

John L. Burns

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workers in the western field chanced to be English-trained men, and hence were practically familiar with the latest advancements in the science in England and the continent. Singularly enough the general rock-succession in the upper Mississippi valley is strikingly like that of England; and this fact could not fail to impress investigators fresh from that field. Lastly, the so-called New York System had been found to be faulty. In reality it represented a conception that was already a superseded notion. In the attempt to establish it in the east the true taxonomic relationships of the formations themselves were completely lost sight of.

The expansion of the Iowa scheme has, therefore, more than state-wide bearing. Its interest is even more than continental in extent. It is, indeed, of world-wide significance. The development of the idea is concisely expressed in the accompanying diagram. Nuttall's great discovery is represented. The introduction and growth of the European scheme is shown. There is also foreshadowed the third great advance which, although initiated a couple of decades ago and is only today just beginning to be accepted throughout the world, may stand forth, fifty to one hundred years hence, as a recent writer states, as one of the half dozen great new thoughts characterizing Twentieth Century science.

JOHN L. BURNS.

On Wednesday after the battle commenced, John L. Burns, an old citizen of this place, shouldered his musket and went out by himself to meet the rebels. He advanced to the hottest of the scene and blazed away with his old musket until he fell wounded in the leg, side and arm. He reached his home, and though severely wounded, it is hoped he will soon recover. Patriotism and bravery like this is worthy of record in the annals of this war.—Gettysburg, Pa.—*Star and Banner*, July 9, 1863.

[The above paragraph is doubtless the record of the incident which prompted Bret Harte to write the popular poem, "John Burns of Gettysburg."—EDITOR.]

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