

**MEMORIAL ADDRESSES ON THE LIFE
AND CHARACTER OF JAMES B. BECK, (A
SENATOR FROM
KENTUCKY), DELIVERED IN THE SENATE
AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
AUGUST 23 AND SEPTEMBER 13, 1890**

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Memorial Addresses on the Life and Character of James B. Beck, (a Senator from Kentucky),
Delivered in the Senate and House of Representatives, August 23 and September 13, 1890 by
W. H. Michael

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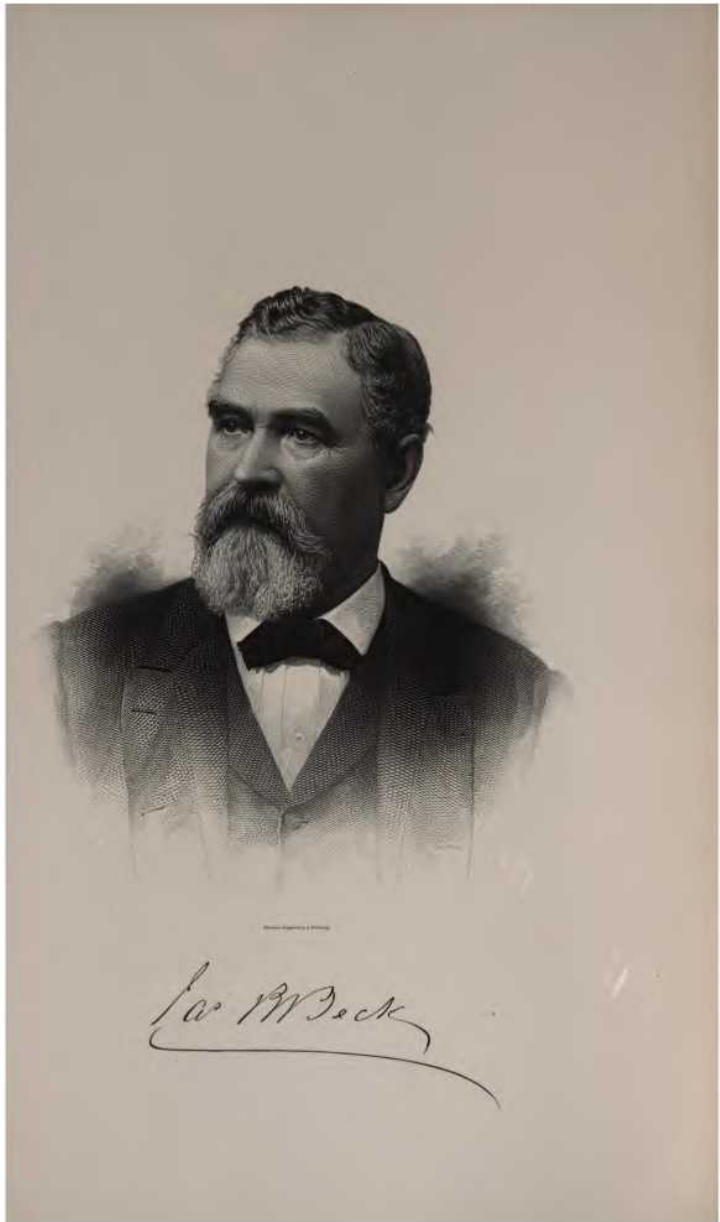
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ON THE

LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF

JAMES B. BECK,

(A SENATOR FROM KENTUCKY),

DELIVERED IN THE

SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

AUGUST 23 AND SEPTEMBER 13, 1890.

Prepared in accordance with joint resolution of Congress, and under direction
of the Joint Committee on Printing.

BY

W. H. MICHAEL,

CLERK OF PRINTING RECORDS, UNITED STATES SENATE.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

1891.

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A 16699

JOINT RESOLUTION TO PRINT THE EULOGIES ON HONORABLE JAMES B. BECK.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be printed of the eulogies delivered in Congress on the late JAMES B. BECK, a Senator in the Fifty-first Congress from the State of Kentucky, twenty-five thousand copies, of which number six thousand copies shall be for the use of the Senate, and nineteen thousand copies for the use of the House of Representatives, and that of the quota to the Senate the Public Printer shall reserve fifty copies, which he shall have bound in full morocco, with gilt edges, the same to be delivered when complete to the family of the deceased; and the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, directed to have printed a portrait in the usual manner of the late JAMES B. BECK to accompany said eulogies, and for the purpose of engraving and printing said portrait the sum of one thousand dollars, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Approved, December 9, 1890.

DEATH OF SENATOR BECK.

JAMES BURNIE BECK died in Washington, District of Columbia, May 3, 1890. He had just returned from a visit to New York, and died suddenly of valvular disease of the heart, soon after alighting from the cars at the Baltimore and Potomac depot. He was accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. Goodloe, wife of Major Green Clay Goodloe, of the United States Marine Corps. Kind and sympathetic friends were about him when he expired. The sad news was telegraphed immediately to his colleagues at the Capitol, where the sad and startling message caused profound sorrow. The Senate adjourned at once, many of the Senators and Representatives going without delay to the side of their stricken friend and associate. The body was removed to the home of Representative Breckinridge, of Kentucky, on Capitol Hill.

FUNERAL OBSEQUIES.

The remains were borne from the residence of Mr. Breckinridge at 10 o'clock, May 6th, to the Capitol. The casket was carried by eight Capitol policemen to the Marble Room, preceded by the Committee, headed by Senators Blackburn and Evarts, where it was placed in the center of the room and the Committee retired, leaving the active pallbearers to act as a guard of honor. The casket was then opened, and the

Marble Room thrown open to the public for an hour and a half. Many people moved slowly and silently through the room and took a last look at him whom a majority of the callers knew and loved. Lilies of the valley fringed the sheet of crystal, through which could be seen the dead Senator's face. The casket was covered with black cloth, and bore a silver plate on which were engraved the words, "JAMES BURNIE BECK: born February 13, 1822; died May 3, 1890."

In the Senate Chamber some handsome floral pieces had been arranged on the clerks' desk. A beautiful wreath of Easter lilies, white carnations, and white and yellow roses bore the card of the President and Mrs. Harrison.

At 12 o'clock the Senate was called to order by President *pro tempore* Ingalls. The distinguished audience was composed of members of the Senators' families, Senators, Representatives, the President and members of the Cabinet, Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, members of the Diplomatic Corps, and a large number of the Senators' personal friends.

The honorary pallbearers on the part of the Senate were: Messrs. Morrill, Sherman, Hale, Allison, McPherson, Pugh, Vest, and Gibson.

The citizen pallbearers were: W. R. Smith, superintendent of the Botanic Gardens; Col. L. Q. Washington, Hon. Phil. B. Thompson, jr., Col. J. Fletcher Johnston, Mr. Blair Lee, Gen. J. C. Breckenridge, Col. R. C. Wintersmith, Major W. F. Tucker, Judge L. D. Trimble, Admiral James E. Jouett, Mr. Caleb B. West and O. O. Stealey.

The casket was borne into the Senate Chamber at 1:08 o'clock p. m. It was preceded by Chaplain Butler and ex-Chaplain Bullock, of the Senate, and followed by Mrs. Goodloe, the Senator's daughter, and her husband, Major

Goodloe, and friends of the family, who were seated at the left of the casket, which was placed in front of the Secretary's desk.

As the procession moved down the aisle Chaplain Butler read from the burial service, "I am the resurrection and the life," etc.

After the brief service conducted by the Chaplain the casket was borne hence, followed closely by members of the family, then the President and Cabinet, then Justices of the Supreme Court, then the members of the Diplomatic corps. When the procession was outside the Chamber the Senate adjourned. All present were deeply impressed, and no evidence was wanting to show that a great and useful man had passed away.

The casket was carried down the broad marble steps between two rows of sorrowing men. Major and Mrs. Goodloe and others followed between the lines and entered carriages. Immediately following came the President and members of his Cabinet and Justices of the Supreme Court. The procession moved slowly down Pennsylvania avenue to the depot where deceased had been stricken down in death. The body was taken directly to the special train in waiting to bear it to its last resting place in Kentucky. The train consisted of three sleepers and a baggage car. The train left for Louisville at 3 o'clock p. m. About thirty members of the Senate and House of Representatives accompanied the family. All the Kentucky delegation who could possibly do so accompanied the remains.

The Congressional train reached Lexington, Kentucky, May 7, 1890, at 1 o'clock p. m., and was met by a large concourse of citizens. The casket was placed in a hearse, and, escorted by the Congressional party, proceeded to the Southern Presbyterian Church, where it was placed in front of

the pulpit on a dais, a rich profusion of rare flowers in various designs being tastefully placed about it. The face of the deceased was exposed, and thousands of people passed by the casket to take a last look at the well-known features. The deceased looked quite natural, as if in a sound sleep. His face looked peaceful and noble even in death. One arm lay across the breast, while the other was bent naturally at the side.

The following United States Senators and Representatives accompanied the remains from Washington to Lexington and attended the final ceremonies: Senators William M. Evarts, of New York; H. L. Dawes, of Massachusetts; Charles F. Manderson, of Nebraska; Z. B. Vance, of North Carolina; John E. Kenna, of West Virginia; Isham G. Harris, of Tennessee, and Joseph C. S. Blackburn, of Kentucky. Representatives M. H. Dunnell, of Minnesota; N. P. Banks, of Massachusetts; William S. Holman, of Indiana; R. P. Bland, of Missouri; J. H. Blount, of Georgia; W. H. Hatch, of Missouri; W. C. P. Breckinridge, J. B. McCreary, John G. Carlisle, A. G. Caruth, W. J. Stone, J. H. Wilson, and T. H. Paynter, of Kentucky.

At 12 o'clock the last loving services over the remains took place in the Southern Presbyterian Church in Lexington. At the head of the column upon entering the church were Senator Blackburn and Representative Breckinridge, arm in arm, both with eyes bedimmed with tears. Following came Senators Z. B. Vance and Isham G. Harris; then Senators Kenna and Evarts; next Senators Manderson and Dawes. Behind the colleagues of the deceased came the Committee from the House and the Kentucky delegation, the Kentucky Legislature, the city officials, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Fayette County bar in a body.