

JOHN S. BIGBY, lawyer, Atlanta, Ga., president of the Eagle and Phoenix Manufacturing company, of Columbus, Ga., was born in Coweta county, Ga., Feb. 13, 1833, and is a son of John and Susan L. (Powell) Bigby. John Bigby, his father, was a native of Virginia, the district S. C., and died in 1865. He was for many years a minister in the service of the Methodist Episcopal church, south, and afterward became a farmer and planter in Coweta county. He was a devout follower of the "meek and lowly Nazarene," and a man of much native talent and mental strength. His wife was a native of Glynn county, Ga., the accomplished daughter of James M. Powell, a prominent citizen of that section of the state. John S. Bigby was reared and received his earlier education in Coweta county, and later became a student of Emory college, Oxford, Ga., graduating from that institution with the degree bachelor of arts in the class of 1853. Soon after his graduation he was admitted to the bar at Newnan, Ga., and practiced his profession there for more than thirty years. The rising young attorney was not long in having his talents recognized, and was appointed solicitor-general of the then Tallapoosa (now Coweta) circuit in 1867. He was also a delegate to the constitutional convention held in Atlanta, Ga., in 1868. Mr. Bigby was also chosen as a delegate to the national convention, held in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1876. Judge Bigby was appointed United States district attorney for the northern district of Georgia in 1881, and served until that administration laid down the reigns of power, four years later. He served as judge of the Tallapoosa (now Coweta) circuit for two and a half years, having been appointed in 1866 for eight years, but resigned in 1871. In 1870 Judge Bigby was elected a member of congress, and after serving one term resumed the practice of law, in which he has continued with remarkable success, having some years ago established himself in Atlanta. In 1891 Judge Bigby was chosen president of the Eagle and Phoenix Manufacturing company of Columbus, one of the largest manufacturers of cotton and woolen goods in the southern states. During the civil war his term of service as a member of the Georgia state troops was limited to a period of about six months. Aside from his profound legal knowledge Judge Bigby is one of the most successful business men in Georgia, occupying numerous positions of trust and importance, among which it may be mentioned that he is a member of the board of directors of the Atlanta & West Point Railroad company, a director and vice-president of the Newnan National bank and of the First National bank of Newnan; he is also a member of the board of directors of the Fidelity Banking and Trust company, a director in the West View Cemetery company and vice-president of the West View Floral company, all of Atlanta. Mr. Bigby is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, south. He has been twice married, his first wife being Miss Mary C. Dougherty, of Newnan, Ga., to whom he was united in 1853. She was a daughter of John Dougherty, deceased, who was one of Newnan's

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wifhood two sons and one daughter. In 1872 Judge Bigby was married to Miss
Elizabeth K., daughter of John J. McClendon, of Newnan, Ga. The fruits of this
union consist of one son and five daughters, all of whom are now living.