

In conclusion I must state, that since my appointment to the office of State Agricultural Chemist, I have been cheered by the warmest and kindest greetings in every county of the State where my duties have called me. All have welcomed, all have tendered me their hospitality to the fullest extent.

In the performance of the duties of my office, many privations, known only to those acquainted with them, had to be endured. The office was looked upon by many with distrust; to many its purposes had to be unfolded; to all its utility had to be demonstrated. Cheered by the kindness and full appreciation of those by whom I was surrounded, *sustained by the one first in my heart and heartiest in my prayers*, I have to be devoutly thankful for the *pleasures* which attended my labors.

I here tender to all my most sincere and heartfelt thanks, and give my most sincere prayers for their present prosperity and future happiness.

I shall ever remember their friendship and kindness with devout gratitude, and while wishing for them, that the produce of their fields may be as generous as their hearts, devoutly pray, that they may enjoy the happiness of everlasting life.

JAMES HIGGINS