

Judson C. Clements.

JUDSON CLAUDIUS CLEMENTS furnishes a notable illustration of the possibilities of a country boy who has habits of industry and strong native sense. He was born on his father's farm, near Villanow, Walker county, February 12, 1846. As soon as old enough, he did daily farm work in the fields. He was specially fond of the rugged and strong in nature, while he had the most delicate appreciation of its beauties and what he loved to call the music of the spheres. His home life in the country gave him attractive ideals and constant inspiration.

His father, Adam Clements, was a successful physician and trained his boy in healthful exercise and service which gave him a vigorous body and strong vitality. Dr. Adam Clements always interested himself in public affairs and was several times called to public office. He was elected to represent his county in the lower house of the General Assembly of the State, serving in the sessions of 1853-54 and 1861-62. He was a man of strong religious convictions and great business energy. Judson Clements's mother, Mary Wilson Hill (Park) Clements, a woman of culture and artistic attainments, entered most lovingly and helpfully into the intellectual and spiritual life of her son. She was a devout and active Christian and the mother of ten children, eight of whom grew to maturity.

Judson Clements's earliest known ancestors were Charles Clements, born in South Carolina, and Nancy Jack, his wife, who was of Revolutionary ancestry. His direct ancestors came from England and settled first in Pennsylvania.



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Young Clements received his schooling in the common and private schools of his county. He never went to college. He attended one law course at Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tennessee, but was never graduated in law. He began life as a lawyer in 1869, at La Fayette, his home town.

He was elected to the lower house of the General Assembly in 1873-74, just twenty years after his father had been honored in the same way. He was re-elected to the succeeding term, 1875-76, and then elected to the State Senate from the Forty-fourth District from 1877 to 1880. By close and intelligent attention to public service in the positions held in the House and Senate, Mr. Clements developed in his fitness for service and grew in the favor of the people. His friends were ready to believe him worthy of higher honors and were quite willing to help him to wider achievements. His name was suggested for representative in the United States Congress, but it was greatly doubted by his closest friends, whether or not he could defeat so formidable an opponent as Dr. W. H. Felton, who then represented the district and had served most acceptably for several terms.

Dr. Felton was an independent Democrat of great intellectual power and unusual popularity. He was a vigorous fighter and most successful campaigner and, possibly, the best "stump speaker" in the State. He was a man of unimpeachable character and had an absolutely clean record, after a service of three terms in Congress. All these unusually strong elements Judson Clements was asked to meet in combat in contending for Dr. Felton's seat in the House. He was thirty-four years of age and had only the legislative experience of three terms in the General Assembly of the State, and several prominent Democrats in the district had made the unsuccessful effort to defeat Dr. Felton.

When the Democratic Convention met at Rome, in 1880, to nominate a candidate for Congress, it was advised and strongly

Mr. Clements was special United States Attorney in 1891 to secure titles to the government of lands comprising the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park.

As a boy of seventeen he enlisted in the Confederate service and remained under arms until the close of the struggle. He was in Stewart's Corps under Gen. J. E. Johnston and General Hood and was slightly wounded in the battle of Atlanta, July 22, 1864. He entered the army as a private and was First Lieutenant at the close of the war.

Mr. Clements has been twice married. First, to Miss Elizabeth Wardlaw, who died in 1875. He was again married to ✓ Miss Lizzie Elinor Dulaney, December 2, 1886. He has had four children, three of whom are now living.

W. J. NORTHERN.

Otis Ashmore.

OTIS ASHMORE, Superintendent of the Savannah Public Schools, is one of Georgia's most notable teachers.

He was born in Lincoln county on the sixth day of March, 1853, and is the son of Jeremiah and Malinda Wright Ashmore. His ancestors on both sides were actively connected with the War of the Revolution and after the close of that memorable contest, came to Georgia from Virginia and the Carolinas, with that stream of sturdy pioneers who did so much to develop and enrich the Empire State of the South.

The early life of Superintendent Ashmore was spent upon the old family homestead, about two miles from Lincolnton. Here he passed his boyhood amid the closing days of the "Old South," and obtained such education as was possible at the village school during those trying times. Fortunately for him, however, his father possessed a good library, and companionship with the great minds of the past did much to strengthen and improve the intellectual powers of the boy.

At the age of sixteen he became a pupil of his uncle, Thomas P. Ashmore, who was a notable mathematician, and whose reputation as an astronomer extended far beyond the State. In fact so thoroughly established was his ability that he was employed for nearly half a century to make the astronomical calculations for that work, second only to his Bible in the farmer's affections—Grier's Almanac. The opportunity thus afforded young Ashmore was a strong factor in determining the tastes of his after life and in giving him that bent towards astronomy and higher mathematics in which he has become so proficient. Even in