# THE MEMPHIS DAILY APPEAL.

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## Daily Appeal.

DEATH OF GEN. QUITMAN.

The greater portion of the proceedings of Congress, on the 5th instant, relate to the death of the lamented QUITMAN, of Mississippi. We lay before our readers, this morning, two of the eloquent delivered on the solemn occasion, one from Senator Bayard, and the other from Mr. WIGFALL, of the House. One or two others will be published to-morrow.

The following message was received from the House of Representatives, by Mr. J. M. Barclay, one of its clerks:

Mr. PRESIDENT—I am directed by the House of Representatives to inform the Senate the proceedings of the death of Hon. John A. Quitman, late a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Mississippi.

Mr. DAVIS—I ask for the reading of the proceedings of the House.

The SECRETARY read as follows:

In the House of Representatives United States:

JANUARY 5, 1859.

*Resolved*, That this House has learned with feelings of deep regret the death, since the adjournment of the last session of Congress, on the 17th of July last, of the Hon. John A. Quitman, a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Mississippi.

*Resolved*, That as a testimony of respect for the memory of the deceased, the members and officers of the House will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

*Resolved*, That the proceedings in relation to the death of John A. Quitman be communicated to the family of the deceased by the Clerk.

*Resolved*, That, as a further mark of respect for the memory of the deceased, this House do now adjourn.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

Mr. DAVIS—Mr. President, the message which has just been received sadly speaks for our consideration the loss which not only Congress, but the whole country has sustained, in partly loss, been described in the eloquent manner which have been just read. During the past year, as a member of the House, he was associated with us in the duties of legislation. Years of experience had set upon his brow the crown of wisdom and of public confidence, and therefore his services became valuable to us. At home, and in the midst of his relatives and friends, his mission was ended, and life's sitful fever passed on the 17th of July, leaving behind him that good name without which "glory is but a vacant song."

I offer the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, that the Senate receives, with sincere regret, the announcement of the death of Hon. John A. Quitman, late a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Mississippi, and that the Secretary of the Senate be directed to transmit to the family of General Quitman a certified copy of the foregoing resolution.

*Resolved*, That in token of respect for the memory of the deceased, the Senate do now adjourn.

### Speech of Hon. John V. Wright.

Mr. WRIGHT, of Tennessee: Mr. Speaker, when at the commencement of the thirty-fourth Congress, I took my seat in this hall as a representative of a portion of the people of Tennessee, I found myself amongst the youngest members of that body. The distinguished statesmen who had served in the Senate through life myself, a member for the first time, ranked amongst the oldest and ablest of the House. Upon them I looked as I had been accustomed from boyhood to form his personal acquaintance. I had observed with peculiar pleasure his high and honorable course as a public man. I had listened to many speeches from him, and the words of my paternal ancestor, who, like General Quitman, had devoted himself at the early history of the Lone Star State in her struggle for independence, and who had been associated with him on the battle-fields of Mexico, so he detailed the part which he took in those memorable events, which entitles the name of Quitman to a place on the brightest page of its history. Under these circumstances, and representing here a State adjoining to the one represented by him, it is not strange that I sought and obtained his acquaintance.

By the gentleness of his manners, and his wonted kindness and courtesy, I soon found myself amongst my warmest personal regard and friendship, and it gives me great pleasure to say, that on every occasion he evinced that the regard was mutual. He was a true friend to young men, and the memories of their youthful home, no doubt, sit, partly from the natural feeling of his opinions and partly from a fixed principle, it gave an impetus to stir up the souls of youth and to kindle the sacred fires of patriotism. Some of the younger men looked to him as their leader, and he was to the statesmanship of high and honorable minds. On one occasion when I had visited him, in company with a valued young friend, our conversation turned upon the dangers which then lowered upon the political horizon of our country. We suggested that a crisis had arrived which required the mature wisdom of age and the fresh and vigorous energies of youth to carry through the storm, and save the Republic from a higher and nobler destiny than it had yet attained. It was then that I understood and appreciated his patriotic love of the young minds of the country. He arose from his seat, and with an earnestness of manner, peculiar to himself, said: "No, sir; their opinions are not to be laid aside in the shadow of principles settled. You are mistaken in your reliance upon the antiquated politicians of the country. They are the future, for the succession of present shows and the establishment of proper forms in this government, upon the rising generation of statesmen. It has been among the most cherished objects of my life to endeavor to instill proper principles of government into the minds of the young men of the country, and I am happy to believe that my labors have not been entirely fruitless."

It is but natural, sir, that sentiments such as these should have been strongly attached unto him. He was one of nature's friendship and generosity. He was of the people, and in common with the people of the United States, the great loss we have sustained I have deeply felt. Yesterday he was in perfect health, but before the sun had left the heavens his health was impaired, and life was steadily wasting away; and then he continued to devote himself to the constant labors of his position, until at the close of the session he left the seat of government in enfeebled health, returned to his home, and there, like a ship that has taken on many a storm, weathered in the calm of a summer sunset. In the bosom of his family he passed from earth to eternity, and left a reputation, which all who value integrity, patriotism, and eloquence, will not fail to hold up to the rising generation as an object for their emulation.

His taste for him very early to pay attention to military affairs. He was soon became connected with the militia of the State of Mississippi after he became a citizen of it. He was the captain of a company which has maintained its reputation down to the present day, and its organization and its name still continue in the town of his former residence. He was a general of the militia, and took such special interest in all that advanced it, that he is considered, and I think justly, as the father of the present militia of our State. When the war with Mexico began, the same tendency to military affairs which he had shown on another sphere, led him to offer his services to the government. He was appointed a Colonel of Volunteers, and joined the army of General Taylor, who, with that discriminating judgment which exhibited itself upon so many occasions, selected him from among many who were at his headquarters at Camargo, as one who should accompany him to Monterey. In the siege and storming of that place he was conspicuous, and exhibited, as on other occasions, the generous spirit and aptitude for military affairs which his previous career gave promise.

Not the least interesting characteristic of the American people is the capacity which has been, in so many instances, manifested, to pass from one pursuit to another, so that a single individual heads all the paths of honorable distinction. He was a lawyer, planter, statesman, and soldier, and prominently successful in each.

After the siege and capitulation of Monterey, and when, by the decision of the Government here, the plan of the campaign was changed, instead of a landing directly from that point into Mexico, the part of Vera Cruz was adopted as the base of operations, and the main force sent thither, General Quitman was transferred from the command of General Taylor, and passed to that of General Scott. Thus he arrived in the campaign of the valley of Mexico, gathering distinction as wide as the employment was various. In one expedition he commanded the whole of the land forces. He at last arrived at the capital of Mexico, and there established the high military reputation which will descend as a rich inheritance to his family. It was his good fortune to be distinguished in storming the castle of the city. It was his special fortune to lead the column which first entered the capital, and received the surrender of the citadel of the place.

After peace returned, and brought its blessings to our country, being by profession, he planted in the portion which had previously occupied him, and this remained until he became a member of Congress, and served with us in the short period of the session of the House which he was a member.

I feel that I hazard little for my intercourse with members of the House of which he was a member, in saying that he has left behind him the respect, well of every one of his personal friends, the regret of all who knew him well, and marked in his death the loss of a faithful public servant, and a patriot of unfeigned love. Though his health was impaired, and life was steadily wasting away; and then he continued to devote himself to the constant labors of his position, until at the close of the session he left the seat of government in enfeebled health, returned to his home, and there, like a ship that has taken on many a storm, weathered in the calm of a summer sunset. In the bosom of his family he passed from earth to eternity, and left a reputation, which all who value integrity, patriotism, and eloquence, will not fail to hold up to the rising generation as an object for their emulation.

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