

**A DISCOURSE ON THE
LIFE, CHARACTER
AND PUBLIC SERVICES
OF AMBROSE SPENCER,**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649433933

A Discourse on the Life, Character and Public Services of Ambrose Spencer, by Daniel D. Barnard

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

DANIEL D. BARNARD

**A DISCOURSE ON THE
LIFE, CHARACTER
AND PUBLIC SERVICES
OF AMBROSE SPENCER,**

NC

Leed

AN
BSS
UD
&

A

DISCOURSE

ON THE

LIFE, CHARACTER AND PUBLIC SERVICES

OF

AMBROSE SPENCER,

LATE

CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW YORK :

DELIVERED BY REQUEST

BEFORE THE BAR OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,

JANUARY 5, 1848.

BY DANIEL D. BARNARD, LL. D.

NOTE TO THE READER

The paper in this volume is brittle or the inner margins are extremely narrow.

We have bound or rebound the volume utilizing the best means possible.

PLEASE HANDLE WITH CARE

J. MUNSELL, PRINTER,
ALBANY.

MEETING OF THE BAR.

At a meeting of the Members of the Bar of the county of Albany, held at the Mayor's Court Room in the city of Albany, on the 15th day of March, 1848, TEUNIS VAN VECHTEN was called to the chair, and AMASA J. PARKER appointed secretary.

On motion of Mr. TABER, a committee was appointed to prepare resolutions expressive of the sentiments of the meeting.

The chair appointed Messrs. TABER, GANSEVOORT, WHEATON, R. W. PECKHAM and J. LANSING.

Mr. TABER, as chairman of said committee, reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the shafts of death, which within a brief space past, have stricken down so many of the great and good of our land, clothing the nation in mourning, have approached us with appalling nearness, in the decease of Chief Justice AMBROSE SPENCER, one whose greatest usefulness and honors have been achieved in our city, who was personally known to us all, and endeared to many of us by the tie of private friendship, and whom we unite with the entire community to honor and revere, as an ardent lover of truth and justice, a firm and faithful friend, a preëminently patriotic and useful citizen, a distinguished statesman, a bright ornament of the legal profession, and a wise, enlightened and upright judge.

Resolved, That the gratitude of the present generation and of posterity, is due to the court of which the deceased was a distinguished member, for maturing the jurisprudence of this state, and exalting it to an eminence unsurpassed by that of any of our sister states or foreign nations; for transmitting the judicial ermine to their successors pure and un-

spotted, and impressing upon this community, by the wisdom and uprightness of their decisions, an habitual and abiding confidence in the administration of the laws.

Resolved, That while in common with the community, we mourn an irreparable public loss, we are not unmindful of the deeper grief of kindred bereavement; and that we respectfully tender to the family and relatives of the deceased our sincere and heartfelt sympathy under this afflictive dispensation.

Resolved, That we will attend the funeral of the deceased in a body, and wear the usual badge of mourning, and that the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the chairman and secretary, published, and a copy transmitted to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That Messrs. NEWLAND, WATSON and JOICE, be a committee to make the necessary arrangements to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the members of the Bar assemble at the Mayor's Court Room, half an hour before the time appointed for the funeral.

Resolved, That Mr. STEVENS, Mr. HILL and Mr. EDWARDS be a committee to fix on a time and place for the delivery of an eulogy on the deceased, and to select an orator for the occasion.

T. VAN VECHTEN, Ch'n.

A. J. PARKER, Sec'y.

In pursuance of the above appointment, the committee selected the Hon. Daniel D. Barnard, LL. D. to deliver the said eulogy.

Accordingly Mr. Barnard on the 5th day of January, 1849, delivered the following address in the county Court Room of the City Hall, of the city of Albany, to a large and most respectable audience.

The following correspondence ensued.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Albany, January 16th, 1849.

Dear Sir:

We beg to express to you on behalf of the Bar of Albany, their acknowledgements for the very just, appropriate and finished discourse delivered by you on Monday evening last, on the life and character of the late Chief Justice Spencer, and to request that you will oblige them, by furnishing a copy for publication.

With great respect,

SAMUEL STEVENS.
NICH'S HILL Jr.
JAMES EDWARDS.

Albany, January 17th, 1849.

Gentlemen:

I have received your note asking, on behalf of the Bar of Albany, for a copy of my Discourse of the life and character of the late Chief Justice Spencer, for publication. I thank you for the courteous terms in which this request is conveyed. I will in a few days, place the manuscript of the Discourse in your hands.

Very respectfully &c.

DANIEL D. BARNARD.

S. STEVENS Esq.
N. HILL Jr. Esq.
JAS. EDWARDS, Esq.
Committee.

DISCOURSE.

GENTLEMEN OF THE BAR:

Not long after the death of the late Chief Justice Spencer, I was invited by a Committee of the Bar of this City, appointed to make arrangements for the purpose, to prepare and deliver, at some suitable and convenient time, a discourse on the life, character and public services of that eminent man. After considerable delay, exceedingly regretted by me, though, under the circumstances, quite unavoidable, having accepted that invitation, the present time and place were named by the Committee for the performance of the duty assigned me. I now enter on the discharge of that duty—a task which, as the committee will bear me witness, I had strongly desired to see committed to some hand abler than mine, yet one to which I bring willing powers, such as they are, with a most earnest and heart-felt interest in the work.

Considering the quarter from which the request has come for the preparation of this discourse, and that it is to be delivered before the Bar, as well as the fact that by far the greater part of the active life of Judge Spencer was spent at the bar, and on the