

The New Orleans papers of the 20th instant announce the decease of EDWARD D. WHITE, of Louisiana: formerly its Governor, and twice elected to represent the New Orleans district in Congress. He died, after a lingering illness, from an affection of the lungs.

The Legislature of the State being in session, and the death of Mr. WHITE being announced. Resolutions were adopted that the Members do wear mourning for him for thirty days, and attend his funeral.

When the Resolutions were presented for consideration, some remarks were made by a Member of the name of SMITH, in which he showed so clear a comprehension of the character of our deceased friend that we cannot better describe it to our readers than by placing before them the following extract from his speech:

"Of those engaged in the public service, recently retiring from the stage, who leaves behind a greater number of sincere friends than EDWARD D. WHITE. Of whom, like him, can it be said, that in a long public career, in times of high political excitement, his mind was so happily constituted that he could and did always utter his sentiments, however at times unpleasant to some of his hearers, without ever creating a personal enemy? Of whom can it be said with more truth, that friend and foe, however bitter political animosity might fester, always placed the fullest reliance on his strict honesty, on his incorruptible integrity?"

"Amidst the eccentricities that excited a smile on every countenance, who ever discovered in his mind any thing but what indicated the noblest feelings, the most generous impulses? If at times, in the performance of the delicate and difficult duties imposed upon him, he fell into an error, who was not ready to admit that it was in pursuit of an honest purpose, and that he should have the benefit of the maxim—

"To err is human, to forgive divine."

"A Judge upon the Bench, a Representative in Congress, Governor of the State, who in the public service has ever performed his duties with a greater regard to the public good? Who has been more free from the bias of private interest? Who has ever looked less to himself and more to public interest?"

"As a Judge, his mind, straightforward and naturally acute, refused to yield to the seductions of advocates who possess the power to make the worse appear the better cause. He instantly detected the web of sophistry, and in his blunt way exposed its errors.

"As a Member of Congress, he was ever to be found a faithful sentinel at his post. Though his voice was not often heard in debate, he possessed and exercised an influence exceeded by few members of that body. This arose from the almost unbounded esteem entertained for him by members of all parties. I may mention an instance in which all will recognize his genuine character.

"Entrusted with a private claim, for money irregularly paid at the custom-house in this city, he applied, again and again, at the Treasury for redress, but in the great press of business his application was not attended to. After long delays, and many broken promises of the Secretary to act on the matter, he told the Secretary that if the claim was not adjusted by such a day it would be presented to his master. The day passed, but the claim was not acted on. Our Representative presented himself at the White House, and, taking his seat in the drawing-room with his hat on, sent his name to the President. Gen. JACKSON soon entered, when he was told, 'Sir, one of your servants, the Secretary of the Treasury, has for a long time delayed to examine a claim I have presented. I told him I should appeal to you, and here I am, sir, to ask you to have this claim adjusted.'" The PRESIDENT requested a brief statement of the claim in writing, which was made out at once, when he endorsed on it an order directing the Secretary to examine the claim forthwith."