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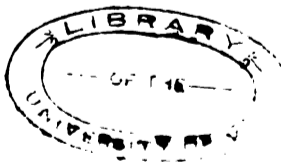
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## LIFE OF HON. JAMES T. HARRISON.

By J. A. ORR.<sup>1</sup>

James T. Harrison was born near the village of Pendleton in the State of South Carolina, thirtieth of November, 1811. His father, Thomas Harrison, was a distinguished lawyer, and the relative of Benjamin Harrison, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The Harrison family are the lineal descendents of the Stuarts of England. His father was a patriot in the War of 1812, and was a captain of artillery. He was afterwards Comptroller General of the State of South Carolina. Mr. Harrison's mother was a daughter of Gen. John B. Earle a revolutionary patriot. The home of his boyhood was opposite Ft. Hill, on the Tugaloo river, John C. Calhoun being his nearest neighbor. He was so near-sighted that he could not distinguish without glasses persons across the court room. This infirmity doubtless proved a

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<sup>1</sup> Jehu A. Orr was born in Anderson county, South Carolina, April 10, 1828. His paternal great-grandfather, Robert Orr, though a native of north Ireland, was of Scotch descent. He settled in Pennsylvania in 1720. Leaving two of his brothers in that State he afterwards removed to South Carolina. The father of J. A. Orr was born in South Carolina, but about the year 1843 removed to Mississippi, where he spent the remainder of his life. The subject of this sketch was educated at Princeton, New Jersey. In 1849, he began the practice of law; in 1852-3 he represented his county in the State Legislature; in 1854-5, he filled position of United States district attorney; and in 1856 he served as Presidential elector on the Buchanan ticket. He served as school commissioner for Chickasaw county from 1857 to 1859, and was an active member of the Secession Convention in 1860. From February, 1861, to February, 1862, Mr. Orr was a member of the Provisional Congress. He then raised the 31st Mississippi regiment, being the commander of the same until March, 1864. During the last eighteen months of the existence of the Confederate Government he was a member of the Confederate Congress, being appointed by the committee on foreign affairs to make its report to Congress. This report provided for the appointment of the Hampton Roads commission.

On May 10, 1870, Mr. Orr was appointed Judge of the Sixth Judicial District, which position he filled with eminent satisfaction for six years. He has taken great interest in the educational affairs of the State, being for over thirty years an active member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Mississippi. Judge Orr is still actively engaged in the practice of his profession, notwithstanding the fact that he has passed his seventy-sixth birthday. A detailed sketch of Judge Orr will be found in Goodspeed's *Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi*, II., 536-540.—EDITOR.

blessing, in that it deprived him of the usual sports of school boys, his mother becoming his constant companion. She was a gifted woman. Her brother was for many years recognized as the most intellectual judge of the Supreme Court of the State of South Carolina. He had distinguished himself before going on the supreme bench as prosecuting solicitor of his judicial district. It was a boon to be the daily companion of a mother so intellectual and cultivated. She imparted to him studious habits and a love for books, which he never abandoned.

At the early age of thirteen, an exception being made in his favor, because of faithful preparation in elementary studies under the tutelage of his distinguished mother, he was permitted to enter the freshman class of the South Carolina College. Four years later he was graduated with honors at the age of seventeen. That of itself marked him as a youth of remarkable industry and intelligence.

Under the laws of the State, he could not be admitted to the bar until he was twenty-one years of age; and these four years, after leaving college, were spent in an extensive course of literary, historical, and legal reading. His legal reading was done under the direction of one of the most acute and extensively read lawyers in the United States,—James L. Pettigrew, of Charleston. Shortly after he obtained his license to practice in the courts of South Carolina, his attention was arrested by what was regarded throughout the then Southern States as the marvelous development of the youthful State of Mississippi.

The relative greatness of men oftentimes cannot be accurately estimated without the knowledge of the environments surrounding them, when they mature into prominence. Some little stars shine very brightly in their own galaxy, but pale into significance under the brilliancy of more luminous planets. It was no easy matter in Mississippi to make a reputation as a great lawyer for the thirty years preceding the War between the States. The writer of this sketch heard Judge Simrall express his opinion that oftentimes during that period, there would be assembled in the Supreme Court room at Jackson an array of lawyers unsurpassed by the bar of any State in this great Union. The soil, climate, health, and general features which went to make up the State of Mississippi having been heralded even into the Northern States,

young collegians, honor students from many of the first colleges in the United States, were attracted by the flattering prospects held out by the State. Look at the list of the names of some of them:—Poindexter, Prentiss, Walker, McNutt, Buckner, Boyd, Quitman, Sharkey, Trotter, Guyon, Holt, Howard, the three Yergers, Tompkins, Foote, Alexander M. Clayton, George R. Clayton, Glenn, Brooke, Wiley P. Harris, Barry, Tarpley, Anderson, Davis, Barton, Sheppard, Watson, Featherstone, Grey, and many others.

The writer of this sketch has heard on different occasions all of these great lawyers in argument, except Walker and Prentiss. Of many of them he had acquired intimate knowledge, and when called upon to institute comparisons between the great lawyers of the State whom he had known, his mind always turned promptly to James T. Harrison and William Yerger. In the field of oratory, Prentiss had no rival; in the power of clear analysis, the power to deal with new questions, Wiley P. Harris stood alone. As criminal lawyers, Reuben Davis and Roger Barton; in the courts of chancery, George Yerger and Quitman and Buckner, were all famed; as jury lawyers, Brooke, Tarpley, Henry Grey, Joseph Baldwin, and Featherstone,—they knew, as few did, how to reach the heart of jurors. Before judges of the Supreme Court, George Yerger and Wiley P. Harris were always very great powers. In the examination of witnesses Judge Edward C. Wilkinson—for whom his nephew, Edward C. Walthall was named—Holt, Foote, with his sarcastic repartees, and Glenn, with his richly modulated voice and insinuating manner, stood prominent in extracting desired testimony, or in suppressing dangerous witnesses. But in the different elements which went to make up the well rounded lawyer, none ever known to the writer surpassed James T. Harrison and William Yerger. Those who witnessed the gladiatorial race between these accomplished lawyers, which occurred in the United States Court, at Oxford, in the Teasdale case, will never forget it. Harrison and Yerger were great lawyers in every department, in chancery practice, and in dealing with equities and trusts. They seemed to have memorized Fonblanque, Smith, Daniels, and Story.

The *Mississippi Reports* covering the period above alluded to, is a rich harvested field for new lawyers, who wish to make them-

churches of the county got to impressing on them that they were as good as the whites, and ought to assert themselves. It began to make them very restless and intractable, and it became necessary to take action. Therefore, the next time he came across the river, his movements having been watched, the Klan swooped down on him, and took him to a secluded place and told him that he must leave the country. He was pretty gritty, and refused. He was then whipped with a stirrup strap, but took it like a little man, and declined to make any promise. Matters then got serious, and it began to look as if he would have to be killed; for, of course, the incident could not end there. Finally a tall "six footer" walked up and said to hand him the strap. He deliberately turned the buckle end, and, with a terrific swing, he brought it down across the shoulders of Huggins. This seemed cruel, but it was this or death. After a few such strokes, Huggins said he couldn't stand it, and would leave. He did leave, but after a time came back again. When he got an intimation that he was guilty of breach of faith, I understood he denied it, and said he had promised to leave and had kept his word, but that he had not promised not to come back again. It is nevertheless a fact that, after he came back, he became much more conservative; and as he, from that time, took the side of the white people against the more radically disposed negroes and white republicans, he gave very little cause for further complaint.

The next to receive our attention was Colonel Herbert. Mr. F. G. Barry had had some trouble with him over a case in his court. Herbert boarded at the old Minnis House, which then stood on the southeast corner of the lot on which the Baptist church now stands, facing Commerce street. Herbert was consorting with the negroes, and had turned his boarding place into a kind of arsenal. We determined to show him our disapproval. One night Mr. Barry went there and called him out. He seemed to be expecting trouble, and came out with a double barrel shotgun, loaded with buckshot. As he stepped out, he commenced firing. Mr. Barry was standing near a side gate, and Herbert got to the front gate. They fired at each other along and over the tops of the palings. When Herbert would aim down the fence, Barry would step behind the side gate post, and when Barry would return the fire from his six shooter, Herbert would step behind the front gate

not. If we replied, ten to one he demurred to the replication, and would assign fifteen special causes of demurrer in as many minutes. If we took issue, we run an imminent risk of either being caught upon the facts, or of having the judgment set aside as rendered on immaterial issue.

"Jim T. was great on variance too. If the note was not described properly in the declaration, we were sure to catch it before the jury; and if any point could be made on the proof, he was sure to make it. How we trembled when he began to read the note to the jury; and how ominous seemed the words 'I object' of a most cruel and untimely end about being put to our case.

"How many cases where, on a full presentation of the legal merits of them, there was no pretence of defence, he gained, it is impossible to tell. But if the ghosts of the murdered victims could now arise, Macbeth would have an easy time of it compared with Jim T. How we admired, envied, feared and hated him! With what a bold self-relying air he took his points! With what sarcastic emphasis he replied to our defences and half defences! We thought that he knew all the law there was, and when in a short time he caught the old leaders up, we thought if we couldn't be George Washington, how we should like to be Jim T.!

"He has risen since that time to merited distinction as a ripe and finished lawyer; yet, 'in the noon of his fame' he never so tasted the luxury of power, never knew the bliss of envied and unapproached pre-eminence, as when, in the old log courthouses, he was throwing the boys, right and left, as fast as they came to him, by pleas dilatory, sham and meritorious, demurrers, motions and variances. So infallible was his skill in these infernal arts that it was almost a tempting of Providence not to employ him."

This paragraph, while exceedingly complimentary to Harrison, leaves the impression on the mind, that this was the most distinguished feature of Harrison's legal attainments. In that view he is minimized; and Mr. Baldwin, in a number of cases, realized the fact that Harrison was not only fertile in getting up channels of thought in the shape of pleas, replications, rejoinders, and sur-rejoinders, but he was equally fertile in filling these channels with substantial cargoes of substance and thought. He found that in the Case of *Sanders vs. Sanders*, 14th S. & M., No. 81. The State of Mississippi was the pioneer in announcing and securing to married women their civil rights. No lawyer in the State was more familiar with the statutes of 1839, '46, and '57 than Harrison. This was notably shown in the Case of *Mrs. Baskerville vs. Thompson* of ante-bellum days. In another case, illustrative of his familiarity with the principles governing the limitation of estates of the terms, "his own right heirs next of kin," "estate tail," "estate of first degree," which the student will be edified by perusing, is "*Harris vs. McLauran*," reported in 30th *Mississippi*, page 533. In that brief, it will be seen that he was the intimate companion of *Ferne On Remainders, Second*

*Blackstone*, and *Keyes on Chattels*. Those books have made the heads of most students ache. But Colonel McLauran, when he realized the large estate won by Harrison's brief, knew that there was no ache in Harrison's head.

Senator George, in a visit of condolence to Mrs. Harrison, stated to her that after his senior partner, Cothran, went on the circuit bench, he never had an important case in which he didn't consult Mr. Harrison; and regular correspondence was kept up between these distinguished lawyers for many years. It was always a habit of his cousin, Wiley P. Harris, to confer with him on his important cases.

Few men ever had the degree of LL. D. conferred upon them, but that very great honor was conferred upon Harrison by the University of Mississippi, and that degree has been conferred on very few persons by that institution since he received it. He was not only a lawyer by study and close application; but a lawyer by inheritance, having received from his father the elements of character and the intellect of a lawyer.

Judge O'Neal, of South Carolina, in his *Memoirs*, says of the elder Harrison:

"He died in the meridian of his days: an eminent lawyer, a perfectly pure and amiable man. He was sober and temperate in all things; was a firm, conscientious man, a good officer and citizen, a faithful and devoted husband, an affectionate father, and in all the other relations of life, above exception."

Mr. Lynch, in his *Bench and Bar of Mississippi*, informs us that James T. Harrison twice declined to sit on the supreme bench of the State of Mississippi, and it is known to the writer that he declined the chancellorship of his district, in 1865. After the reconstruction, as presented by President Johnson, Mr. Harrison was elected to Congress from his district without opposition. But under the reconstruction of Thad. Stevens, and his crowd of mad-caps, he was not permitted to take his seat, and we remained unrepresented in the Congress of the United States until 1870.

The greatest honor conferred upon him was that by the Secession Convention of 1861. It was a convention composed of the ablest men of the State,—Lamar, the ablest man produced by the State of Mississippi, heading the list of delegates. No man



dared to become a candidate and electioneer with that body of great men. It was clearly and emphatically an occasion when the office sought the man. No nominations were made. No candidates were announced, when it became necessary to select seven men to represent the Republic of Mississippi in the family of sister Republics to be called at Montgomery. Harrison, without his knowledge, at home, in Columbus, was chosen one of the seven to whom was confided the great interests of the State of Mississippi on that momentous occasion. He was selected one of the seven, thought by that convention the most capable to discharge the delicate duties which would devolve upon them. At Montgomery, he met a body of men, one of the ablest of its size ever assembled on the Continent of America. In that body he took high rank as a wise and discreet man. The subjects he discussed indicated a very accurate conception of the situation. He opposed all of the "Force Measures" of the administration. He was opposed to the suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus*. The opinion which he entertained was "we were dependent for our success upon the willing hands and hearts of the people of the Confederacy." He saw the dissatisfaction which would be brought by the enactment of the law, which exempted from military duty every man who owned twenty negroes. Some of these measures were passed after he left the Congress of the Provisional Government to enter the military service of the State, as a member of Governor Clarke's political family. Up to the close of the war he was the Governor's chief advisor as lawyer and as statesman.

The following letter, which is self-explanatory, shows the high esteem in which Mr. Harrison was held by the bar of his adopted State:

"Jackson, July 13, 1865.

"Hon. James T. Harrison.

"Dear Sir: The undersigned, believing that it is proper that the Bar of Mississippi should be represented on the occasion of the trial of President Davis, have selected you as such representative.

"Apart from the transcendent importance of the case, as affecting the most vital principles of constitutional freedom, it is due to the eminent character of President Davis that counsel from his own State should offer their services. More especially so, since one of the most eminent

lawyers of America, a resident of a Northern State, has already asked the privilege to aid in the defence. We earnestly appeal to you to gratify the wishes of your professional brethren.

"Will you please respond at your earliest convenience, as it is uncertain what time may be appointed for the trial?"

"We may add that all expenses incurred by you will be defrayed. We could not ask a higher sacrifice of you than the loss of time you would be compelled to submit to by acceding to our request.

"We could convey no higher expression of our confidence in your professional ability than is implied in your selection for this most delicate and important trust.

"The civilized world regards the trial with more interest than any one which has occurred within the annals of our race. With what feelings should Mississippi contemplate the scene in which her most illustrious citizen is arraigned for his life for having been placed in the position he lately occupied as the representative of her most sacred rights?"

"We have the honor to be,

Very truly, your obedient servants,

"C. E. Hooker,

"F. Anderson,

"T. J. Wharton,

A. R. Johnston,

A. P. Hill,

E. S. Fisher,

"and others."

The duty thus imposed upon Mr. Harrison was promptly accepted by him.

Mr. Harrison remained a student while life lasted. He usually arose at four o'clock in the morning, and repaired to his office. In the winter he built his own fires and, seating himself at his desk, where his books, papers and stationery were all convenient and all kept in perfect order and with great neatness, he had pretty well finished the day's work by nine o'clock, when the rest of the lawyers usually commenced. His power of concentration was extraordinary. In the midst of the preparation of a brief on an important case, he would tolerate no intrusion or interruption. He did one thing at a time, and did it thoroughly. On one occasion, Governor McDowell, of Virginia, called at his office on some matters of interest to himself, and found Harrison with a score of open books. He invited the Governor to take a seat and asked to be excused. McDowell sat there for an hour, and then turned his attention to William L. Harris, Harrison's partner.

This incident might indicate a deficiency in the social elements of Mr. Harrison's character. The reader, however, to draw that inference would greatly mistake his true character. He lived at his home like a prince. In the social realm, he was supported by wife and daughters. One of the latter, the wife of General

Stephen D. Lee, would have graced, by her elegant cultivation, the social circles of the most refined. Mrs. Lee was the favored grandchild of Major Thomas G. Blewett, and in her girlhood she received the very highest advantages offered to the wealthiest classes of ante-bellum days. Situated as Mr. Harrison was, it was his greatest pleasure to entertain at his hospitable table. He was a man of ready wit and repartee, and on such occasions he devoted himself with enthusiasm to the entertainment of his guests. The dining which he gave Governor Orr, of South Carolina, will never be forgotten by those who were present, for the wit, song and anecdote which enlivened the occasion.

On the thirtieth of November, 1811, he was born, and on the eleventh of February, 1840, he married Miss Regina Blewett, daughter of a South Carolina gentleman, Major Thomas G. Blewett, then one of the "Prairie Planter Princes of ante-bellum days."

The private character of James T. Harrison was above reproach.

He was a man of pure, elevated morals, with the cultivated taste of a woman. He was a regular attendant upon the services of the First Baptist church. When at home, his seat was never vacant on the Sabbath. He kept on a shelf, within arm's reach, the Bible and the Concordance. He possessed in an eminent degree, truthfulness, that best of all truly honorable characteristics.

He never had to be called at the door during the session of his courts. He was as regular in his attendance as the presiding judge. Always heard the minutes of the court read to see that the entries of his cases were correct; and if he was not ready for trial, he was always prepared with his written showing for a continuance.

At the meeting of the members of the Columbus bar, on the 29th of May, 1879, Chancellor Brame, presiding, General E. T. Sykes, acting secretary, J. A. Orr, S. M. Meek, and J. E. Leigh were appointed a committee to report suitable resolutions of respect. Some of the eulogies on the life and character of Mr. Harrison, delivered shortly after his death, will be found in the Appendix to this article.

sible. In Monroe county the branch railroad from Muldon to Aberdeen had not been built, and the station on the Mobile & Ohio railroad, about a mile south of where Muldon now is, was Loohattan, which was then the voting precinct for that section. It was surrounded by prairies, and was densely populated by negroes, the voters there numbering some thousand or twelve hundred, of whom probably about forty or fifty were whites. That place was, therefore, selected by some of us as the point of attack. I went out there with McCluskey, Needham Hatch, and some others, including a Mr. Groomes, a talking and reckless kind of a man, who I believe was at the time a partner with Maj. S. A. Jonas in the newspaper business. When he got a fair chance, as he generally did—to stretch his lungs, you could hear him about a half mile, or more. Capt. W. B. Brack, a lawyer from West Point, a very absent minded man, but a great speaker, came up to Loohattan to help us. The negroes at that time were great listeners, and pretended to wish to be informed, but nothing ever changed their votes; that was a different thing with them. The plan we adopted was to establish three or four speaking places, and commence speaking to them in very loud tones. They would congregate around us and our strikers would tell them they had plenty of time to vote. They were not then much calculators, and seemed to think they could wait till late in the evening to vote. When one of us would get tired speaking, another would take his place, except Captain Brack, who I think made a remarkable record, and spoke all day long without stopping. He was a past master of abuse and Phillipic, and employed it to the utmost on the objectionable features of the proposed constitution. But as a general rule our speeches were mere platitudes intended to kill time, although, of course, we vociferated greatly. In this way a large number of the negroes were crowded out and failed to get to vote. There were some Federal soldiers there and we appealed to them to help us out, which they did by talking to the negroes, and even threatening to shoot some of them when they could get out of sight or hearing of their officers, and I believe as a general rule the private soldiers sent down here were with us, and against the negroes in these contests, and in these exciting times.

years to the endeavor, and he won and deserved it. The crown set modestly and gracefully upon a head formed for it, and like a light shining through alabaster vases, it is irradiated by a heart courageous, honest and true, and filled with life's sweetest impulses and best charities.

"He employed his great attainments to the noblest ends. He practiced no extortions in the name of fees, and used no sinuosities with clients or people. He gave strength and confidence and friendship to the weak and faint and friendless, and succored them against the designing and the powerful. His powers were exerted to establish justice, to maintain social and public order, to promote the general welfare, to perpetuate liberty and to build up the State. He was a temple in which honors and truth and charity of opinion as well as of deed delighted to dwell as if he had been fashioned for their abode. He died only when he was the master of every principle and philosophy of jurisprudence applicable to the affairs and condition of the people among whom his inheritance had been cast. This professional picture exhausts all truthful eulogy and leaves nothing that would not be mere tautology.

"No profanity ever escaped his lips, nor was uttered without attracting his frown, and vulgarity was shamed into silence by his presence. Nothing great, nothing amiable, no moral duty, no doctrine of natural or revealed religion has ever been associated by him with any degrading idea. His knowledge of the Bible was that of an ardent student of theology, and the precious volume with a concordance were ever within easy reach of his office chair. He may have left no outward sign of denominational pride of the spiritual work within, but so close a student of the Book of Books, one so constantly and liberally charitable, so affectionate and tender within the home circle, so gentle, ingenuous, and forbearing to all, and so habitually reverent, can not be uncared for by Him who marks with pity the sparrow's fall. The work of our God in attuning to melody divine the human heart is not confined to sectarian laceboards nor is it to be judged by that measure. To the idle, desponding and slothful, he has left an example of patient tireless toil and successful effort, to the weak, the tempted, and faint-hearted an example of pure, solid principle and honor's triumph, and to all the beauty and splendor of an illustrious character.

"That the sunset of life should send back from the grave to the cradle effulgent rays of love and beauty to be gathered and woven into a splendid sheet of sheen, arching the entire pathway, is an honor which fastidious fortune has accorded but few of earth's pilgrims who stand like epochs along the current and course of Time, but among that limited number we hail conspicuous, and radiant, our friend and professional brother—James T. Harrison."

"May it please the Court:

"I trust that it will not be deemed inappropriate, Sir, after the able, eloquent and truthful portraiture of the character of the illustrious deceased, just delivered by the chairman of the committee, that I should add a tribute to the memory of one, whom I knew so long and loved so well.

"We paused amid the ordinary avocations of life, the duties of the court room, the stir and bustle of the world, the conflict of mind with mind, in the investigation and application of judicial principles to do honor to the memory of James T. Harrison. When this Court convened six months ago, he was here in our midst, the life and soul of the Bar, the impersonation of all that typed itself as the learned lawyer, the elevated and accomplished gentleman, the pure and unselfish friend, and the broad-hearted, patriotic citizen.

Few men have ever lived in Mississippi who, as lawyers, occupied positions so exalted, as that of the distinguished man whose memory we now commemorate. It was universally conceded that he was the head

blessing, in that it deprived him of the usual sports of school boys, his mother becoming his constant companion. She was a gifted woman. Her brother was for many years recognized as the most intellectual judge of the Supreme Court of the State of South Carolina. He had distinguished himself before going on the supreme bench as prosecuting solicitor of his judicial district. It was a boon to be the daily companion of a mother so intellectual and cultivated. She imparted to him studious habits and a love for books, which he never abandoned.

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selves familiar with covenants, mutual or dependent and independent, or with estates in remainder, or with trusts, or with the construction of wills. All along, beginning with the Howards and ending with the 10th George, "Briefs" full of learning will be found on these subjects, and none more thorough than those filed by Harrison, notably among these is the case, "Mahorney vs. Hooe," 9th, S. & M., No. 247. In this case he crossed swords with George Yerger and Henry Grey. It involved the construction of Hooe's will, dispensing a very large estate in Noxubee county. Harrison's brief in this case was exhaustive and conclusive. In the field of criminal law, he was equally at home. McCann and Toland were indicted in Lowndes county for murder. McCann was very ably defended, but he was executed. See report in 139 13th S. & M. Substantially the same case was made out against Toland, but Harrison reversed the case in the Supreme Court, and finally acquitted his client. But few district attorneys, and very few "nisi-prius" judges were so constantly accurate as to escape the eagle eye of Harrison in scanning a record of errors.

His proficiency in pleading and practice was far beyond his fellows. Joseph G. Baldwin, himself a brilliant orator and successful lawyer, and author of *Flush Times in Alabama and Mississippi*, referred to him as "Jim T." In a racy paragraph he says of him:

"The aforesaid leaders carried it with a high hand over us lawyerlings. What they couldn't get by asking the court, they got by sneering and browbeating. They could sneer like Malgroucher, scold like Madam Caudle, and Hector like Bully Ajax. We had a goodly youth from the Republic of South Carolina, Jim T. by name. The elders had tried his mettle. He wouldn't fag for them, but stood up to them like a man. Jim was equal to any of them in law, knowledge and talent and superior in application and self-confidence, if that last could be justly said of mere humanity. He rode over us, rough-shod, but we forgave him for it, in consideration of his worrying the elders and standing up to the rack. He was the best lawyer of his age I had ever seen. He had accomplished himself in the elegant science of special pleading, had learned all the arts of confusing a case by all manner of pleas and motions, and took as much interest in enveloping a plain suit in all the cobwebs of technical defence as Vidocq ever took in laying snares for a rogue. He would entangle justice in such a web of law that the blind hussy could have never found her way out again if Theseus had been there to give her the clew. His thought by day and his meditation by night was special pleas. He loved a demurrer as Dominie Dobiensis loved a pun—with a solemn affection. He could draw a volume of pleas a night, each one so nearly presenting a regular defence, that there was scarcely any telling whether it hit or