

(editor's note: This paper was transcribed from a handwritten cursive copy with various difficulties. For a perfect rendition, the reader might wish to consult the original, itself a copy, in the volume entitled *Literary Club Papers*, Dec 20, 1890 to May 30, 1891)

Mr. Aaron F. Perry

A few days ago a dinner was given by some of his friends at the Bar to Aaron F. Perry by way of emphasis of the fact of his withdrawal from active practice as a lawyer after fifty years service.

It was a significant occasion and an unusual one – a deserving tribute – as one of the eminent speakers put it “to one who has for half a century by his fidelity to his clients, by his loyalty to the highest standard of professional ethics and by his distinguished ability – as well as by his profound learning so adorned his professional life and career that he can now lay down his law books and papers and with a reputation unstained and unsullied, seek that quiet and repose which in the evening of his life he so richly deserves.”

To the club this occasion was one of special interest for the reason that the honored guest is one whom it delights to count among its members. His name first appeared in 1860 where it remained for a long time and after an interval, reappeared in 1880 to remain with us until the end.

We are all familiar with his bright cheery face that so regularly appeared and was so welcome on each Saturday night until advancing years made it necessary for him to consider the matter of late hours.

None of us can forget his keen appreciation and enjoyment of the papers read, his approving smile, his word of thoughtful and just commendation on the papers which from time to time he has contributed.

A few weeks ago the club, not willing that he should be cut off completely from all connection with it and in recognition of his services to it, added his name to the list of its honorary members.

I would that we could find some substitute for that word “honorary.” It does not convey the proper idea. Perhaps “Emeritus” comes a shade closer – or “Post graduate,” “Resident graduate” anything would do that would indicate that our honorary members are our honored members who have done good service in the ranks and are not like those of college and other societies who have never been, probably never expect to be, within the walls of the society claiming their membership.

And the club heartily endorsing each and every good and kind word that was said of Mr. Perry in the evening of that banquet would add its own quiet tribute and its plea that many years may elapse before his presence shall pass altogether from our midst.

-- Serus in coelum redeat

T.M. Hinkle

T.M. Hinkle Informal

Jan 31 1891