

## PROF. MEANS DAVIS PASSES AWAY

DEATH CAME TO THE BELOVED TEACHER AND FRIEND SUNDAY MORNING AT 3 O'CLOCK.

A Sketch of His Eventful Life and a Beautiful Tribute to His Memory by a Fellow-Teacher.

His Remains Interred in the Cemetery of St. Stephen's Church at Ridgeway in the Presence of His Colleagues, Pupils, and Many Friends of Former Days.

The announcement of the death Sunday morning in Columbia of Prof. Means Davis carried sadness with it wherever it was made. Though he had not been in good health for several weeks his condition had not been such until about three days before the sad end came to cause any anxiety on the part of his family and friends. Saturday afternoon it was found that an operation would be necessary and so he was carried to the Columbia hospital where the operation was performed. He never fully rallied therefrom and the next morning at three o'clock he quietly passed away. Sunday afternoon as per his own request made after he realized the seriousness of his condition, his funeral services were conducted in the chapel of the South Carolina college to which institution he had given the last twenty-two years of his life unstintedly and unselfishly. Beautiful tributes were paid his memory by Maj. Sloan, Mr. McMahan, and Dr. Joynes, that of the latter being given in full below. At 5 o'clock the same afternoon his remains were brought to Ridgeway, accompanied by his colleagues, the members of his family, and many admiring friends.

Monday morning a special train from Columbia brought a large number of the students of the South Carolina college and other friends from Columbia to Ridgeway to thus pay their last respects to the memory of their beloved teacher. The morning train from Blackstock and Winnsboro also carried a large number of friends who went on the sad mission of honoring the memory of their former school mate, teacher, and friend. The interment was in St. Stephen's cemetery at 12 o'clock, the exercises being conducted by Rev. H. O. Judd, a former friend of days gone by. The floral tribute was most beautiful and abundant. The pall-bearers were: Honorary: Judge A. C. Haskell, Mr. Jno. J. McMahan, Mr. R. H. Edmunds, Col. J. Q. Marshall, Mr. Jno. S. Reynolds, Prof. Colcock, Prof. A. C. Moore, Prof. Wardlaw and Prof. McCutcheon. Active: G. L. Rosborough, E. W. Rosborough, John McIntyre, D. W. Ruff, W. J. Johnson and J. S. Edmunds.

### A SKETCH OF HIS LIFE.

Robert Means Davis was born in Fairfield district, April 9, 1849—being the eldest son of Isabelle Harper and Henry C. Davis, whose grandfather came from Maryland to Laurens district. He received his early education from private tutors, and afterwards attended the noted school conducted by Mr. Octavius T. Porcher at Willington in Abbeville district.

His preparation for college was had at the Mount Zion Collegiate Institute then under the charge of Mr. G. A. Woodward, a teacher of rare ability and eminent success. Entering the University of South Carolina—the immediate successor of the old college—in 1867 he graduated therefrom with the degree of bachelor of arts. After two years spent in teaching in California, he returned to South Carolina and reentering the university, pursued the law course and took the degree of bachelor of law.

After a short time spent in teaching Mr. Davis became editor of The News and Herald, the

Fairfield county paper. In 1876 he served on the editorial staff of The News and Courier, but relinquished that connection to do service as secretary of the State Democratic executive committee charged with the campaign which resulted in the election of Wade Hampton as governor.

In January, 1877, Mr. Davis resumed the editorship of the Winnsboro News and Herald, and continued in that work until his election to a professorship in the South Carolina college. Early in 1877, the Mount Zion institute losing its principal by death, Mr. Davis was placed in charge of that institution and there continued till he took his chair in the college faculty.

On his suggestion, heartily seconded by the community, the Mount Zion school was converted into a graded school supported by a special tax—the first of its kind outside of the city of Charleston.

For several years he was a member of the county board of examiners for Fairfield county, and served on the State board of

education from 1882 to 1890. He was for several terms president of the South Carolina Teachers' association, and taught in the first State teachers institute—held in Spartanburg in 1880.

In 1882 Prof. Davis was elected to the chair of history and political economy in the South Carolina college, and was in the active work of that position when his last illness came on.

Prof. Davis was married January 12, 1877, to Miss Sallie LeConte, daughter of Prof. Joseph LeConte, for some years a professor in the South Carolina college later in the University of California, and a man of national reputation in the department of science. Of this union there have been six children, all living—Mr. Jos. LeConte Davis of the General Electrical Works of Schenectady, N. Y., Prof. H. C. Davis of the University of Washington, at Seattle, Mr. R. Means Davis, Jr., now with E. W. Seibles & Son of this city, and three daughters—Misses Isabel, Bessie and Sallie. Of his generation there are two brothers—James Q. of Winnsboro, and Capt. Henry C. of the United States army—and two sisters, Mrs. Gaillard, wife of Col. David D. Gaillard, U. S. A., and Mrs. W. Herbert Ruff of Ridgeway.

### DR. JOYNE'S EULOGY.

My Friends: This is an hour of sore and manifold sorrow. Not only the South Carolina college, but the State, the city, the community in the largest sense, mourn an irreparable loss. A place is vacant which it is no idle word to say, no other man can fill. The college loses one of its oldest, ablest and most useful professors; the State one of its most devoted, public spirited, intelligent and influential citizens; society one of its most high-minded and warm-hearted members who was the life of every circle; his own immediate family; and the larger family of his love, which included all his colleagues and all the students and alumni of the college for many years back, have lost a father, a friend, an ornament, a counselor and exemplar, whose life was full of love and of inspiration. Throughout the limits of this State and far beyond its borders, many a heart is beating in sorrow and bereavement, that Prof. Means Davis is dead!

This is no time or place for biography. And indeed the life of our friend is so simple and so single in its devotion that but little could be given of personal history. He was born in Fairfield county, April 9, 1849—the eldest son of Henry and Belle Means Davis, and he came of noble blood. On both sides his ancestry had been connected with the best of the history and traditions of this State and of this college. On his father's side he was nephew to Mrs. William C. Preston, and his mother was the niece of Gov. Means. His grandfather Davis was one of six brothers, all of whom were graduates of this college, and his grandfather Means was one of seven, of whom six also graduated here—so that by double inheritance he was the child of the college to which he was destined so loyally and so brilliantly to devote his own life. His earliest education was given by his beautiful and accomplished mother and then by an uncle who early inspired him with the love of knowledge. Then he was a pupil in the school of Mr. Theodore Porcher in Abbeville county of which he has recently written so tender and interesting memorials in The Educational.

He entered this institution after its reorganization as a university at the close of the war and under the high standards then prevailing he completed the full course of the degree bachelor of arts. Soon after, following the "light of love," he went to California, where he taught for two years and, in the infancy of that State, was probably on the threshold of a brilliant career. But once more he followed the light of love—this time of a mother's love, and returned to South Carolina in consequence of the declining health of his mother, whose pride and darling he was. Then he entered the uni-

versity and completed the course in law—having been for six years a student and taken the highest honors of the university.

He opened a law office in Winnsboro, but his inborn love of teaching, sharpened by his experience in California, soon lured him again and he began teaching school. With his equally natural ardor for civic pursuits he also became editor of the Winnsboro News and Herald. His journalistic ability soon led to his connection with the Charleston News and Courier, where he was associated with the brilliant Capt. Francis W. Dawson. In the trying times of 1876 he was posted at the very centre of labor and influence, as secretary of the Democratic executive committee, where his services were of the greatest value in organizing and conducting the memorable campaign which resulted in the election of Gov. Hampton and the re-franchisement of the white people of South Carolina.

This crisis past, again he yearned for the school room. Returning to Winnsboro he took charge of the historic Mount Zion academy. Here he founded and developed the first graded school in South Carolina. Of the then State superintendent of education, the honored Hugh S. Thompson, he was the right arm—his chief counsellor and aid. At that time the Mount Zion academy was "facile princeps" among the schools of the State. Its boys won all the prizes at West Point and Annapolis, and Supt. Thompson once said, in joke, that it was no use to hold competitive examinations—he might as well ask Means Davis to name his man at once.

It was now that I first met him—at Spartanburg in June, 1880, at the first white teachers' institute ever held in this State, which was presided over by the illustrious Dr. Louis Soldau of St. Louis. How well I remember him then in all his youthful charm—the youngest member of the faculty—modest, even diffident, yet notable for ability and skill in teaching and soon becoming, by his genial and gracious fellowship, the centre and life of the faculty and of the institute. How bright, how memorable, the hours then passed with

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### For A County Map.

Carrying out the recommendation of the trustees at their recent meeting in regard to the making of a count map, there was a joint meeting of the county board of education and the county commissioners Saturday. It was decided to have the map made and to advertise for bids therefor. The map will show all school district and township boundary lines, the location of all school buildings and churches, all roads with the principal dwellings on the same, all railroads with the depots, all post offices and voting precincts, and other places of interest. Each school will be provided with a map and there will be an effort made to have the maps sold to individuals so as to make the expenses of the same fall light on the county and school funds by which the expenses will be borne equally.

### Happy, Healthy Children.

Any child can take Little Early Risers with perfect safety. They are harmless, never gripe or sicken, and yet they are so certain in results that no mother requiring drastic means are never disappointed. They cannot fail to perform their mission and every one who uses DeWitt's Little Early Risers prefer them to all other pills. They cure biliousness. Sold by McMaster Co.

Four things a man must learn to do. If he would make his record true: To think without confusion clearly; To love his fellowmen sincerely; To act from honest motives purely.

To trust in God and heaven securely.—Henry Van Dyke.

### Working Overtime.

Night hour laws are ignored by those tireless little workers—Dr. King's New Life Pills. Millions are always at work, night and day, curing indigestion, flatulency, Constipation, Sick Headache and all Stomach, Liver and Bowel troubles. Easy, pleasant, safe, sure. Only 25c. at McMaster Co.'s, Obeur Drug Co.'s, Jno. H. McMaster & Co.'s drug stores.

Justice discards party, friendship and kindred, and is therefore represented as blind.—Addison.

### The Name Witch Hazel.

The name Witch Hazel is much abused. E. C. DeWitt & Co., Chicago, are the inventors of the original and only genuine Witch Hazel Salve. A certain cure for Cuts, Burns, Bruises, Eczema, Tetter, Piles, etc. There are many counterfeits of this salve, some of which are dangerous, while they are all worthless. In buying Witch Hazel Salve see that the name E. C. DeWitt & Co., Chicago, is on the box and a cure is certain. Sold by McMaster Co.

So popular and widely appreciated have American dried fruits become in Germany they may be said to now control the markets.

### Colds Cause Pneumonia.

One of the most remarkable cases of a cold, deep-seated on the lungs, causing pneumonia, is that of Mrs. Gertrude E. Fenner, Marlon, Ind., who was entirely cured by the use of One Minute Cough Cure. She says: "The coughing and straining so weakened me that I ran down in weight from 148 to 92 pounds. I tried a number of remedies to no avail until I used One Minute Cough Cure. Four bottles of this wonderful remedy cured me entirely of the cough, strengthened my lungs and restored me to my normal weight, health and strength. Sold by McMaster Co."

The cotton plant first came to America from Asia; now the greater part of the Central Asian crop is grown from American cotton seed.

### Pneumonia Follows a Cold

but never follows the use of Foley's Honey and Tar. It stops the cough, heals and strengthens the lungs and affords perfect security from an attack of pneumonia. Refuse substitutes. Sold by McMaster Co.

Russia takes nearly half the agricultural machines that the United States exports.

### A Severe Cold for Three Months.

The following letter from A. J. Nussbaum, of Batesville, Ind., tells its own story. "I suffered for three months with a severe cold. A druggist prepared me some medicine, and a physician prescribed for me, yet I did not improve. I then tried Foley's Honey and Tar, and eight doses cured me." Refuse substitutes. Sold by McMaster Co.

## A VITAL QUESTION

With every farmer at this time of the year is the securing of the best farm tools and implements for carrying on his farm work. We have everything that is needed for helping on the work that must be done on the farm at this time.

SHOVELS, PITCHFORKS, SPADES, HOES, RAKES, WHEELBARROWS, PLOUGH HOES, TRACES, CHAINS.

Don't forget to see us about our POULTRY NETTING before you have any fencing done. Call on us for any of your wants in the way of HARDWARE and TINWARE.

J. W. SEIGLER.

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You must depend to a large extent on the honesty of the dealer.

WE ARE NOT ANGELS

(if we were we would be out of business) but whatever you buy of us must be as we represent it to you or you get your money back. In all the years that we have been selling goods to the people we have fully sustained ourselves for honest, fair dealing, giving full value for every dollar traded here. Then, too, don't get fooled by ordering your goods through catalogs. Better by far to come to us, and see that you are getting just what you want and at reasonable prices, WE NEVER MAKE A STATEMENT WE CAN'T BACK UP and we want to make one right now.

We Can Save You One-Fourth on Your Furniture Purchases.

Come to see us. Get our prices and let us show you how we get goods at such a big discount below our competitors. There is a way to prove our statement too: Compare our prices with those of our competitors.

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