

[Barney, Alvin Chapin]

HON. A. C. BARNEY

Passed Away at the Family Home in West Union, Saturday.
Funeral Was Held Monday, Attended by Many Relatives and Friends.
HE HAD HELD MANY OFFICES

Alvin Chapin Barney was born February 1, 1833, at Independence, Allegany county, N.Y., and died at West Union, Steuben county, N.Y., on March 12, 1910. He was the fifth child of Dr. Anthony Barney and Roxy (Chapin) Barney. There were thirteen children in Anthony Barney's family, of whom only two remain, Nancy C. Darling of Wellsville, N.Y., and Granville M. Barney of Andover, N.Y.

Alvin C. Barney grew to manhood on the farm where he was born, at Independence. On March 21, 1857, he was married to Mary Sherman, daughter of David and Minerva (Horton) Sherman, and the newly-married couple at once began housekeeping on the farm which was their home for fifty-three years. Mr. Barney was supervisor of the town of West Union for a number of terms, being several times chairman of the board. In 1871, he represented the third district of Steuben county in the state legislature. He was appointed assistant postmaster at West Union in 1857, and after acting in this capacity for a few years, became postmaster, and remained such until his death. Politically he was a strong Republican and a firm believer in party government. He served as delegate to many conventions, both county and state.

Mr. Barney was one of the representative men of his section and state. In business affairs his advice was sought by his neighbors for miles around, and his willingness to help others sometimes led him to neglect his own farm work.

Good citizenship was exemplified in his life and he never failed to urge men to the proper performance of their duties as citizens. His faculty of looking on the brighter side of life, and his keen sense of humor, rendered him a delightful companion. His legislative experience at Albany during the stirring days of the "Tweed ring," and a wide acquaintance with public men, gave him a fund of pleasant reminiscence for the entertainment of friends.

The warm, unfeigned hospitality of the Barney home is a cherished recollection of the many friends who have been welcomed there. Mr. Barney was always considerate of those around him, and even when stricken by the paralysis that caused his death, he regretted being the cause of trouble to others. He is survived by his wife, by a son, Charles S. of West Union, and two daughters, Emily S. of West Union and Sara S. (Mrs. John D. Groves) of Kingston, N.Y. His son, Dr. Herbert E. Barney of Belmont, N.Y., died in 1907, and a daughter, Jennie M., in 1883.

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Mr. Barney leaves to his family the inspiration of an honored name, a long life well and honestly lived, and the example of good judgment, generous impulses, and a noble character.

The funeral was held Monday morning at 11 o'clock, at his late home, in the presence of a large concourse of relatives and friends from Almond, Alfred, Belmont, Andover, Wellsville, Hornell, Rexville, Greenwood, Hallsport, Independence, Genesee, Whitesville, North Bingham and Harrison Valley.

Rev. James Herrick [a Universalist], his pastor, officiated at the funeral paying a fitting tribute to him as a man in the performance of his many duties, both in public and in private life.

The floral tributes were many and very beautiful. Interment was made in the family plot at Independence.

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Transcribed on 15 Aug 2013 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY