

believe he measurably gave up these studies for the law with inexpressible pain and regret. Could he have continued them what an unfailing source of peace and joy they would have been to him, and they would have enabled him to produce something in his chosen field of study which would have been an honor to the university. I am certain, too, that Dr. Conover would have been a most popular lecturer to his classes and made any study attractive. For he had digested all his erudition, had made it a part of his mental texture ready for use, and he knew how to use it. He could communicate his ideas with precision and logical force. He was one of the best conversationalists I have ever known.

But Dr. Conover was not only thoroughly acquainted with classical literature; he also had a thorough knowledge of the French and German languages, which he read with facility. And it goes without saying that he was a fine belles-lettres scholar, and was perfectly well versed in English in all its branches. He was passionately fond of the best English poetry, and I have often resorted to him to help me recall some half-forgotten lines from some author. His memory was very retentive; it seemed a perfect store-house of the most priceless treasures. And occasionally there fell from his pen some poetic production so beautiful, that, in the language of a common friend of rare worth, "left us in doubt whether, in the exclusiveness of his official duty, literature had not lost even more than jurisprudence has gained" by his labors as reporter of the supreme court of this State. These remarks would be incomplete were not a word added as to his merits as such reporter. And upon that point I venture to quote from what was said by me on the announcement of his death to the supreme court:

"Dr. Conover was appointed the official reporter of this court August 11th, 1864, and held the office until his death. During that period, the series of reports from volume xvi to volume lviii was published. The labor of preparing these volumes for publication was mainly performed by Dr. Conover. This fact alone furnishes ample proof of the amount of labor which he must have necessarily performed as a reporter. But the value of such work is not to be esti-