

[Hollingworth, George T.]

COL. HOLLINGWORTH GETS HIS LAST ORDERS
BRAVE SOLDIER SUMMONED BY DEATH TO-DAY
SERVED COUNTRY WELL

Col. George T. Hollingworth Had a Record of Forty-two Years in the
National Guard and Regular Army During the Civil War

Col. George T. Hollingworth, for more than half a century a citizen of Utica, died at 7 o'clock in the Homeopathic Hospital, where he had been confined for two weeks, following an operation. The Colonel had apparently been in his usual health up to a few weeks ago, and within a month he had participated in the game of curling, of which he was very fond. He had a record of 42 years of military service and was particularly well known and popular in military circles.

George T. Hollingworth was born in 1831 in Brixton, England, and came to this country with his parents when a boy. He lived in New York City until 1853. Soon after his marriage he built a pleasant home at (156?) Albany street, this city. About this house stand large shade trees that were planted by Colonel Hollingworth and there many happy family gatherings and reunions have been held.

Colonel Hollingworth held the remarkable record of 42 years' continuous service in the National Guard and regular army. His first military experience, according to his own narrative written some years ago, was in the summer of 1848, when he was serving an apprenticeship in a shop in New York City. There were about 75 men in the shop and they formed a target company calling themselves the Brown Guards, after their employer. Sixty joined the company, officers were chosen and drills were held under an instructor.

"I became so fascinated with it," wrote Mr. Hollingworth, "that I resolved to enlist in one of the popular military companies of the City of New York as soon as I was old enough. At that time I was only 16. In the spring of 1850, I made application and was admitted into the Tompkins Blues, a crack company attached to the Twelfth Regiment. I did regular duty with them until the spring of 1858, when my parents and the entire family came to Utica. I did not give up my membership in Blues, as I could not make up my mind how Utica and I would agree. However, after a residence of a few months here, I made up my mind to stay. I kept my dues in the company paid until July, 1858, when I enlisted in the Johnson Guards, a new military company organized here to be uniformed with the Washington continental uniform.

"In June, 1859, I was elected second lieutenant of the company and I think in that year we changed our title to the Washington Continentals, Company B. In 1860 we took the zouave fever, after the visit of the celebrated Chicago Zouaves to this city. We adopted the same style of

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uniform and part of their style of drill, again changing our name to the Utica Zouave Cadets and as such we were known when the war broke out.

"Immediately (after the?) President's call for 75,000 volunteers, our company met and 45 out of a roll of 60 resolved to enlist and we did. It was the 15th of April, 1861, when the call was made and on the 20th we had enlisted [unreadable line] aggregate of 92. on the 23d we were sworn into the State service and elected our officers as follows: Captain, W. R. Brazil; First Lieutenant, Rufus Daggett; Second Lieutenant, George T. Hollingworth. On the morning of April 24 we left for Albany, where the Fourteenth Regiment, New York Volunteers, was formed. James McQuade was colonel, Charles H. (?) of Rome, lieutenant colonel, and Charles H. Young, major.

"[On] June 16, 1861 we left Albany for the front. The regiment drilled until July 22, then crossed the Potomac. On December 4, 1861, I was promoted to the office of first lieutenant. In February, 1862 I was promoted to the position of captain."

The regiment was moved from place to place. On June 7, Captain Hollingworth was detailed on recruiting service with headquarters at Utica and remained here until November, 1862. In January, 1863, he was discharged for physical disability. He took no active part in military affairs until the fall of 1864, when he was elected lieutenant colonel of the Forty-fifth Regiment, N.Y.S.M. He resigned in June, 1867 and was immediately appointed brigade inspector of the Twenty-first Brigade, N.Y.S.M. with the rank of major and was assigned to General Darling's staff. He continued in that capacity 14 years and during that time mustered out of service the Thirty-third Regiment of Rome, the Forty-fifth Regiment of Utica and the One Hundred and Third Regiment of Norwich.

"As I did not wish to leave the guard," said Colonel Hollingworth, "I was placed on the supernumerary roll at my own request. When the Utica Citizens' Corps was organized in 1863 I was one of its charter members and was chosen third lieutenant, remaining on its active roll until (18??), when it entered the National Guard. I was one of the few to enlist and was sworn in, receiving the appointment of quartermaster sergeant."

When Colonel Hollingworth resigned from the service in (?), he was entitled by reason of his long service to eight service stripes, each representing a service of five years in the State militia. He was a member of the Veteran Association of the Utica Citizens' Corps. He was also identified with many other Utica organizations, including the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, St. George's Society, St. Patrick's Society, Post McQuade and the Utica Curling Club.

After returning from the war Colonel Hollingworth engaged in the manufacture of fertilizers, continuing in this business until 1878. After that he conducted a cigar store in Oneida square for a number of years, was the

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custodian of the old Armory when it was stationed in Bleecker street, and for 11 years he was the bookkeeper for his son-in-law, William H. Fitchard, a hop dealer in the Weaver Block. For several years Colonel Hollingworth has lived a retired life.

Colonel Hollingworth married Jane Ann Hebbard and they spent more than half a century together in happiness and contentment. Their home was a place of unbounded hospitality. Often refreshments were served on the big lawn at "Balsam Grove," as the place on Alban street was called, and many Uticans have spent delightful (?) there.

Besides his wife, Colonel Hollingworth is survived by one son, George J. Hollingworth, and four daughters, Mrs. W. H. Fitchard, Miss Carrie Hollingworth and Miss Josephine Hollingworth, also one sister, Mrs. A. P. Howes, and four grandchildren, all of this city. He attended the [Universalist] Church of the Reconciliation.

Herald-Dispatch, Utica NY, Tue. 21 Feb 1911
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Transcribed on 2 Dec 2014 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY