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IN MEMORIAM

CLIFTON FELIX DAVIS

DIED OCTOBER 17, 1952.

Clifton Felix Davis died in the City of Shreveport, Louisiana, on October 17, 1952, at the age of 84 years. He was born at Roeders Mill near Chapel Hill, Austin County, Texas, ~~on February~~ 13, 1868. His parents were the late Dr. James L. Davis and Roxanna Eppes Davis, who moved from Texas to Lake Providence, Louisiana, in the early seventies, and where his father attained great prominence and usefulness in the field of medicine.

Clifton Davis attended the schools at Lake Providence and had private tutelage. Later, he studied law in the office of the late Judge Field Farrar Montgomery, also of Lake Providence, and while so engaged, he met and married Mary Walton Montgomery, the daughter of Judge Montgomery, on December 14, 1897; about five years before his death, he and his wife celebrated, with friends, the golden anniversary of their marriage.

He was admitted to practice at Shreveport, Louisiana, in 1892, and practiced law in Lake Providence until 1896. When his father-in-law, Judge Montgomery, died Clifton Davis was appointed by the Governor to the bench in his place; Judge Davis continued to serve on the bench of the Second Judicial District Court, composed of East Carroll, Madison and Tensas Parishes, until the expiration of the term.

He lived in Lake Providence until 1906, when he moved to Shreveport and formed a partnership with the late E. Wayles Browne, his first cousin, (whose mothers were sisters), and they practiced law under the firm name of Davis & Browne for about eight years, when the late Judge Rydon D. Webb became a member of the firm under the firm name of Davis, Webb & Browne. This firm continued until Judge Webb was elected Judge of this District, then Percy N. Browne joined the new firm under the name of Davis, Browne & Browne. This association continued until just prior to World War I, when Clifton Davis retired from the firm to practice

alone. He practised by himself until his retirement about two years before he died.

Mr. Davis was known as a deep student and scholar, not only in matters pertaining to law, but in many of the other sciences. He had a most acute thirst for knowledge and he probed deeply into many subjects. Although from his youth he had a frail body, his mind was keen and termed brilliant by many of those who knew him and were associated with him in litigated matters. He was a prodigious reader. He was greatly interested in genealogies and wrote a book tracing his forebears back to early settlers in Virginia. He studied his father's medical books; he also studied engineering and mathematics; he became well informed on land matters and surveys, handling some of the most important litigated cases involving properties in and around Cross Lake and Caddo Lake. In the early period of Cross Lake and Caddo Lake litigation, he and the late Sidney L. Herold had so many cases opposing each other, that other lawyers would seek out one or the other to associate them in cases involving the history and legality of titles in that rich area.

Clifton Davis had a kind and generous disposition and he was always a friend and brother to young members of the bar.

Three children were born of the marriage of Clifton Davis and Mary Walton Montgomery, namely, Ella Hunt Davis, Miriam Davis Farrar, wife of Floyd Richardson Farrar, both of Shreveport, and Field Montgomery Davis, husband of Mabel Moorer Davis, of San Antonio, Texas, all of whom survive him. He is also survived by two sisters, Mrs. Shirley Davis White of Phoenix, Arizona, and Mrs. Eva Davis Guenard of Hammond, Louisiana.

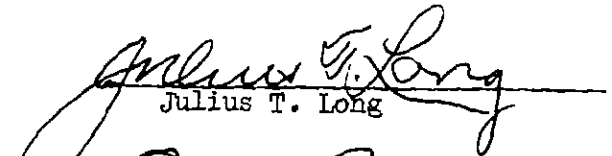
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that in the death of Clifton F. Davis, the Shreveport Bar has lost a most kind and able fellow worker, the City of Shreveport a learned and eminent citizen, his friends and acquaintances a charming and cultured personality and his widow and children a gentle and devoted husband and father.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be

inscribed upon the minutes of the First District Court of Louisiana,
and a copy be sent to the members of his family.

Respectfully submitted,


Melvin F. Johnson


Julius T. Long


Percy N. Browne, Chairman.

C o m m i t t e e