

## A Tribute to Charles Stokes.

Bowed beneath the weight of years, of sickness and of grief, like a warrior worn and stricken on a field of battle, he has put off his armor and laid down to rest. From its author, his spirit came gentle and just; it has returned along the same radiant way, unsettled and unharmed, by the clash and clangor of the forces of evil. The sunrise then was beautiful; the arching of the sky resplendant and the sunset aglow with the glory of a grander day. For nearly half a century I knew this man. He was one of the first figures of my boyhood days. During all these years of shifting change and scene, I bear witness, that I never heard a word escape his lips that could not be fittingly uttered in the presence of the most stainless woman in the world. I never heard him speak an unkind word of any human being. Where ever the discordant notes of selfishness and greed grind and goad the souls of the good, he heard the measured music of vesper bells calling together celestial choirs. Where falsehood, ready to strike with poisoned fang, emerged from the shadows like a ghostly specter of the night, he quietly gathered about him the drapery of a blameless life and upon the rock of truth stood immutable and immune, while vandal waves lashed its base and the tempest tossed many a mariner toward seas shoreless and eternal. As humble as a child, the subtle and ruinous sin of pride found in him no resting place for its cold and callous feet. Proud? Yes. He had that pride which comes from a consciousness of an escutcheon unsoiled by unworthy deed and a name unclouded and undimmed by the dusts of dishonor. High upon the parchment his name was written, when was at stake the progress and good name of his church, his town, his county or his state. He was a christian and a patriot. He was a pure and

dimmed by the dusts of dishonor. High upon the parchment his name was written, when was at stake the progress and good name of his church, his town, his county or his state. He was a christian and a patriot. He was a pure and lovable man. He shrank from the loathsome approach of dishonesty, deception and falsehood, as he would falter before the deadly shade of the opus or the poison of the cockatrice's den. I know of no man who has died in Houston county, from whose life the young men of the county may learn lessons more valuable. Here was a man who placed honesty above houses, truth above trade, manhood above money and God above gold. When Michael C. Kerr, once speaker of the National House of Representatives, came to die, he called to his bedside a choice young man, his only son, and said: "My son, I have nothing to leave you except my good name." Greater heritage than this could no man leave to his children. Aside from other considerations, if the only thing Charles Stokes left his bereaved wife and children was his good name, it is worth more than all the money that ever glowed in the mines and glittered in the mists of the world. I revere his memory. By so doing I honor myself. I weep with those who weep. Hail and Farewell.

L. N. Cooper.

rust 30, 1910.

## Resolutions.

Lufkin, Tex., Aug. 18, 1910.

Hon. I. A. Daniel, Chairman of the 13th Senatorial District of Texas:

We, your committee, appointed by your honorable body to draft suitable resolutions on the death of the lamented C. C. Stokes, senator from this district, who departed this life on the 12th day of August, 1910, beg leave to submit the following report:

Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God to take from the field of active labor Hon. C. C. Stokes, lately State Senator from the 13th Senatorial District of Texas, in the prime of his usefulness and vigor. Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Democratic Executive Committee of this the 13th Senatorial District of Texas, in called session, at Lufkin, Texas, this the 18th day of August, 1910:

That for the past six years Senator Stokes has served this district with patriotic, unswerving and self-sacrificing devotion and with rare skill and ability.

That in his death, the State of Texas has lost a distinguished citizen, and the Democratic party a wise and a brilliant leader.

That in private and public life he was faithful to every trust, a devoted and loving husband, a true friend, an upright man, an able lawyer and jurist.

That a copy hereof be furnished to the press and to the members of the family of the deceased.

Respectfully submitted. J. S. Stevenson, N. H. Phillips, W. J. Townsend, Jr., Committee.

Unanimously adopted by the Democratic Executive Committee, 13th Senatorial District.

I. A. Daniel, Chairman,  
R. B. Bledsoe, Secretary,

9-24-1872/10 - - 1910

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from a Crockett newspaper