

[Brayley, James]

James Brayley, who died in New York City on the 17th of April, 1883, was born at Seven Bridges in the County of Devon, England, on the 6th of April, 1817. After coming to Buffalo Mr. Brayley became identified with the agricultural machinery and implement enterprise founded by John A. Pitts, the inventor of the threshing-machine. On the death of the elder Pitts in 1859, Mr. Brayley and John B. Pitts, son of the original proprietor, succeeded to the business, forming a partnership under the firm style of Pitts & Brayley. This association continued until 1865. In addition to his other interests, Mr. Brayley in the latter years of his life engaged in the lithographing business, forming, in association with James P. White, the firm of White & Brayley, Lithographers.

One of the most noteworthy features of Mr. Brayley's career was his connection with the charitable work and institutions of Buffalo. He was President of the Buffalo General Hospital and one of the founders of the Homeopathic Hospital. He was also greatly interested in the Buffalo Orphan Asylum. A member of the Buffalo Historical Society, he also served as its President. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and the Buffalo Club. In religious faith he was a Universalist, and was connected by membership with that church.

On the 7th of April, 1851, at Springfield, Clark County, O., Mr. Brayley married Mary A. Pitts, who was born at Bangor, Maine, on the 8th of January, 1830, and was a daughter of John A. Pitts. The children of the union were: Mary Pitts, who married John R. Gomez of Malaga, Spain, and who was the mother of four children, William G., Carlos E., Raphael M., and John R. Gomez; Osmond; Carrie E.; Alice L., now the wife of Carleton Sprague; John Augustus, and Grace, H., now the widow of the late Francis R. Keating.

Mrs. Brayley was a woman of remarkable business ability, and widely known in the field of charitable work. After her husband's death she became the President and principal owner of the Pitts Company. She died in the 11th of December, 1890.

*Memorial and Family History of Erie County, New York*  
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