

Judge Lawrence.

The Hon. Charles B. Lawrence died at Decatur, Alabama, Monday morning, April 9th. Judge Lawrence was born in Vergennes, Vermont, about the year 1814. In the year 1837 he became a member of Middlebury College, Vermont, 'Squire M. D. Cooke, of this city, being a classmate. After completing the Junior year, he went to Union College, N. Y., and there graduated with honor in 1841. After his graduation he went south, locating in Alabama and taught school for sometime in order to complete his legal education, meanwhile studying law with one of the best lawyers in the State. In 1845, he returned north to Quincy and there formed a copartnership with David L. Huff, which continued for two years. In 1847, he became associated with the late Judge Archie Williams, the partnership continuing until 1855, when John H. Williams, son of Judge Archie Williams, and now Circuit Judge, was admitted to the firm, the title being changed to Williams, Lawrence & Williams.

In the fall of 1856, Judge and Mrs. Lawrence went to Europe for the benefit of his health, remaining there for two years, most of which time was passed in Southern France. On his return, he located on a farm near Prairie City, where he designed to spend the remainder of his life in agricultural pursuits. The Republican Convention, which met at Monmouth, had other things in store for him. Entirely without his knowledge he was nominated for the office of Circuit Judge of this Judicial district, a nomination that he reluctantly accepted, though elected by a large majority, a glowing tribute to his fame as a lawyer and his character as a man. Sometime before this he removed to Galesburg, taking up his residence in the northwestern part of the city in the property which he still owns. Upon a vacancy occurring on the Supreme Bench, after a spirited contest, Judge Lawrence was nominated and elected by a handsome majority. This position he held through the term of nine years. His decisions are read and quoted the world over. In this position, he gained the highest distinction as a jurist. Since the date of his retirement from office, he has been practicing law in Chicago. He left that city for Alabama on the 6th inst. His death was therefore sudden and unexpected.

During his residence in Quincy Judge Lawrence was largely engaged in litigation regarding titles to the vast area of land known as the Military Tract. He was, at the bar, the associate of Lincoln, Douglas, Browning, McConnell, Skinner and other noted lawyers and was then regarded as one of the first lawyers and jurists of his time.

During his residence in this city, he won such a place in the esteem and affection of our people as but few have been able to gain.

He was an honest and valiant citizen. As to his church relations, he was an Episcopalian in belief, but attended the Episcopal Church of this city. The controversy between Judge Lawrence and Bishop Whitehouse, growing out of the order of the Bishop silencing Rev. Dr. Crafts, Rector of the Episcopal Church here, was conducted so ably on both sides as to attract the attention of churchmen throughout the entire country. The able stipulations of canon law by both Judge Lawrence and the Bishop are frequently referred to by Episcopallians, and the principles laid down have the authority of judicial decisions.

Judge Lawrence, while he lived here, was a public spirited man. He was one of those who proposed the building of Brown's Hotel, and contributed largely to it. The interest which he took in Knox College has especially endeared him to the lovers of that institution. For many years previous to, and at the time of his death, he was Vice President of the Board of Trustees. No one was more faithful to the highest interests of Knox than was he, and his loss will be deeply felt and his wise counsel much missed.

Judge Lawrence was a man having sincere and positive convictions, convictions that he tenaciously held to; in political faith, he was a Republican; in manner, he was always kind and courteous.

The hand of affliction was heavily laid upon him. All will recall the sad circumstances of the death of his son Charles and his daughter Anna, both of whom are interred in Hope Cemetery.

The remains arrived here on the 5:55 train Thursday afternoon. The funeral party, comprising twenty-four persons, occupied a special car. In this party, were the widow, Mrs. Lawrence, and her son Edward; two brothers of the deceased; Charles H. Lawrence, Esq., his nephew; Judge Dickey and W. C. Gowdy, Esq. The names of the others we could not learn. They were met at the depot by the Knox County Bar, and by a large delegation of citizens. The procession then wended its sad way to Hope Cemetery, many accompanying in carriages, and the Bar and citizens, among whom was the Mayor, Hon. J. C. Stewart, taking the sidewalk.

The pall bearers were twelve in number, and occupied three carriages. In the first first Hon. A. M. Craig, Judges Smith and Pleasants and Hon. W. S. Gale were seated; in the second were Dr. Hurd, W. N. Phillips, M. D. Cooke, Esq., and T. B. Martin; while Hon. C. E. Carr, Francis Fuller, Prof. T. R. Willard and David Greenleaf occupied the third.

The procession was a long one, many taking advantage of this opportunity to pay a tribute to the memory of the dead. At Hope Cemetery, Rev. C. J. Shrimpton officiated, performing the Episcopal service. The lot is situated in the northern part of the cemetery, and is surrounded by a hedge of evergreens, the clipped branches from which fringed the edge of the grave. It is within this narrow enclosure that the children of the deceased rest.

After the service and after the grave had been filled up the little band of mourners strewed the newly made grave with beautiful flowers, placing at the head an exquisite crown. Then the graves of the children were treated in the same manner, until the enclosure was fragrant with the perfume of flowers. Soon after, all took their departure from the cemetery.

The special car conveyed them all back to Chicago at 1 o'clock Friday morning.

THE KNOX COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION convened Thursday morning to hear the report of the Committee on Resolutions appointed at a previous meeting. Judge Smith presided. Hon. James A. McKenzie, chairman of that committee, read the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Impartial death has removed from "among the troubled numbers of living men" all that was mortal of the Hon. Chas. B. Lawrence and again taught us that all earth is passing away,

Resolved, That we sincerely mourn the death of Charles B. Lawrence. We know his death is felt and deplored by the entire bar of Knox County, by the bar and judiciary of this circuit, by the bar and judiciary of this State, by the bar and judiciary of the entire nation; yes, more, by the people, those unnamed millions who have known of his wisdom, wondered at his learning, basked in his friendship, loved his goodness, and rejoiced that he was their noble fellow citizen. As a lawyer, he was learned and able; as a judge, he was a model jurist, impartial and irreproachable; as a man, he was the noblest work of God.

Resolved, However great our loss, however sincere our regrets, however vast the void left in the world by the death of Charles B. Lawrence, we know that his family and near relatives suffer a grief more personal and more poignant. Their grief can never be forgotten; their wounds can never be healed.

"The wreny woe of a life-long woe
Is felt for her desolate heart to know,
Till hope drifts dead to the shallow brim,
Thinking of him."

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be presented with the assurance of our most sincere sympathy to his widow, family and near relatives; that this court and bar attend his remains to their last resting place, and that the court be requested to cause these resolutions to be spread at large upon the records.

J. A. MCKENZIE.

G. C. LANPHERE.

B. P. WILLIAMS, Committee.

After the reading of the resolutions, and appropriate remarks by Mr. McKenzie, Judges A. A. Smith, G. C. Lanphere, L. Douglas, Hon. J. J. Tunnick, M. D. Cooke, Esq., and John S. Winters, Esq., made short remarks, testifying to the personal loss suffered in the death of Hon. C. B. Lawrence, to his legal ability as a lawyer and uprightness as a man.