore let encouragement be offered to every legitimate business enterprise within our borders; let our laws be framed so wisely that, while they will properly guard and protect the rights of the people of our State, the spirit of fairness and equity shall breathe in every sentence encouragement for the investment of capital and the development of industries, and at the same time protect with a strong hand the rights and enjoyments of labor. In the universal prosperity of all interests within our State is to be found in the highest degree the prosperity of the individual interest.

The stability as well as perpetuity of a republican form of government rests upon the intelligence of its common people. Poverty is the natural enemy of education and development. A republican form of government cannot afford to have poverty fasten its clutches upon the masses of its people. Neither can the people of wealth in such a government afford it. That which most threatens the glory and progress of our country is the gradual forcing upon the millions of American laborers the schedules of pauper wages paid the laboring classes of the old world. Old world wages are not sufficient to enable an American laborer to properly clothe his family, educate his children and make of them good American citizens. Anything less than this is a menace to the very foundation of our system of government. The schedules of wages referred to beget poverty and poverty begets ignorance. Despotic forms of government can live and thrive with poverty and ignorance among the masses. This is impossible with a republican form of government like ours. A schedule of wages that enables the American laboring man to support his family respectably and to educate his children properly has been recognized as a National necessity during the greater part of our Nation's existence. To maintain the American schedule of wages in the future requires that the American people buy and use the products of the brain and muscle of the American laborer and producer rather than those of other lands, even though they may cost a little more. Patriotism is an absolute necessity to the existence of all governments, and especially so to the existence of a republican form of government. A patriotism that resents an insult to a Nation's flag is highly commendable. A patriotism that furnishes half a million men to protect the rights and liberties of even a few of its citizens under the flag, wherever they may be, is indeed chivalrous and glorious. The patriotism of an American citizen should certainly be as broad and deep as this. It must be even broader and deeper. It must be a patriotism that shall insist that the purchasing price of a manufactured article shall be such an amount, that the American laborer whose brain and muscle produced it, who lives under the same flag, who breathes the same air, and whose interest and welfare is the Nation's interest and welfare, shall receive for the product of his brain and muscle such compensation as shall enable him to live as an American citizen ought to live, and to educate his children as American children must be edueated. To accomplish this, those manufactured products of foreign countries which can be produced in our own country must be kept out of competition with American labor. This country can consume the products of the American laborer, but it cannot consume the products of both American and foreign labor. Which class of laborers, therefore, are to remain idle? The policy of our government for more than thirty years has been in favor of giving employment to the American laborer, and at the same time creating and upbuilding an American home market for the products of the American farm. Under this policy the people of Iowa have advanced in wealth and prosperity. Shall this prosperity be continued or shall we adopt an experiment and try a change? Even the anticipation of such a change has already brought disaster. It is asserted upon good authority that there are over two millions of idle laborers in this country to-day; and, upon equally good authority, it is stated that this idleness is due to the anticipated change of the tariff laws of our country by a Congress hostile to the principles of protection. While the laboring millions of Europe are given the hope of finding a market in America without any corresponding benefits to our agricultural products, the charity of America is being taxed millions of dollars to keep her own unemployed laborers from starving. A much safer business policy would be for us to furnish employment to our own laborers and

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thereby protect our American home market for American farm products, and tax our charity in behalf of the unemployed laborers of foreign countries. Send our unemployed millions back into the American factories at American wages with the assurance that the manufactured product of their brain and muscle shall supply the American market in preference to that of any other nation, and the anxiety and distress of our country will be relieved and our home market for farm products will be strengthened and enlarged. Such a line of policy is in the direction of continued prosperity to the farm-producing interests of our country. Iowa, with every foot of her territory fairly within what is properly termed the corn belt region of this country, is most deeply interested in this great question. With nearly three hundred million bushels of corn, with its natural products-horses, cattle and hogs, butter and eggs -she is searching for the highest market wherein to sell these products. Shall we continue to sell our beef, pork and butter to the six or seven millions of American laborers and help furnish them the means to pay us by buying the manufactured products of their labor, or shall we buy our manufactured products from six millions of foreign laborers, only to find out when we come to sell to them that they have but half as much money to buy with and little or no inclination to buy of us? And yet there are those who advise that the best interest of the American farmer is in the direction of selling his products in the markets of the world! More than ninety-five per cent of all the products raised on American farms are consumed by an American market. That market is represented by the consuming demand of the millions of American laborers employed in American factories and receiving American wages. That market, so far as the American laborer furnishes it, has more than twice the money with which to buy the necessaries of life than any other market on the face of the earth. From three to five per cent only of the products of the American farm seek the markets of the world. Extremists assert that the foreign price put upon this small surplus of farm products fixes the price of the whole. The experience of our government under the workings of the protective principle controvert this theory. Whether this be true or not, I believe it plainly to the advantage of the producing States that such a policy of encouragement and protection be pursued toward the industries and labor of our country as shall increase the home market demand for every pound of our surplus products. Let the same spirit and policy which has already created employment for thousands of American laborers in the protection and

development of the new tin plate industry be extended and enlarged; for in every new employment created, in every new industry started, the consuming population of our country is enlarged and the home market is thereby strengthened. In the markets of the world cheap beef from the vast herds of Mexico, and mutton from the plains of Australia can be sold at a profit to its owners at a price far less than it costs to produce them on the farms of Iowa. In the world's markets the wheat fields of Manitoba and India, in their vastness, by reason of the cheapness of production, can monopolize and supply the demand in competition with the products of the American farm. The American home market is protected from this competition. The farm products of Canada and the British northwestern territories are ready to avail themselves of this market as soon as this protection can be removed. While it has been the policy of our government in the past to securely hold this home market to the American farm, that policy is now most seriously threatened.

The sugar planters of Louisiana, engaged in a business that, under the fostering care of protection, has been growing and developing in magnitude, giving employment to thousands, have already sounded the alarm in their earnest protest against the assault of the present Congress. With governmental encouragement there is no reason why, in time, the southern portion of Louisiana might not become one vast sugar plantation, giving employment to hundreds of thousands, stimulating and upbuilding the wealth and prosperity of our country. Deprived of this support, the sugar plantations of Louisiana will naturally drift back into dilapidation and decay, or be utilized in raising agricultural products similar to those of the Northwestern States and placed upon the market in competition with them. And yet the sugar planters of Louisiana, deprived of governmental aid and overpowered by competition from the great sugar interests of foreign countries, will be in no worse condition than will be the farmers of Iowa with protection taken from their products, and with the American market supplied with cheap beef from the herds of Mexico, and cheap mutton from the flocks of Australia. As a producing State, whose possible resources are searcely more than half developed, Iowa is most deeply interested in the protection, growth and maintenance of the American home market. With the growth and increasing home demand for farm products, the inevitable result of our protective tariff, there is no reason why the annual corn production of our State should not in the near future

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be doubled, and, with the corn products, find a ready sale in the American market. The idle millions of our country back in the American factories will provide a more profitable market for the Iowa farmer than all the markets of the world can furnish.

Shall the great principle of protection be assaulted, weakened and destroyed without a solemn protest on the part of a State so deeply interested in its maintenance? Rather than an abandonment of this principle, even in the slightest degree, our prosperity and growth, both as a Nation and as a State, under protection, would suggest the enlargement and extension of this principle until our nation shall have developed within itself such a mighty producing and consuming population as shall make it independent of all other countries, protecting our own labor and the products of our own soil, strengthening us as a people and as a government, both in times of peace as well as in times of war.

Since the beginning of civilization the product of labor has been measured by a consideration in the nature of money. That consideration most sought after by civilized countries has been of a metallic base. Naturally, because of its durability and its stable value, gold and silver have been most generally used. The best money of a people is always that which is least fluctuating in its purchasing power. A sound currency gives confidence and stability to business enterprises, and is a most powerful factor in the development of a Nation. Labor is entitled to and should receive as a consideration a money whose purchasing power remains unchanged, for it is the laborer who is invariably affected first, and most seriously, by the use of a depreciated currency. The metallic money of our government in the past has been gold and silver, and I can see no reason why either metal should be dispensed with now. The business interests of this country, together with its development, need and require a large and yet stable circulating medium. In securing this medium the silver product of American mines should be utilized commensurate with financial safety in preference to issuing government bonds, with their attendant interest burdens. Let us have both gold and silver, as well as paper, securing to each and every dollar the same purchasing power. The present embarrassment arising from our financial system seems to be an objection on the part of foreign countries, in their business dealings and transactions with us, to the use of silver as a basis. It is clearly possible to relieve ourselves from the embarrassments of this objection, in a large degree, through an American policy—buying the manufactured products of our own factories

with American silver dollars, rather than buying the manufactured products of the foreign factory with our American gold dollars.

The profound respect of our people for laws and their absolute acquiescence in them is a matter of the highest importance to the State. As a whole, the people of Iowa have ever been a lawrespecting and law-abiding people. Occasionally communities, under the most aggravated provocation, have proven exceptions to this rule. This is deeply to be deplored, as its results are always to the detriment of the character and reputation of the State. Lack of confidence in the duly established machinery of law to convict and punish perpetrators of crime is frequently the cause of these exceptions. There seems to be in the public mind a growing lack of confidence in the reliability of the jury system. I am led to believe that this lack of confidence is due more to the abuses which in localities have grown up under this system, than to the system itself. Those of our citizens whose best services and judgment the State should have in the jury box-the business man, the farmer and the professional man-find too easy the avenues of escape from performing this duty, which every good citizen owes society and the State. This situation has developed in communities what is known as the professional juror, a development prejudicial to the best interests of our people. A change of the law compelling every citizen when called upon to do his part in this important factor of our government, I am satisfied, would most surely inure to the general welfare.

The improvement of our public highways is a subject which appeals to the best judgment and intelligence of our State. Some broad and comprehensive plan should in the near future be adopted and a starting point be determined by which every year shall see built in every county of our State a few miles of substantial and permanent road. The burden of expense in a single year ought not and need not be a heavy one, as shown by the history of road building in the older States of our own country, as well as in the more progressive countries of Europe. Each succeeding generation of people, at no burdensome expense to themselves, can leave to their successors a few miles of permanent roads as a just and proper legacy, indicative of their regard for the general welfare and continued prosperity of the State. New processes in the manufacture of material for this purpose are being developed every year. With over six hundred inmates of our prisons now engaged chiefly in manufacturing products in competition with free labor, might not their services be better employed, and with far greater 10

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advantage to the general public, in the preparation of material for the construction of the public highways?

The high standard of our people upon all moral questions has been in the past and is to every good citizen a source of profound gratification and pride. In dealing with these questions the people of Iowa have always taken advanced ground and have proven themselves equal to every emergency. As one result of this sentiment, a prohibitory liquor law has been placed upon our statute books.

A trial of ten years has demonstrated that in many counties it has fully met the expectation of its friends, having successfully driven the saloon system out of existence in those counties. While this is true, there are other localities where open saloons have existed during this period of time in spite of the law and in spite of the most determined efforts to close them. In such localities the open saloon exists without restraint or control, a constant menace to the peace and safety of the public. From these localities there is an earnest demand for relief-a demand, not from the law-defying saloon sympathizer, but from the best business element; from the best moral sentiment of such communities; from the churches and from the pulpit. While the present prohibitive principle, which is so satisfactory to many counties and communities of our State, should remain in force, wisdom, justice and the interests of temperance and morality demand that a modification of this law should be made, applicable to those communities where the saloon exists, to the end of reducing the evils of the liquor traffic to the minimum.

Senators and Representatives: The constitution of Iowa places upon its respective departments grave duties and important responsibilities. Those duties well performed obliterate partisanship and make citizenship supreme. Coming up from the people, responsibilities met with courage and treated with candor convert the servant into the statesman and dignify the honor and confidence reposed. I need not say more to men so well equipped to protect the interests of more than two millions of people; for myself, it is with full knowledge of my own weakness that I offer the best I can give, appreciating that this is far from adequate to the requirements of the exalted position to which I have been called.

The people of Iowa have been most liberal and wise in the establishment and management of her State institutions. Many of these are for the unfortunate, and are the result of necessity.

So long as the necessity exists, the demand for their liberal support is expected and should be cordially given. Our institutions of learning, also, are most worthy the sustaining power of legislation, and a wise and ample provision should be made in the direction of a definite and permanent support. While this is true, the greater lever of intelligent power, the common school, must not be overlooked or its interests neglected. These institutions shall be dealt with as your personal inspection shall suggest. There are conditions in our common citizenship which offer much for your meditation. A just and loyal protection should be accorded both labor and capital, as in their harmonious employment peace and contentment is the portion of each. The miner down in the earth who sees but little of the beauties of the day endures his hazardons employment with cheerfulness, realizing that pay-day brings its compensation. But in his particularly hazardous occupation his protection and safety, together with his frequent and prompt pavment, places a responsibility upon the legislative power of the State. Wholesome guardianship should also be exercised for the health and happiness of all classes, and for operatives in factories and children in the public schools the greatest protection should be given that the fire-trap be removed as far as possible from their surroundings.

Almost thirty years ago the surrender at Appomatox shut down the curtain upon the scenes of war, in which to sustain the Union the young State of Iowa sent forth seventy-five thousand of her best and bravest. Many returned and many are ever mourned. As a State, except in the hearts of our people, no mark as yet has been completed as a suitable public tribute of memorial to their undying fame. Let this matter be brought to a speedy and liberal termination, not for the present generation alone but to the millions vet to come, that they may take pride in the nobility of the fathers and keep watch that the glories won shall never tarnish, and their glorious deeds shall be an inspiration to patriotic fidelity to our State and Nation.

In closing, let me congratulate the people of Iowa on the conditions of plenty and comfort which surround them. While looking with sorrow upon the more unfortunate conditions that bring suffering to the people of other States and other lands, let those who have in plenty and to spare remember the less fortunate both at home and abroad. Let the suffering of the few be relieved from the abundance of the many.

The year 1893 witnessed the strength of Iowa. The great financial institutions of our State withstood the shocks and disasters of the year with complacent security. Their reliability and integrity are firmly fixed upon the solid foundations of agriculture, unequaled in those inherent elements of wealth found in richness of soil, purity of water, and reliability of climate; and these forces controlled by an industrious, intelligent and moral people. With confidence in this people, and an abiding faith in the continued blessings of a Divine Providence, I predict that the present is but the index of the future greatness of our State.