

Roland Ellsworth Conklin [Gen. Wilson and the executive chair of Iowa]

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. . . . a veray parfit gentil knight.

Roland Ellsworth Conklin was in very truth a scholar and a gentleman. He was not a genius of the blazing sort, eccentric and erratic, unpredictable and unlovely in manners and mean in action; and he was not of the courtier type of Chesterfieldian gentleman, debonair and effusive with compliments of the species common in drawing rooms. But he was a scientist of marked ability and achievement; he was an instructor of keen discernment and vivid descriptive powers who saw life in the large as well as in minutia;—more he possessed a personality attuned to the finest in nature and life with an exquisite sense of the eternal fitness of things. Appreciation of the beauties and majesty of nature ever stirred him deeply, and just consideration for the rights and welfare of his associates always coerced his thoughts. Aloof and remote in manner his friends were impressed by the “sweetness and light” that permeated his feelings, spoken words and acts of friendship. In fine, in the language of two of his confreres, Roland Conklin was a “white Soul” and his friendship lingers in their memories like a “fine perfume.”

We see an extract made from an Indianapolis paper, that Hon. Ratlief Boon has been appointed Governor of Iowa Territory. The *Cincinnati Gazette*, seems to think there is some truth in the statement. *Iowa Sun and Davenport & Rock Island News*, Davenport, July 3, 1839.

Our correspondent at Washington city writes that Gen. Wilson will most assuredly be offered the executive chair of Iowa and that he will most probably accept it.

It is noticed in another column that Gen. W. would be in Washington on the occasion of Gen. Harrison's inauguration, whence we are led to conjecture he will return to New Hampshire and make such preparations as will enable him to reach here on the fourth of July at which time Governor Lucas' commission expires by limitation. *Iowa Standard*, Bloomington (Muscatine), Iowa, March 26, 1841.

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