

[Graham, Frank Harvey]

MANY MOURN THE PASSING OF FRANK H. GRAHAM

Funeral services for Frank H. Graham, whose death occurred August 20th, were held from the residence on Maple Avenue, Friday afternoon, August 22nd. The services at the home were conducted by the Rev. Fred J. W. Chubb, pastor of the First Baptist Church. The services at the grave were in charge of Allegany Lodge No. 225, F. & A.M., of which he had been a member for many years. Burial was in Maple Grove cemetery.

The bearers were former business associates of Mr. Graham: John J. McGraw, Fred C. Mulkin, Walter C. Willis, William C. Kingsbury, Allan J. Philbrick and Charles S. Lane.

Frank H. Graham

Frank Harvey Graham, son of Harvey and Elvira Scott Graham, was born in Cuba, New York, June 14th, 1860 and died August 20th, 1939. This simple sentence records the beginning and the close of a very useful life.

The boyhood and youth were spent in his native village. As remembered by the writer, he was a quiet, studious lad with tastes similar to his own. Educated in the public school of his village, for the times an institution of unusual excellence rivaling in popularity the Friendship Academy, his fondness for good literature was encouraged and strengthened.

When about eighteen years of age he came to Friendship and entered into the employ of his uncle, William H. Scott. "Bill" Scott, as he was familiarly known, was a pharmacist of unusual skill, and besides his druggist stock carried a line of groceries and notions. In this store Mr. Graham learned the lessons of business integrity and acumen which guided his commercial career.

After serving his apprenticeship he started in business for himself, for a few years in partnership with Henry Worth, then with John Robinson and John McGraw, and finally took the whole responsibility upon himself.

For nearly, if not quite a half century, he continued one of the business men of our beautiful village. The business, under skillful management, grew until it became an institution. The secret of his success was a rare combination of fair dealing and business insight.

A public-spirited man, he was always identified with the useful activities of the town. On the Board of Education for eighteen years he was its chairman for the years of a decade. In this period our school grew and expanded until it occupied a high position among the educational institutions of the state. He was also an influential member of the Chamber of Commerce and for years a director of the Union National Bank.

A son of a Union soldier in the Civil War, he was a member of the local camp, Sons of Union Veterans. He was also a valued member of Allegany Lodge, No. 225, F. & A. M., and his "brethren of the Mystic Tie" turned out in

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large numbers and participated in the beautiful burial rites of the order under the splendid leadership of Past Master Dan M. Todd.

When a young man, Mr. Graham united with the Cuba Universalist Church under the pastorate of Rev. L. P. Blackford, and was a member of the boys class of that church taught for years by the late George Baldwin. This class long was almost a village institution. The teacher left his stamp on the lives of many boys in the community. From this church he never withdrew his membership. In later life he attended the Baptist Church of Friendship and the pastor of this church, Rev. Fred J. W. Chubb, officiated at his funeral.

On April 25, 1885, he was married to Miss Carrie Cramer, who survives him. For years they have walked hand in hand in happy useful lives and founded the finest of American structures, a happy Christian home. From this home he was taken August 22nd to his last resting place in Maple Grove cemetery.

Besides his life companion, two daughters and three grandchildren are left to mourn their loss, Mrs. Fred Yale and Mrs. William Hohenschild and their children. Of his father's family he has left only one sister, Mrs. Sheridan Latta, living in Glendale, California.

The floral tributes to his memory were profuse. Noticeable among them were the pieces of the Sons of Veterans, the Chamber of Commerce, the Business Men, the Union National Bank and the Masonic Lodge.

Just a word of personal tribute. Frank Graham was a lifelong friend. I played with him as a boy. I have watched his career as a man. I have visited with him as together we passed the line of the allotted three score years and ten. My love for him personally and my esteem for him as a man grew with the passing years. To my mind as I write come these words written long ago by one American poet [Fitz-Green Halleck] for another [Joseph Rodman Drake], and as they fittingly express my feelings for my departed friend, with them I close:

"Green be the turf above thee,
Friend of my better days,
None knew thee but to love thee
None named thee but in praise."

—Otis F. Alvord

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