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What About Anderson College?

The Next Governor of South Carolina

Sketch of the Career of Richard I. Manning of Sumter, Who Was Nominated in the Primary Yesterday.

Special to The Intelligencer.
SUMTER, S. C., Sept. 8.—As with Woodrow Wilson, the number "13" has been a lucky one for Mr. Richard I. Manning who will succeed the present administration as governor of South Carolina. At the University of Virginia Mr. Manning occupied Room 13, which is the same room that President Wilson occupied when he attended that institution. Like the president also, Mr. Manning's signature contains thirteen letters. By another coincidence Mr. Manning was one of the delegates at large at the Baltimore convention that nominated Woodrow Wilson for the presidency.

Richard Irvine Manning, son of Richard Irvy Manning and his wife, Elizabeth Allen Sinkler, was born at Homestead plantation, Sumter county, South Carolina, August 15th, 1859. "Son of Mark in South Carolina," edited by James C. Hemphill, former editor-in-chief of the News and Courier, says of Mr. Manning and his parentage: "The father, a man of equable temperament and gentle and unobtrusive in manner, was noted for his excellent judgment and scrupulous uprightness in life. He impressed all as an honorable and just man, and his opinion naturally, in matters of moment, was often sought. He was a successful planter, and served acceptably in the state senate of South Carolina.

A Race of Strong Men.
His parental ancestor, Laurence Manning, was born in Ireland, and emigrated thence prior to the American Revolution and settled in Craven, subsequently Clarendon county, South Carolina. He married a daughter of Richard Richardson a distinguished patriot, born near Jamestown, Virginia, 1794, where he had been a land surveyor. He removed to Craven county, South Carolina, where he engaged in farming. During the Indian border wars he commanded a regiment; was a member of the council of safety at Charleston in 1775; and his services in quelling a dangerous loyalist revolt in the "back country" received the thanks of the provincial congress and was promoted to the rank of brigadier-general.

He was a member of the legislative council of 1778, and in the provincial congress of South Carolina assisted in forming the state constitution. Cornwallis made fruitless efforts to gain him over to the royal cause. Made prisoner at the capture of Charleston, he returned from the prison of St. Augustine and died in a few days near Salisbury, North Carolina, in September, 1781. His eldest son, Colonel Richard Richardson, commanded the right wing of General Francis Marion's army at the battle of Eutaw, and was wounded. Another son, James B. Richardson, was governor of South Carolina, 1802-1804.

Revolutionary Soldiers.
"The same Laurence Manning, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a Revolutionary soldier, and was distinguished for his intrepid courage and imperturbability of demeanor in moments of great peril. Instances of which are narrated in "Gordon's Anecdotes." He was the first adjutant-general of the state of South Carolina.

His son, Richard Irvine Manning, was born in Sumter district, May 1, 1782; was graduated from South Carolina college in 1811; served in the war of 1812; was a member of South Carolina legislature, 1822, and governor of South Carolina 1824-1828; was state senator, and was elected a member of congress from South Carolina in 1834, and died during his term in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 1, 1836.

The Next Governor.
The early years of the subject of this sketch were passed upon the plantation of his father, and he grew up a healthy and active lad, fond of horseback riding and fox hunting. His father dying when he was only two years of age, the responsible care of the plantation and of his mother and sisters fell upon him when he was a mere lad. His training was of great value to him. He resided daily in the course with his neighbors in varied matters of business and impressed him with the value of the golden rule in all his transaction as well as accustoming him to self-sacrifice.

His mother was highly educated and refined, a sincerely pious woman of deep religious faith in whom all considerations of selfish comfort and pleasure were always subservient to his duty to God, to the cause of humanity and the good of her country. The special lines of reading which young Manning found most helpful in fitting him for the work in life were, primarily, the Bible, with the biographies of men famous in the world's progress. After attending the primary schools in the vicinity of his birth, he was for two years a student at the Kennerly University high school of the late H. A. Strode, in Amberly county, Virginia, and later the University of Virginia, which he left in 1878 before completing the course of study.

"He commenced the active work of his life in Sumter county, South Carolina, as a farmer in 1880."
His Early Life a Struggle.
Mr. Manning's early life on the farm was a struggle, as recently testified to by friends and neighbors who knew him then. Twenty-two years of age at the time he commenced farming, Mr. Manning started off with three plows on poor, sandy, unimproved land. On February 10th, 1881, Mr. Manning married at Richmond, Virginia, Elizabeth Meredith, daughter of Elisha Meredith, a descendant of Colonel

Elisha Meredith of the American Revolution. In the year that Mr. Manning was married there was a general crop disorder, resulting in a heavy loss to the farmers, in which Mr. Manning shared. The disaster of 1881 caused Mr. Manning to give up his farm and go to work on the farm of another, working it on shares. At that time he lived in a two-room house with a shed room, in the most economical manner. The struggle lasted for several years, but each year from 1881 on there was improvement in the crops and Mr. Manning was unable to make a little more than the necessary living expenses, and gradually increased his farming operations.

By the exercise of great economy and industry, Mr. Manning was able, by degrees to increase his savings and some time later he moved back to his own farm. Here he farmed for eighteen years, steadily increasing his activities and net success.

Legislative Career.
Mr. Manning's entrance into state-wide politics dates from 1892, when he was elected a member of the house of representatives, and in 1894, according to "Men of Mark in South Carolina," although he declined the nomination, he was re-elected to the house. In 1898 he was elected a member of the state senate, was re-elected in 1902, and served as president pro tempore of that body in 1905.

Mr. Manning was chairman of the finance committee of the senate, which committee is regarded of second importance to none in the upper branch. In this capacity Mr. Manning was also a member of the sinking fund commission. In the senate Mr. Manning was recognized as a state-wide figure, and he rapidly forged to the front as one of the leaders in South Carolina affairs.

In 1906 he was a candidate for governor, and with a number of men in the race, he entered the second primary with former Governor Ansel. Mr. Manning was defeated by Mr. Ansel. Since running for the governorship, Mr. Manning has held no state-wide office, except that he is trustee of Clemson college. In addition to developing his planting interests, Mr. Manning has shown that he is a progressive and public-spirited citizen, and has been influentially connected with various business and other enterprises.

A Good Business Man.
Among his trusts have been president and treasurer of the Masonic Temple Association, president of the Sumter Cotton Warehouse Co., president of the Sumter Compress Company, and president of the Home Building & Loan Association director and president of The Bank of Sumter, director of The Sumter Telephone Manufacturing Company, which was organized as a home company. He has also been connected with other enterprises tending to the improvement of his community and state. In selecting a president for The Bank of Sumter, Mr. Manning was chosen on account of his career in business. This bank has always done a large business with farmers, and a good share of the stock in this bank is owned by planters. In 1911, when the farmers were hard hit financially, Mr. Manning was one of the leaders in the movement to come to their aid, and the banks of Sumter cooperate in aiding the financing of the crop in this county. In all movements affecting the farming interests of the state Mr. Manning has been in the front ranks to help. He has worked hard in the cotton-holding plan, has advocated the proper warehousing of cotton so that the farmers might obtain a better price for the staple, and has always aided in movements to finance the cotton crop. In a statement recently issued by several friends, who know him intimately, it was stated:

"Not only locally but throughout the state has Mr. Manning watched out for the farming interests. Ever alert and active in any move looking to the betterment of rural conditions, he has given his best thought as a trustee of Clemson college to building up the farmers' institution, which touches agriculture to the youths of the state. He is chairman of the fertilizer board of Clemson and here again he is watchful of the farmers' interests. The State Fair is another agricultural institution with which Mr. Manning has been identified for many years."

Stood by Woodrow Wilson.
No better proof of Mr. Manning's democracy is needed than the stand he took at the Baltimore convention when he worked for the nomination of Woodrow Wilson. The South Carolina delegation stood like a stone wall for the New Jersey man, and Mr. Manning time and time again, as the ballots were cast, indicated on the roll that South Carolina's allegiance to that staunch democrat, Woodrow Wilson.

"Men of Mark in South Carolina" has the following tribute to Mr. Manning: "In his party affiliations he has been a consistent democrat, and has always sided in every effort to purify elections. The ballots, being the foundation stone of republican institutions he believed that 'tickets should be made to rid elections of fraud; that they should be protected from the exercise of undue influence so as to arrive at a free and untrammeled expression of the popular will. He introduced in the house of representatives, in 1894, a rigid Australian ballot bill, but it was defeated. He has always taken an active part in all legislation, teaching the assessment and taxation of property, and in everything promoting the educational

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I think it is only right that I tell you of two incidents that have occurred recently by our advertising in your paper. Yesterday a man walked into the office and said that he wanted to look at the Chamblee farm that we were cutting up West of the city. I showed it to him and sold him one of them, before I got back to the office, I asked him where he saw the advertisement and he said in The Intelligencer.
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Yours very truly,
L. S. HORTON,
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MORAL: "IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE"

Interests of South Carolina.
"He has actively worked for the development of the common school system, as well as for the thorough equipment and the broadening of the sphere of the institutions of higher learning. He is a communicant of the Protestant Episcopal church, is chairman of the vestry of the church at Sumter, and its treasurer, and is also treasurer of St. Mark's church at Clarendon, S. C. He is a member of the standing committee of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of South Carolina, chairman of the finance committee of the diocese of its board of missions, and of the executive committee of the Young Men's Christian Association of North and South Carolina.

A Social Man.
"He served in the state militia of South Carolina, 1876-78. He is a member of the following fraternities: A. F. and A. Masons, the Shrine, W. O. W., Odd Fellows, the Delta Kappa, Epsilon, and the Knights of Pythias. He has found healthful relaxation in the duties of his pay and useful career in hunting, riding, occasional hunting, and travel when time and opportunity have admitted.

He believes that the principles, methods and habits which will prove most helpful to our young people in attaining true success in life are: A regular reading and study of the Bible, the study of history and the biographies of those characters whose lives and achievements appeal to the student, and, above all, to ever aim at the attainment of the highest ideals of citizenship, with purity of morals and uprightness in character in the daily walks of life; to feel it a duty to take interest in and to create, factor and direct a beautiful public sentiment in all public questions, and to be ever ready to sacrifice private inclination, personal comfort, and pecuniary interests, in the discharge of duty to God and to followers, with the paramount ambition to be useful and valued members of the community."

At this time the reading of the sketch of Mr. Manning in "Men of Mark in South Carolina" proved interesting. Published in 1907, that volume shows that in the past as well as recently, Mr. Manning worked for better elections and for the highest degree of citizenship.

The people of Sumter are proud of Mr. Manning, and will be prouder still to see him governor of South Carolina.



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