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## Judge Bagley - Gentleman

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## IN MEMORIAM

*A. M. Kvello*

We have been called upon to bid farewell to our beloved President who has now crossed the boundaries of that dim frontier that divides our own from the undiscovered country. We try in vain to express what we feel. But we can say with Patmore:

“With trembling lips  
We strive the fitting phrase to make;  
Remembering our fellowship,  
Lamenting Destiny’s mistake,  
We marvel much when Fate offends  
And claims our friends.”

Death is ever a tragedy, no matter to whom the summons comes or when. It is even a tragedy to him who fears it not but meets the grim messenger with a welcoming smile. For it marks the end of a human life with all its possibilities, its hopes and fears, its joys and its sorrows. It is especially a tragedy when it takes from us a loved leader and friend to whom we have been looking for guidance.

And our friend was such a genuine friend. By nature genial, considerate, always helpful. In *Vanity Fair*, that master-piece of the greatest of English novelists, it has been truly said that the world is a mirror that casts back to each of us the reflection of his own face. It returns smile for smile, frown for frown. If he hates it, it hates him. It also returns his love. These truths are exemplified in the life of Judge Bagley. He looked upon the world as a lover of mankind and all who knew him returned his devotion.

Let us believe that when it is asked of him, as the legend says it was asked of an eastern sage and philosopher. “What hast thou done O Abdul Kadiz that thou shouldst be admitted within the gates of Paradise?” that he can triumphantly answer: “I have loved my fellowmen.” And that he can then hear the welcome words: “It is written in the great Book of Life, ‘Abdul Kadiz—he loved his fellowmen’—enter thou into the joys of Paradise.”

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 JUDGE BAGLEY—GENTLEMAN
*A. G. Burr*

The biography of any man may be reduced to—he was born, he lived and he died. Thus, one great record disposes of generations, but neither chronology nor annals tell us of the man as he is and was.

For eighteen years I was associated with Judge Bagley in as intimate a way as one could be in a common profession. Throughout all these years he displayed the same general characteristics which marked him as a gentleman. He had learning—not merely an accumulation of facts and a storehouse of knowledge; but the capacity to absorb and utilize the knowledge. He brought to the solution of the problem presented to the courts thorough study and sound, practical application of principles which were embedded in his nature.

He had common sense. He was *Lincolnesque* in this respect. In fact his resemblance to Lincoln was marked in many ways. His homely philosophy of life, a strong religious nature, practical common sense, with a fair vision of the future was noticeable to all friends. If not as brilliant as the Sun he, at least, had the fixity

of the Stars. Without common sense his knowledge would have proved futile; his methods would have been wasted; but with this trait his knowledge became wisdom and power.

He was courteous to others. He was not the self-seeking, ruthless man, but one whose common sense allied to his charity and kindness removed him from the field of the selfish and fanatic. He was always willing that another should stand in the position where the sunlight of publicity would show him to the best advantage and there was no jealousy of others in his nature.

He was faithful to his trust. He had in his nature those qualities which make the ideal lawyer, not subservient but guiding; not a truculent advocate but a wise counsellor; not working for mere temporary advantage but desirous that his client and the public in general should be on the right path.

He had a deep religious nature. His last letter to me, written after his election as our President of the Bar Association, showed calmness and confidence and trust, and if at times the tragedies of his life and difficulties which beset his clients and which were made his difficulties, may have produced periods of doubt or of test, yet through it all he had an unflinching trust in a kind and beneficent and forgiving Providence. His religious nature was an every day religion;—a religion that led him to love the common day tasks and to discharge them in an honest and thorough manner; a religion that accentuated his intellectual growth and moral nature; a religion that was constant, kindly, ever working, and improving every opportunity.

If a gentleman be as Thackeray describes him: "One whose aims are generous, whose truth is not only constant in its kind but elevated in its degree; whose want of meanness make them simple; who can look the world honestly in the face with an equal manly sympathy for the great and small" then Mr. Bagley was a gentleman. If it were necessary to originate the term "gentleman" in describing him then Horace Bagley furnished the qualities which would be the foundation of the term. For he was open, loyal and true; he had a humane and affable demeanor; he was honorable in himself and in his judgment of others—faithful alike to God and man. His health and accidents required a constant struggle but his soul was serene and his spirit sweet.

Peace to his ashes. He was a gallant gentleman.

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JUDGE BAGLEY  
Friend and Schoolmate  
*W. A. McIntyre*

Horace Bagley was born at Melbourne, Iowa, on May 28th, 1873. He graduated from the Liberal Arts College of the University of Minnesota in 1894. After this he taught for four years then returned to his Alma Mater to study law being admitted to practice law in Minnesota in 1900. He located at Thief River Falls, Minnesota, in January, 1901, for the practice of law where he was associated in practice with P. W. Mabey.

In 1902 Mr. Bagley located at Towner, North Dakota, and for about five years in addition to practicing his profession engaged in banking. From 1907 to the time of his death he devoted his entire