

EX-GOV. BENJAMIN CONLEY

HIS SUDDEN DEATH AT WEST END YESTERDAY.

Particulars About the Life and Death of an Honest, Christian Man—Some Facts and Incidents in His Career, Etc.

The announcement of the sudden death of ex-Governor Benjamin Conley at his residence in West End, yesterday morning, was a surprise and a shock to the people of the Gate City.

Although over 70 years of age, and in feeble health, his temperate life and excellent physique it was thought guaranteed a longer life.

He arose early yesterday morning, and after completing his toilet, seated himself in an arm chair and engaged in pleasant conversation with his little grandson Benny. While thus talking he suddenly threw his head back and ceased speaking. Mrs. Conley was summoned, but found him unable to speak. Giving her a loving look as his head was pillowed on her bosom, his spirit gently and without a struggle took its flight for the shores of Eternal Rest.

Benjamin Conley was born in Newark, N. J., March 15, 1815, and received in early years only the advantages offered by old field schools. In 1830, when 15 years of age, he removed to Augusta, Ga., and became a clerk in a store. Instead of engaging in dissipation, he spent his evenings at home and applied himself to study. By thrift and economy he saved enough to start in business for himself, and for many years his house stood high in commercial circles. In 1840 he was elected a member of the city council of Augusta, and for thirteen years rendered valuable service to that city in that capacity, and was elected mayor. In the days of the old Whig party Mr. Conley was one of its ablest and safest leaders. In 1868 he was elected to the State Senate from the Augusta district, and was elected President of that body. Gov. Bullock leaving the State, Mr. Conley filled the office of Governor until the election of James M. Smith.

In 1875 Mr. Conley moved to Atlanta, and on the first of July was appointed postmaster, which position he held until 1883. He made a popular postmaster.

He was a leading member of the order of Odd Fellows. In Augusta he was Warden of St. Paul's Church, and was one of its most zealous and devoted members.

For several years past Governor Conley has been Senior Warden of St. Phillips Church, this city. No member of that church took more interest in it than he.

When in the city he made the vestry room his headquarters. His genial face will be missed by the congregation. He was a faithful worker in the vineyard of the Lord.

Mr. Conley was a man of firm will, strong character and kind impulses. He was generous to a fault and charitable to all. The poor and needy ever found in him a sympathizing and helping friend. He was unostentatious in his manner and genial in his conversation. On Friday and Saturday he devoted himself to supplying the wants of the needy near his home.

A kinder father and a more devoted husband never lived. He was never happier than when his wife and two sons were gathered around his own hearthstone. Of his father's children, seven in all, he was the only one who ever married. He married Miss Sarah H. Semmes, at Athens, Ga., in 1845. Three children blessed their union, Messrs. John L. and Morris J. Conley, and a daughter who died several years ago.

His remains will be taken to Augusta to-night, and be interred from St. Paul's church at 11 a. m. to-morrow in the Augusta cemetery by the side of his daughter. Upon her tomb may truthfully be inscribed: "Here rest the remains of an honest man."

There was a meeting of the vestry of St. Phillips church at Captain Edward Gay's office at twelve o'clock to-day—a full attendance.

It was agreed that all of the vestry who could possibly get off will go as an escort to the remains of ex-Governor Conley to Augusta at eight o'clock to-night.

The number going will be settled this afternoon. At least half of the body will go, perhaps more.

A committee consisting of vestrymen Bullock, Bazelon and Gay was appointed to prepare suitable resolutions upon ex-Gov. Conley. The resolutions will probably be ready for the press this afternoon.

PERSONAL.

M. M. Mauck, paper decorator, house and sign painter, 27 Hunter st., by court house.

Dr. J. P. Huntley, Dentist, 61 Wheat st. Misses Pauline and Bonnie Tripod gave a delightful socialable Thursday evening.

Mrs. Dr. M. C. Martin, of this city, has returned from a visit to Chattanooga, Tenn. Who found two blank books? Bring them in and get the \$10 reward at Smith & Dallas.

Dr. B. Y. Henley, Dentist, 254 Peachtree. Major Miles A. Killian, who has been in Florida for some time, returned to this city Saturday.

Dr. C. Jones and family, after an absence of several weeks, have returned to their home on Pryor street.

Miss Callie Grant has gone to Cave Spring to take charge of the music department of the Hearn Female Seminary.

Mrs. J. C. Curtright, of LaGrange, is on a visit to her son, Mr. Jack Curtright, at his residence, No. 89 South Pryor street.

Conyers Weekly Farmer: Mrs. Latham, of Atlanta, spent a few days last week in the city, a guest of Squire A. Riley's family.

Major Henry C. Lee, brother of General Fitz-Hugh Lee, governor of Virginia, is in the city on a visit to Major Van Holt Nash.

The second meeting of the Chapel Hill social and literary club will take place to-night at the residence of Mrs. J. N. Abbott.

Miss Bertha Crutchfield, who has been spending several days in this city, has gone to Oglethorpe, Ga., to remain until spring.

Miss Sallie Quinlan, who has been on a two weeks' visit to her mother in Colorado, has returned to this city to remain for some time.

Cards are out for a "pink tea" to be given by Major and Mrs. Livingston Mims this evening, complimentary to Mr. and Mrs. Pat Calhoun.

Toccoa News: Messrs. Lanier Berkley and William Ellis, of Atlanta, have spent several days quite pleasantly as the guests of Superintendent James Wilson.

Saturday a party of young ladies were handsomely entertained at dinner by the charming daughters of Gen. L. J. Gartrell. The occasion was an exceedingly pleasant one.

Jacksonville (Fla.) Herald: Mrs. J. S. Candler, a former belle of Jacksonville, but now a resident of Edgewood, near Atlanta, is here on a visit to her sister, Miss Isie Garnee.

Dawson Journal: Mr. L. B. Parks, of Atlanta, visited the family of his mother last week. Charlie Orr, of Atlanta, is in the city visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Orr.

Miss Emma G. Simpson, the daughter of the Rev. Frank T. Simpson, of Washington, Ga., who has been visiting Miss Charlton, of Savannah, is now in Atlanta, on a visit to relatives, at No. 315 S. Pryor street.

A party of young people agreeably surprised Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Smith at their residence, No. 9 Currier street. The party were accompanied by Professor Orchard's orchestra. They spent a splendid evening.

Mr. Alfred H. Wellhouse has left for Vicksburg, Miss., where he will get married to Miss Theresa Kahen to-morrow. The young couple will pay a visit to Atlanta and then return to Vicksburg, at which place they will make their future home.

Griffin News: Miss Addie Bombard left for Atlanta yesterday to spend several weeks. M. H. Pinson, of Newman, who was in the city during the cotton season, has accepted a position with Langston & Woodson, of Atlanta. The firm is to be congratulated on securing the services of this popular gentleman.

Mrs. William Frances, mother of Mrs. Ben H. Dozier, nee Miss Lizzie Middleton, and Miss Annie Nelson, of Waycross, Ga., who were in attendance at the recent marriage, leave this afternoon for home. These clever ladies hasten back to their more sunny clime driven by the severity of the weather of the past few days.

Macon Evening News: Rev. E. Z. F. Golden is among the most talented young men of this State, and his church can ill afford to spare him. The good wishes of numerous friends here and elsewhere will follow him to his new home. New Orleans is to be congratulated upon the acquisition of this earnest and eloquent addition to her already able corps of ministers.

Athens Chronicle: Miss Moss, a favorite in Athens society, is visiting in Atlanta. Mrs. T. R. R. Cobb is in Atlanta visiting her daughter, Mrs. Hoke Smith. Miss Maude Talmadge, who has been visiting friends in Atlanta, has returned to her home on Lumpkin street. Miss Mary Russell,

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ENTERTAINMENTS.

Annie Pixley. With extreme pleasure we announce the