

[Elsworth, Edward]

EDWARD ELSWORTH

Edward Elsworth, for many years prominent in mercantile circles in this city, died yesterday at his residence, No. 20 West Forty-ninth-street. He was born at No. 213 Church-street, in this city, in January, 1811, and was of the good old Knickerbocker stock, his ancestors coming here from Holland in the 17th century. Mr. Elsworth was educated at Hyde Park on the Hudson, and made his entrance into business life with his brother Henry in the paint and oil trade. The two formed the firm of H. & E. Elsworth, established in 1837, and he continued in active business until 1866. In 1847 he became interested in the steamboat business, and with his brother and the late Capt. DeGroot, owned the steamboat Niagara, which ran between this city and Albany and Troy. Then he became the President and a Director of the Keyport Steamboat Company, which built and owned the fast river steamers T.P. Way, Keyport, Arrowsmith, Edward Elsworth, Mattewan, and D.R. Martin, well known to travelers about this harbor. The brothers Elsworth and Capt. Mumford owned the fast clipper ships Wisconsin and Tornado, which were engaged in the European and California trade. Mr. Elsworth was interested in the Enoch Morgan's Sons Company, manufacturers of soap, and was for several years President of the company, and a Director up to the time of his death. He was also a Director in the North River Bank and in the Commercial and Niagara Fire Insurance Companies, being active in the organization of both the last year named. He was also for many years a Director in the Merchants' Exchange National Bank. He was a Trustee of the [Universalist] Church of the Divine Paternity, and was a great friend of its long-time Pastor, the Rev. E.[Edwin] H. Chapin.

One of Mr. Elsworth's youthful experiences was as a fireman, when as a member of Naiad Hose No. 16, he assisted in fighting the great fire of 1835. He was an ardent supporter of the cause of the Union during the war of the rebellion, giving not only of his time and money, but two of his sons to his country, one having lost his life at the second battle of Bull Run and the other at Port Hudson. Mr. Elsworth was married to Miss [Phebe] Martin, a sister of Dr. R. Martin, 50 years ago this month. His widow and 12 of his 15 children survive him. His funeral will take place from his late residence at 10:30 Saturday morning.

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