

JUDGE THACKER WRITES OF DR. JOHN KENNICOTT

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It used to be said of the old Whigs here, that the Jackson Democrats or Locofocos, as they called them, differed from other men in the fact that the Jackson Democrat never forgot anything and never learned anything, and consequently always voted for Jackson. Doctor Kennicott was a southerner, and perhaps a Democrat, but if he was, it could not have been of the Jackson stripe, for while the doctor never forgot anything he was always learning something. As an orchardist, or fruit grower, he was far in advance of the others in this part of the country at that time, and to pass through his orchard with him, when he was at leisure, was to hear a terse, concise lesson on fruit growing. The different varieties, kinds best suited to our climate and soil, the best winter keepers, etc., and this too, at a time when the idea was prevalent that Northern Illinois was anything but a fruit country; and so thought the Yankees from the cold New England states, and who at this time made up five-sixths of the population, and yet here was this man from the extreme southern part of the United States, theorizing and experimenting, and putting the result of his theories and experiments into successful practice. The doctor was never happier than when walking among his flowers with an appreciative friend, plucking a beauty here and there, holding it up to his nose for a sniff, and then passing it to his companion; chatting of the different varieties, pointing out those that were rare and difficult to produce, some from his far away old southern home; expatiating on the difference of their coloring and odors. It was the same thing over again with regard to his shrubbery, of which he had a remarkable variety for the time and place. In his dooryard he had specimens of every variety of shrubbery that he could get hold of, especially those that were rare or uncommon. When riding along the road or through the woods on his way to visit patients, nothing that was rare in the line of shrubbery or plant life escaped his watchful eye. He would sometimes stop his horse and dismount in order to closely examine some plant or bush, and if he found himself unable to name it, he would cut off a bough or a stalk, containing some of the leaves as a specimen, until he could, as he said, name the stranger. Botany at that time had not reached its present development in this country, and new plants were constantly being found, so it was not at all strange that one versed in the science of botany, as he no doubt was, should now and then find strange plants. Whenever he found a new or rare plant or shrub he would have some person living in the vicinity take it up and have it ready for him on his next trip, when he would take it home. Sometimes he would have a handful of specimens representing answering sick calls. On one occasion several varieties of plants and trees, that he had gathered on his route. Stephen Thacker took up several varieties for him that he found while Dr. Kennicott came riding up to Thacker's with a small bough in his hand, saying that he had never before seen one like it. Thacker told him he could not name it, but he knew of several small trees like it growing in his timber. At first the doctor was incredulous, but going with him, Thacker showed him three or four trees of the same species. They grew over on what was called the sand ridge, perhaps half a mile above the railroad bridge, near the bank of the river, which was quite high and abrupt, and just above the water line, when the river is low, two or three very cold springs of water come out of the blue clay bank, and ran into the river. Small specimens of iron ore could be picked up around where the springs were. The striking of lightning was of very frequent occurrence here, and it was considered extremely dangerous for one to be caught in this immediate part of the woods in a thunder shower. One battered old oak tree was struck by lightning seven times to the writer's knowledge. The trees that the doctor and Stephen Thacker found proved to be small affairs, not exceeding over an inch in diameter when their growth was reached and twelve to fifteen feet in height, and none could be found except the five growing on the sand ridge. John Thacker took up one of the smallest ones, and when Dr. Kennicott rode away with his prize which extended far above his head, the branches and leaves almost entirely concealed his diminutive form, and at a distance it looked like a tree set upon the brown pony and fastened there in some mysterious manner. The tree once secured, he entered with great zest into the search for its name, which required about a year's time, as before he succeeded, he was compelled to send a specimen to some institution on the Atlantic coast, before he was able to have it identified and named. In fact it proved to be quite a rare specimen. His comprehensive and scientific mind also took in chemistry, to what extent, however, he had studied or practiced it was not known, as in that day outside of cities and institutions where it was taught, it was a sealed book, but he did possess a practical knowledge of it as the following incident will show.

It was shortly after quinine came into use in the practice of medicine that Dr. Kennicott was at Stephen Thacker's, and told of having been to Chicago and of buying a quantity of medicines, among them was a certain amount of quinine. In those days physicians purchased their medicines and furnished the same to their patients free of charge, so that each physician was a walking, or perhaps more strictly speaking, a riding drug-store on a small scale, therefore country practitioners, when able to do so, bought their medicine in quantities, both for the sake of cheapness and convenience. Dr. Kennicott said that after returning home with his medicine and examining it, it appeared to him that the quinine was lacking in quantity, and in order to test it he put it on the scales and the weight appeared all right, but still he was not satisfied. Taking a small quantity of it he analyzed it and found a certain percentage of it to be wheat flour mixed with it to increase its weight. He was at all times genial and pleasant, no matter how worn and fatigued he might be, he had something pleasant to say, something interesting and new. When talking he spoke in a quiet, well-modulated voice, and his conversation was made bright and sparkling with wit and laughter, never loud or boisterous, but his voice, rather low, possessed great carrying power, and while his manner and appearance denoted culture and training, there was a certain degree of positiveness and strength that carried conviction, and that the speaker knew exactly what he was talking about, and no matter where or in what company, whether in the lowliest hovels amid squalor and suffering, he was the same considerate, polished gentleman, striving with all his might and skill to allay pain and holding out the hand of hope, ready to cheer and help the weary and broken hearted the same as if he stood by the bedside of a millionaire. And God knows that at times there was need of just such a ministering angel as was this diminutive man whom the Creator had endowed with such a gigantic and versatile brain. Dr. Kennicott was not only a scholar, but a born gentleman and he could not be anything else. That peculiar, indescribable something, a certain neatness of person, a peculiar policy, that was part of him, and showed beyond question to have been born and bred in him. His person also was peculiar and once noticed was not soon forgotten. From his shoulders down, his body and limbs were those of a trim, dapper youth of under size, while his shoulders were large in proportion to the remainder of his body and very much stooped, as with the weight of many years of toil. His face was thin, rather long and swarthy, and thickly seamed with deep lines of thought, not of care or sorrow, but of work, of study, of thought, while his eyes were bright, questioning, speaking eyes that looked forth every thought that passed through his mind. His fine memory and vast reading, coupled with the habit of asking questions, made him in time a moving encyclopedia, diffusing knowledge as he passed along. At his own hearthstone he was simply superb, genial, friendly, hearty and wholly devoid of all form. If the weather was cold the caller was greeted by a roaring fire in the fireplace, and would find the doctor, if at home, most likely in his shirt-sleeves, busy as a bee, arranging some curious specimen of plant or shrub, or poring over some book of a scientific character. He was one of the best liverers that could be found and was a connoisseur in regard to cooking game, which he liked roasted or broiled by the fireplace. He was a lover of fresh fish and encouraged the boys to bring them to him, whenever they could catch them, and for which he always paid fifty or a hundred per cent more than the boys would ask him. He would insist upon their taking the cash, notwithstanding he had a book account against the family for medical services. He appeared to like to have his neighbors eat with him, and if they happened in near meal time he would insist upon their staying until it was over. The writer remembers going there with the Ramsey boys to take the doctor some fish, how he rounded us up and took us in to dinner with him. And although we felt half starved, we would much rather have been excused, as we were in no presentable condition, but that made no difference. He soon stifled our diffidence, however, by piling lots of things on our plates and then talking about fishing and trapping quail and wrairie chickens. He persisted in paying the Ramsey boys twice as much as the fish were worth, but the fish were very fine, and just such as he liked. His informal manner of dealing with his patients of course won him hosts of friends, but it was not done to win friends and make himself popular, nor in a way to advertise his business, for he had more practice than he could attend to and do himself justice, and he had no opposition. How he managed to keep tab on so many different things, and at the same time attend to his large country practice was beyond the comprehensive of common minds. His brain never appeared to weary, or if it did, changing from one theme to another must have recuperated and rested it. At certain seasons of the year, especially when epidemics were rife, it sometimes occurred that there would not be a sufficient number of well per-

sons to take care of the sick. The doctor's circuit was a very large one. He would start north early in the morning and continue until he struck the north branch, then to Half Day. Here he would turn south and follow the west side of the Des Plaines river to Higgins bridge, which he would cross and turn north and east, going out by Dutchman's point. Afterwards, Gross Point to Port Clinton and from there home. During the sickly season (August and September) when chills, fever and ague, summer complaint, cholera morbus and bilious fevers were so common as to assume an epidemic, the doctor made this trip daily, sometimes for a week. His saddle was the biggest that he could get. It was high behind and before, the pommel coming up high before him. His saddle animal was a brown Canadian mare pony, very large for a pony, and a natural pacer. The doctor would drop the bridle reins over the horn of the saddle, rest both hands upon the pommel, lean forward and rest his weight upon them. He had a way of huddling himself down in the saddle and humping up his back, which gave him a most ludicrous appearance. At a distance it was hard to determine whether it was a man or a monkey in the saddle. Dr. Kennicott told the writer that he had ridden the brown pony sixty miles for six consecutive days, when an epidemic was raging. It might be asked why he did not change his mount. I don't think that he could ride any other animal except this smooth pacer, upon which he could ride and sleep. He did sometimes ride in a buggy, and sometimes in a cart, but on long distances such as he had to travel and liable to be kept any time into the night, he went on horseback. The roads, except the best, would not permit of attempting a long drive with a light rig. Doctor Kennicott seldom used the lancet or blistering ointments, neither did he like to use emetics, as he believed that such remedies weakened the patient and did more harm than good. Why a man of his education and varied attainments should locate in a new country might be a query to some, as there was no question that he ranked very high in the general practice of medicine. He appeared to have no specialties and did not like surgery, but he could easily have had his share of the practice in any city of the United States had he chosen to locate within the cooped up environment of a large town, but he possessed a love for rural life, and then the country gave opportunity for experiment and practice that the city did not afford. The country was the proper place for this many-sided, active man. His fine farm added beauty and interest to his life, and helped to strengthen his frail body and restless mind, and both were overworked in attending to his large practice. His income from his practice must have been large for those days, as his expenses were heavy and he spent a great deal of money for improvements. He never discussed politics or religion. His character was above reproach, his word beyond question was perfectly reliable, and his demeanor and language that of a Christian gentleman. The amount that he did not collect from his practice must have been large, to say nothing of the medicine which he furnished free. For those who could not pay him he had no word of complaint; for the poor and needy he had great sympathy, and he never deserted a patient after being called, because there was no money to pay the doctor, nor were physicians paid by the county at that time for treatment of the poor. No physician during the early days of the settlement of this part of the country did more for the poor and suffering than did the kind and versatile Doctor Kennicott.

GARDEN CLUB

Continued from page 1 There are numerous annual vines such as nasturtium and wild sweet pea, which are very effective. The four perennials which Mrs. Jacobs puts at the head of the list for the dual purpose of garden effect and cutting, are phlox and delphinium peonies and iris. Others which deserve mentioning are columbine, pyrethrum, sweet rocket and shasta daisies. Out of the long list of beautiful annuals, it is hard to say which ones are the most effective. Any of them are loved. The combination of Mrs. Jacobs' charming personality, her wealth of information, and the beautiful subject made the after one long to be remembered. The next Garden Club meeting will be held at the home of Miss Sadie Galloway on Feb. 15. Evangelical Bungalow Church Rev. A. P. Johnson, minister You are invited to celebrate with us our two anniversaries, on Sunday, Jan. 29, 1928. In 1868 the Evangelical church was organized in Deerfield, Illinois. For sixty years this church maintained services of worship each Lord's day, and carried forward a work of ever increasing influence and usefulness. Great and blessed results have been achieved in evangelism, social culture, religious education and social service. This church has had a part in the lives of a multitude of souls.

Then we celebrate the fourth anniversary of the dedication of our new church building to the worship and service of Almighty God. To us the occasion is one of deep sentiment. Past, present and future meet. The past is glorious, the present is encouraging and the future is full of promise. Our idea is not to linger on thoughts of the past, but rather to do something progressive in the present that will endure for the future. To this end we maintain a program that meets every need from the child to the adult. We welcome you to this anniversary service. Our day of hospitality. Celebrate with us. Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. Rev. A. J. Byas will address the entire You will want to see the big birthday Vant. Morning worship 10:30. Rev. A. J. Byas will preach and have charge of the Holy Communion service. Afternoon service 3:00 o'clock. Greetings will be read from former pastors, and pastors of neighboring churches will bring greetings, after which Rev. A. J. Byas will preach the anniversary sermon. The ladies of the church will serve a free luncheon to all present from 5 till 7 o'clock. Orchestra concert from 7 till 8 o'clock. Preaching service at 8 p. m. The combined Junior and Senior choirs will render special anthems at the morning and afternoon services. You will want to see the big birthday cake with its sixty electric candles. Come and spend the day with us. St. Paul's Evangelical Church F. G. Piepenbrok, pastor Church school, 9:15 a. m. Services, 10:15 a. m. Choir Friday, 7:30 p. m. Confirmation Saturday, 9 a. m. The monthly business and social meeting of the Ladies Aid will be held Thursday, Feb. 2, at the home of Mrs. Phil. Rommel.

Deerfield Presbyterian Church Mark J. Andrews, minister Church school at 9:30. Departmental organization. Graded instruction. Trained leadership. The pastor's class will meet at 10 o'clock. This Sunday will be observed as Foreign Missions Sunday. The morning service at 10:45 has been planned with special reference to the nine decades of Foreign Mission enterprise in the Presbyterian church. It will be a service in which the men and women of the congregation will have a large part. At the Vesper service at 8 p. m. the Rev. Harry E. Campbell of Etah, India, will deliver the address. Because of the leading place India is taking in the overturning changes moving across Asia at the present time, his story will be of special interest to every one who hears it. The Women's Missionary society will serve a Missionary luncheon after this service to which all are invited. Boy Scout meeting every Friday evening from 7 to 8:30. Choir rehearsal, Friday at 8 p. m. The second men's dinner of the winter will be held on Tuesday evening, February 7 at 6:30. Dr. R. M. Huston of the Second Presbyterian church of Evanston, will be the speaker of the evening. OLD SETTLER OF NORTHFIELD DIES Continued from page 1 John Dearlove's grandfather, William Dearlove, Sr., and his uncles Richard and George Dearlove purchased from the government in 1836 a large section of land over 1200 acres in Northfield, later dividing it into six beautiful estates. Two of these, the old homestead of George Dearlove and a large portion of the grandfather's estate, both fronting on Milwaukee avenue were recently sold to the Forest Preserve of Cook county, and also one hundred and forty acres of the grandfather Dearlove's estate, fronting on Central avenue road lead-

ing to Des Plaines was just sold by John Dearlove to the new Forest View Country club, (northeast of Des Plaines) where a beautiful club house is to be erected shortly. The Dearlove family had a considerable share in building the original church and school house in Northfield, also planning and beautifying the Oak Woods cemetery in West Northfield, where a large number of old settlers of Cook county are buried. John Dearlove had his early schooling in the above school. John Dearlove's uncle George Dearlove who died in 1908 was the father of Mrs. E. W. Sundell, formerly (Mabel Hannah Dearlove) of Highland Park and Richard Thomas Dearlove of Oak Park and George Matterson Dearlove, Chicago, and Mrs. Annie Dearlove Otis of Barrington, the four above mentioned are of the third generation of the Dearlove family. John Dearlove was unique in his long history of usefulness and uprightness and leaves a heritage to his posterity of a long life honorably lived. PANCAKE DINNER TOMORROW EVENING Why cook or eat dinner at home Friday, Jan. 27? Why not accept the invitation from the Tuxis society to a pancake dinner which will be served in the dining room of the Presbyterian church commencing at 5:30 p. m. and where an appetizing meal of Pillsbury pancakes, maple syrup, Plankinton's Globe Brand delicious pork sausages, cabbage salad, rolls, pudding, cake, coffee or milk. It is more than an ordinary dinner, it's an occasion. The pancakes and pudding will be properly and temptingly prepared by experts from the Pillsbury company. If you particularly enjoy the pork sausage, they will be on sale at booths in the dining room for your convenience. The proceeds of the dinner as well as from sale of sausages, will be placed in the philanthropic fund of the Tuxis society.

Advertisement for DEERFIELD PHARMACY featuring a 'ONE CENT SALE' on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. The sale includes various items like Aspirin, Quinine, Toothbrushes, and Envelopes. A large image of a one-cent coin is shown. The pharmacy is located at Garden Court Stationery and is run by J. C. Laepler and W. K. Hout, R. Phs.