

one of his sons James Speed, and not long after Mr. Speed named one of his sons Henry Pirtle. Mr. Pirtle's son, James Speed Pirtle, followed in the footsteps of his honored father, and has risen to be one of the most distinguished lawyers of Louisville, and the memorial was prepared by him, from which the following extracts are made :

"The man, in memory of whom we have met to-day, was so modest that eulogy to the extent of his merits would be displeasing to him, but he so valued the love of his friends that the expression of our regard would be grateful to him.

"In remembrance of his talents and his virtues his brethren of the bar, joining with the people of the State and the Nation, in the simple language of truth record our respect, admiration and affection for the great dead. \* \* \* \* \*

"The history of James Speed increases the pride of the lawyer in his profession; his character deepens respect for human nature. That simplicity which marked him he carried into the highest station. In every place he filled he brought to bear all the powers of his mind and the honesty of his character, taking up easily and naturally the severe toils and cares of State with the same alacrity as the humblest duties of life. Having attained a most exalted position in his profession at a time to test his qualities to the utmost, and having sustained himself with distinction, he came back to his work among his old associates with his affections as warm, his tastes as pure, his habits as simple as in youth. His ambition was unselfish, and success never unduly elated him. He had the temperament and mind of a philosopher, viewing life from a high point and regarding man, in the dignity of his nature, as the grandest of God's works. His studies and thoughts were much turned to the contemplation of moral questions. He considered himself fortunate in having had so much prosperity, and met the ills of life, which come to all alike, as something to be borne with calmness, as becomes a man. Nothing embittered him. His temper was sweet, but that in no wise detracted from his firmness and resolution. His business associates kept their regard for him to the end. He was conciliatory and never self-seeking. His last thought would be his own wishes and interest. His was a sympathetic and refined nature; he loved music, poetry and flowers; in the trees, the flowing stream, the growing plants of his country home he found companionship in solitude. He loved the society and conversation of his friends, of children and of those near and dear to him. The weak and oppressed, the needy and friendless found in him a friend and protector.

"The character of Mr. Speed was so attractive that young and old, and of all ranks and conditions, were drawn to him and gave him