Washington's Notion About the Senate

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Major Williams was a Democrat, and a partisan. The writer was a Republican, and something of a partisan. In the fierce contentions and antagonisms of the earnest politics which immediately preceded the civil war, it required a philosophic temperament in men who widely and radically differed, to pass through the fiery ordeal without questioning personal motives. But it affords the writer pleasure to record this judgment of Major Williams: He was a man of sincere purposes, of patriotic impulses, of generous intuitions, and he was never happier than when performing the kindly offices of neighbor and friend.

Note.—Granville Berkley, pioneer lawyer of Webster City, and also of the older town of Homer, the first county seat of Webster county, secured the skull of Sidominadota, (mentioned in Governor Carpenter's article), and kept it several years in his office. This skull, when I saw it in 1857, showed many fractures, as though the head had been beaten with a heavy club, and portions of the integuments were still adhering to it. Mr. Berkley stated that he kept this ghastly relic because the murdered Indian had been his friend.—Editor of The Annals.

WASHINGTON'S NOTION ABOUT THE SENATE.

Sir John McDonald, the first Prime Minister of Canada, was fond of relating this story to illustrate the need of an Upper House:

"Of what use is the Senate?" asked Jefferson as he stood before the fire with a cup of tea in his hand, pouring the tea into a saucer.

"You have answered your own question," replied Washington.

"What do you mean?"

"Why do you pour that tea into the saucer?"

"To cool it."

"Even so," said Washington, "the Senate is the saucer into which we pour legislation to cool."—Philadelphia Record.