

Hon. George B. Smith was content to occupy in the civil state. Not aspiring to lead the masses, he protested against being led by them into the support of measures which he believed to be opposed to sound principle, and fraught with evil to the commonwealth.

Of the man as he was, as he appeared every day, passing in and out among us, how shall we speak in fitting terms? To attempt an analysis of his character would be to do him an injustice, as he possessed no single faculty peculiarly marked or unusually developed. Those might easily be named among his old associates in whom some particular talent has been much more conspicuous. But the just harmony of excellent qualities, the symmetrical development of all the powers of the man, distinguished him from all the prominent gentlemen with whom his active life was cast. In such a character, it is difficult to locate the secret energy that vitalizes every faculty, and inspires the whole man. He was strong in body, strong in mind, and strong in the generous impulses of a great heart, and stronger yet in the harmonious union of all the powers to form a noble manhood. The unspotted purity of private life, the kindly feeling, the warm sympathy, the unbounded charity and good-will that found expression in every word and deed, endeared him to all with whom he came in contact, and these shall perpetuate his name and fame among men. He was always genial and companionable. He enlivened conversation with wit and pleasantry, but never even in jest intentionally uttered a word that could wound the feelings of another. If envy or ill-will ever found a lodgment in his breast, they were smothered in the generous impulses of a benevolent and overflowing heart. He was not incapable of anger, but his strong passions were under complete control, and were counterbalanced by an unbounded good nature. Who among us, even of the mildest disposition, carries less of personal malice or resentment? Who possesses more kindliness of heart, more real charity for our fellow-men? That such a man should have been idolized in his own household, where his daily life was the constant manifestation of every generous and noble impulse, and of the purest and tenderest affection of a great and overflowing soul, is only too deeply