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JUDGE J. J. DANIEL.

HIS PORTRAIT PRESENTED TO THE SUPREME COURT LIBRARY.

Yesterday a portrait in oil of the distinguished jurist, Judge J. J. Daniel, was presented to the Supreme Court library by his children, Judge W. A. Daniel, of this place, and Mrs. Turner Battle, of Rocky Mount. The presentation was made through Capt. W. H. Day.

Judge Daniel was a native of this county and lived here all of his life. He was born in 1784, studied the law, and was elected to the bench of the Superior court by the Legislature in 1816, when he was thirty-two years of age. He remained on the Superior court bench sixteen years, when he was elected by the Legislature in 1832 Associate Justice of the Supreme court, which position he occupied until his death in 1848 at the age of sixty-four years.

Following is Capt. Day's address: Mr. Chief Justice:

I am directed by the children of Judge Daniel to present to this court the picture of their illustrious father. In doing this it is proper I should speak, somewhat, of him as a man, and also as a judge.

As a man, his marked characteristic was his gentle, genuine kindness to all. In the county in which I live, and where he was born and had his home, the traditions of his life, at this distant day into legends grown, follow after him, and are yet instinct with the pregnant life of what is good. His personality was antique in its simple grandeur. The first Alexander of Russia after June 1815 discussing the settlement of Europe with the French Emoy, who was importunate for a written charter, said "my people have no charter." Talleyrand replied, "yes sire they have your personal character, that is a charter." So Judge Daniel's personal character was the patent which stamped him Nature's nobleman. In his sympathies he was as broad as humanity itself. In his life creeds he was more Catholic than the Roman Catholic who benched by his side. The poor, his poor, looked for his coming from his duties as court as the return of a good angel. To him they came for material aid, and for counsel. His purse opened to their demands. His supreme knowledge, almost universal in its scope, he gave for their guidance.

The poverty of our State's history results from our ignorance of the lives of our dead great men. With curious neglect we are willing such priceless examples should be forgotten. Give to us a man whose life is a mission of misery, whose days are spent in the desolation of homes by the red hand of war, we hail him conqueror, and we immortalize his infamy in story and in song. We never salute the thoughtful man who kneels. These we forget, and yet their life's story would make for us beautiful history. Outside of our profession and the traditions of a locality, how few are the North Carolinians who know that this great man has lived, and passed from among us. It is well to that people who consent that their dead men shall die.

The Hebrew prophet cries "Thy dead men shall live." Judge Daniel was a brave man, mentally, morally, physically. In him was nothing of the tyrant. In his family, on his farm, on the bench, he was the affectionate father, the kindly master, the merciful judge. These characteristics gave to his younger years, associations that grew stronger with the flight of his days. To his old age they gave "honors, love, affection, and troops of friends," and the blessings of his neighbors. No heart ached for any spoken word of his; no bosom rankled the stings of remembered wrongs. Children loved him. This to his gray head was a crown greater than those opinions that have changed the judicial currents of his native State.

In my section of the State many anecdotes of him, illustrative of his character and charity, still live. They are all commemorative of kindnesses said done to neighbors and friends.

He was one of the "simple, great ones gone, forever and forever by," but the good that he did lives after him.

This man was also a philosopher, because, wisdom broadened him into loving. He studied flowers, not because he loved botany, but because the beautiful in Nature added to his happiness. He loved his fellow man, because he recognized the broad brotherhood of humanity. This man contemplated. He is worthy of our contemplation.

He was an omnivorous reader. He absorbed knowledge. As a lawyer, he was accurate. Greatness followed. His opinions are very clear, direct, at times limpid. In this judge is nothing of obscurity: Because in the truthfulness of him, he had convictions. His was the first voice in this State to denounce the brutal barbarism of the Common Law. His dissenting opinion in the Madison Johnson case was a protest against a past without pity. From Draco and Moses, in his humanity he recoiled. From the Sermon on the Mount he drew his inspiration. No matter with what crime the criminal was charged, when the law spake through this judge we recognize this beautiful fact, that the man was dealing with his brother.

He could say a thing and be done speaking. Instance, his opinions. His will covered eight lines of the old fool's cap paper. In it, he disposed of a large estate, gave his blessing to his children, and his soul to his God in whose ordinances he walked.

His wisdom was not greater than the wisdom of the law; this fact he never forgot. He never degenerated into an arbitrator.

Among the judges past of this court, to my mind, Mr. Justice Ashe nearest measured up to his high standard. Both came from the same kindred stock, both had in common the highest attributes of noble manhood. Both were our grandest North Carolinians.

IMPROVING MEMORY.

SIMPLE EXPEDIENTS WHICH LEAD TO IMPORTANT RESULTS.

The fault with most artificial memory systems is that they are too elaborate, and break down from the impracticability of their conditions. For the purpose of improving the memory of figures, a little trouble and common sense will go further than most of these so-called mnemonic system. It is beyond question that some people have the inestimable boon of a good memory, but in many cases a poor memory is mainly the result of carelessness and want of attention. By the exercise of steady determination the power of concentration necessary for improving the memory can be gradually gained. The mind must not be loaded too much. A little every day is quite enough, but that little must be well and earnestly grappled with. If this is done conscientiously the results will soon be most gratifying.

The amount of money spent daily, no matter how inconsiderable the items may be, may be written down at night from recollection. If a note is given or taken the amount of it, the time it was given and the date of its maturity, together with the rate of interest, can be held in mind with little difficulty. The number of a street in which a friend lives, and such things as the number of apple, peach and pear trees in your orchard, if you are lucky enough to have one, and innumerable other items of daily life can be utilized as memory lesson. The main point is that there must be no shirking. The memory is debilitated and indolent, and the indisposition to exert itself can only be overcome by resolute will power, until it has toned up to a healthy and vigorous action. The discipline is not altogether pleasant, but it pays.

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COL. HARRY SKINNER.

HE ABLY DEFENDS HIS POSITION AND ADVISES THE ALLIANCE TO REMAIN IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND CONFINE THEIR DEMANDS TO CONGRESSIONAL CONVENTIONS.

The time has come when I cannot permit those who have been my friends, associates and collaborators in the cause of Democracy, to be longer deceived by the misrepresentations of designing men.

I have stood the fire as long as I can without making a plain statement relative to my advocacy of measures for financial relief, so that the people may see how unfairly I have been recently treated by the press to whose good opinion I am entitled.

* * * * * In mid-summer I received an invitation to join Col. Polk in a series of speeches throughout the State. Before consenting to do so I consulted many prominent Democrats among them Chairman E. C. Smith, Hon. T. R. Jernigan, then associate editor of the *News & Observer*, Hon. T. J. Jarvis, (who has always shown himself a wise and conservative leader) and others. They advised me that it would do good for me to accept the invitations. Following the few speeches I made I was flooded with other invitations, and at a sacrifice, with only the good of the people at heart, have delivered speeches in 25 counties. I leave the character and tendency of my speeches to the people who heard them as well as to the telegraphic reports of them in different Democratic journals invariably reporting me as doing my party good, which could not have been otherwise, as I made the same class of speeches that I was wont to do in the campaigns from 1876 to 1890, and also the same kind of speeches spoken by Hon. Jesse J. Yeates, Hon. T. R. Jernigan, Hon. D. M. Carter, Hon. L. C. Latham and Hon. Thomas G. Skinner, in their respective canvasses of the first district, and that the electors for the State at large and our Senators Vance and Ransom have made throughout North Carolina for the past twenty years. They denounced the demonization of silver, the resumption of specie payment and the credit strengthening act, they have held up the tyranny of a gold standard, promised the remonetization of silver and general financial relief through the Democratic party. So have I.

In the present hour we only differ as to the plan of relief. I believe in the sub-treasury plan, they do not. As Democrats each is entitled to his individual opinion. As long as freedom of speech is guaranteed in the country we all have our individual right to express our own views and I trust without having our Democracy impugned or ourselves personally or politically proscribed. Mr. Bland can favor free silver and be a Democrat. Mr. Harter can oppose free silver without having his Democracy questioned. Mr. Randall was a protectionist and yet a recognized leader of Democracy in Congress. Mr. Carlisle can reverse himself on silver and all the while fight against the abolition of internal revenue a permanent plank in our State platform, and yet to North Carolinians be a great leader in Democracy.

But Mr. Skinner, it would seem, can not advocate a measure which he sincerely believes would relieve the people of their great agricultural stagnation and arm the fields with the power to command higher prices for their products, without having his political heritage taken from him, his past services cancelled and his future proscribed. Hence I desire to say, as much as I may be maligned, sharp as the criticisms may be made, nothing can cause me to waver or falter in my political faith, for I expect to follow the flag when many who now judge me wrongly shall have deserted and joined with our common enemy.

My advocacy of the sub-treasury plan has always been within the pale of the party. I discuss it only in a general way trying to impress two pivotal thoughts—that Democracy is the rule

or strength of the people and that a majority have the right to control; that Democracy means lodging all power with the people possible; that, what we call money whether in the shape of government credit or coin, is the most powerful controller of human action and the great distributor of the results of labor; that as governmental credit has to be invoked either in the form of treasury notes, certificates or guaranteed bank notes, to do the business of the country, that it is more Democratic to put this power in the hands of or near the people at first cost than to delegate it to corporations with the power to crush the people, and that the government can extend its credit under proper supervision upon land and staple crops as well as upon bonds, gold or silver, for the reason that these must redeem the bonds and furnish the power with which to purchase gold and silver.

Now while these are my individual views, I have no desire to force them upon Democrats who cannot see through the same glasses as I do, and certainly would not want them incorporated in our State platform, recognizing as I do that there is that difference of opinion among Democrats that would hazard the harmony of Democratic councils and jeopardize our success at the polls, realizing further as I do that our white people must be held together within the organization of Democracy to preserve home rule, to prevent the common enemy from recreating the era of its misrule, to perpetuate white supremacy and to stand as a barrier against amalgamation and the evils that would follow therefrom, the people of North Carolina may be assured while I claim the right to my individual views, I stand ready to make any sacrifice to prevent the disruption of the Democratic party. And if I may be permitted to make a suggestion (without criticism) to Alliance and non-Alliance Democrats in the interest of harmony, it would be to carry out what I intended at the last meeting of the State Executive Committee, to recommend to the different county conventions with as little variation as possible the State platform of 1890, and relegate all our differences of a national character to the different congressional conventions, as this class of relief must come through the channel of Congress, and these are the political bodies that should be impressed with the importance of relief on the line indicated. In making this suggestion I am not retreating from the Democratic principles involved in the sub-treasury plan. I shall attend the Democratic convention of the First District and do as I did at our last District convention, use my power to have incorporated this plan in the platform, and work for the nomination of a man that will stand flat footed upon such a platform. If I fail it will not diminish my Democratic ardor, but I will follow the majority. As a financial reformer I can not see how engraving anything unusual in our State platform will advance our cause I can see how it may divide our people and endanger our local institutions. I give the Alliance credit for too much wisdom and patriotism, even if in the absolute control of the State convention, to act either in naming the ticket or the platform so as to bring defeat upon the work there committed to their charge. My opinion is they will not wisely conservative and on the day after will deserve the applause of patriots.

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DUELS IN N. C.

A FEW OF THE MORE PROMINENT AFFAIRS OF HONOR IN THE HISTORY OF THE STATE.

The New York World in an article of some length reviewing famous duels which have been fought in America says of North Carolina:

North Carolina has been the scene of many fatal duels, and it has always been regarded as a perfectly safe place to fight so far the law is concerned.

Among the duels that have been fought in that State only a few of the most prominent ones can be mentioned here.

John Stanly fought with Richard Dobbs Spaight, sr., behind the Masonic Hall in New Berne on Sunday afternoon, September 5, 1802. At the second fire a bullet pierced the coat collar of Stanly; at the fourth, Spaight received a wound in the right side, of which he died in twenty-three hours. The challenge was sent and accepted and the duel fought on the same day, 300 people witnessing it.

In 1812, on the Virginia line, Thomas J. Stanley was killed at the first fire by Louis D. Henry. This duel arose from a dispute in regard to the question who was the partner of a certain lady in a dance at a party given by Judge Gaston.

Jarvis Clifton and Prentice Law fought at Crosses, on the line between Gates county, North Carolina, and Southampton county, Virginia, in 1806 or 1808. Law was a Northern man by birth, while Clifton was a native of Bertie county. They fought over a Mrs. Blanchard. Law struck his antagonist, and in pulling the clothing from the wound the ball came with it. Clifton afterwards married Mrs. Blanchard and she died in a year.

In 1814 Lieut. Samuel H. Bryant, United States Army, was killed in a duel in North Carolina. In 1844 W. E. Boudinot fought two duels with Montgomery Hunt, within a few days of each other. The first was on the Island of Java, where neither was hurt; the second at Singapore, where Hunt was wounded in the thigh at the second fire. They afterwards became warm friends. Hunt was a naval officer and was lost a sea. Boudinot was really the inventor of the present signal service system, and died near Pittsboro, N. C., in the spring of 1889.

The halfway house, where the Dismal Swamp Canal crosses the North Carolina line into Virginia, has been the scene of two duels. The first took place on the Virginia line during the autumn of 1847, when H. F. Harris fell in a duel with Edward C. Yellowly. The second was on June 12, 1868, when Robert W. Hughes, of the Richmond State Journal, fought William E. Cameron, of the Richmond Index, with pistols, and wounded him in the breast at the first fire.

Maurice, the son of Judge Alfred Moore, of the United States Supreme Court, fought with Benjamin Smith, afterwards Governor of North Carolina, in 1800 or 1801, on the South Carolina line with pistols, because of an alleged insult to Moore's father Smith was badly wounded in the side. Smith was engaged in other duels.

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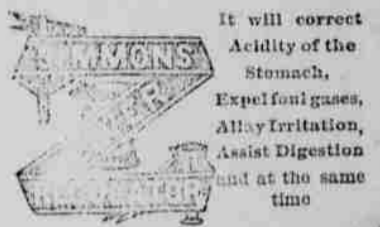
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