

MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY.*

DECEMBER MEETING.

Presidency of Clark Bell, Esq.

The annual meeting, for the election of officers, was held at the Hotel St. Andrews, December 19, 1900.

The President Clark Bell in the chair, and in the absence of the Secretaries, Judge Wm. H. Francis was elected Secretary pro tem.

The reading of the November minutes was on motion laid over to January meeting.

. . .

The chair introduced memorial action upon the death of our late member Senator Cushman K. Davis, of Minnesota, and made the following address: —

Senator Cushman K. Davis was born at Henderson, N. Y., June 16, 1838. He graduated in 1857 from the University of Michigan. He served with distinction during the war of the Rebellion. He filled later a place of great prominence in the political history of Minnesota, and his great talent was recognized by the Republican party who elected him to the Senate of the United States in 1889 and again in 1893.

In the Senate he rose by the recognition of his own talents to the chairmanship of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

He was one of the leading members of the Paris Peace Congress of 1898. He was at the moment of his death perhaps one of the most conspicuous and lustrous figures among our American statesmen, one who as to our complicated Foreign Relations stood highest with the administration, and one whom the people of the nation have respected, trusted and always venerated.

His death at St. Paul, Nov. 27th, 1900, was everywhere regarded as a calamity. He took an interest in the work of the Medico-Legal Society, but his public duties forbade his very active cooperation.

* 18 *The Medico-Legal Journal* 551-52 (1900).

The St. Paul Pioneer in noticing his death says:

Cushman K. Davis is Dead. A star we will not say of the first magnitude, but one of the brightest in the gallery of American statesmen has vanished from the sky. He will be much missed. His death is not merely a public loss. It is a national bereavement. It makes a void in the public life of the nation which cannot easily or soon be filled.

It leaves the path of ambition open to his vacant seat in the senate, but no matter how able or worthy the man who may be chosen he cannot fill the place of Cushman K. Davis. He was so closely identified with the highest functions of the government, especially in his capacity as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; and his guiding counsel in matters affecting our foreign policy to the administration, that his death assumes the proportions of a "National Calamity."

The Globe of St. Paul says:

Senator Davis discharged the most onerous duties of the highest station, in such manner, as had long marked him among the leaders of public thought as one of the great Americans of the day. It was not until the progress of events of world wide concern forced him into the glare of international prominence that he came to be known to the mass of his countrymen at his real worth. Having won for himself a degree of contemporary fame which placed him on a level with a few of the great personalities of his time; he is removed from the scene of his triumph, while his honors remain fresh upon him.

Mrs. Mary A. Lease was then introduced who made a most eloquent and beautiful tribute to the life and career of the illustrious deceased. Letters from Senators Towne and Nelson, of Minnesota, expressing regret that the pressing public duties prevented their attendance.

Senator Towne sent a portrait and the comments of the Minnesota press. ■

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