

DEATH OF JUDGE CLAYTON.—Died at his residence in this place, on Friday night the 21st instant, the Hon. **AUGUSTIN S. CLAYTON**.

Judge Clayton was born in the State of Virginia, on the 27th Nov. 1783. He completed his education at the University of Georgia in 1804.

Having pursued the study of the law under the late Judge Carnes, he entered in early life upon its practice, and was successful, and rose to distinction at the Bar. He was chosen a representative of his fellow-citizens, first in the lower and subsequently in the higher branch of the state legislature, where he imparted the impress of his mind to many of the laws under which we now live.

He was thrice elected Judge of the Superior Court of the Western Circuit, which post he filled with honor and dignity.

In 1832 he was elected a representative in Congress for the State of Georgia, of which body he became a distinguished member. At the close of the last term for which he was elected, in consequence of his declining health, he retired from public life, except the Trusteeship of the University of Georgia, which station he has filled from a very early period, and had doubtless been one of the most efficient and zealous supporters of the institution, as well as of the cause of education in general.

He was highly distinguished for his correct literary taste and chaste flowing wit, which his numerous political and other essays abundantly prove.

In private life and in his social relations, the subject of this notice was characterized by the greatest affection and the most ardent desire to minister to the happiness of those who were dependant upon him.

For many years Judge Clayton had been exceedingly sceptical upon the subject of the Christian Religion. His mind was, however, turned to its more calm and deliberate investigation during his long and protracted illness. Then it was that he regarded his previous neglect as the greatest ingratitude, and under a deep conviction of its truth and of his former errors, he made a public profession of faith in Christ, by uniting with the Methodist Episcopal Church in August, 1838, which he steadfastly and consistently maintained till his death.

Sensible that his former opposition to Christianity might have infected the minds of many with whom he had associated, his most ardent desire appeared to be, to undo the evils of his former life in this regard.

The closing scene of his life was one of extraordinary Christian triumph. He retained the exercise of his intellectual powers with surprising vigor to the last, and many of his dying expressions will long be remembered by his family and friends as precious memorials of the power of Divine Grace, in cheering the spirit in its passage to the tomb.

Thus lived and died one among the most talented and distinguished citizens of the State of Georgia, whose foibles will be forgotten, but whose many virtues will be remembered and cherished long after this brief obituary shall have been laid away among the things that were.—*Athens (Geo.) Banuer.*