

[Remington, Seth P.]

Death of Col. Remington

The numerous friends of Col. Seth P. Remington were saddened on Wednesday of last week by the announcement of his death, which occurred on the afternoon of that day. The event was not unexpected, as it had been known for some days that there was no hope of his recovery. We quote the following concerning him from the Ogdensburg *Journal*:

"The days were numbered, and his friends and relatives have watched the patient resignation which told of the approaching change. It is seldom that so much calmness and clearness of perception and thoughtfulness for those about him is witnessed in one who nears the final moment.

"The life of usefulness and influence that Col. Remington has passed requires a recognition which we may not give, yet we know that it would be his wish to be spoken of with the simplicity that would accord with his character.

"He was born in Chautauqua county of this State, February 19th, 1834, and therefore lacked one day of completing his forty-sixth year. His father, Rev. S. W. [Seth Williston] Remington, a clergyman of the Universalist denomination, is a gentleman well known in this county.

"When about eighteen years of age he entered as an apprentice the office of the Binghamton *Democrat*, a paper then owned and conducted by the Hon. Daniel S. Dickinson. After serving the time of his apprenticeship, and being engaged in various offices, among them that of the Buffalo *Commercial Advertiser*, Col. Remington came to Canton and in 1857, in company with Wm. B. Goodrich, started the ST. LAWRENCE PLAINDEALER as a campaign paper. It was continued as a permanent institution, and after a few months Col. Remington bought Mr. Goodrich's interest, and under his management the paper was issued until 1862.

"In 1864 he married Miss Clara B. Sackrider, of Canton. The latter part of the same year Col. Remington recruited a company for a regiment known as 'Swain's cavalry,' named from its commander, afterward known as 'Scott's nine hundred,' and the 11th New York cavalry. Entering the service as captain, he was first stationed at Washington, and a few months later was detached with a portion of the regiment and saw much of the hard fighting in Louisiana, Mississippi and Arkansas. He was early promoted to the rank of major, and at the close of the war was mustered out with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

"Returning north he located at Bloomington, Illinois, and was for a year editor of the daily and weekly *Pantograph* in that city. In 1867 he repurchased the ST. LAWRENCE PLAINDEALER and continued its management until 1873, when it was sold to its present proprietor, Gilbert R. Manley.

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"In January, 1870, Col. Remington was appointed collector of this district, a position which he held continuously to his death. In 1874 he became part proprietor and editor of the *Journal and Republican*. He was previous to 1876, for several years the representative of this congressional district on the republican state committee, and has also held other positions of responsibility and trust.

"Col. Remington possessed in a high degree the rare gift of making warm personal friends, and those who knew him best loved and respected him most. Possessed of keen common sense, he made few mistakes, and bringing a careful personal attention to the discharge of every duty, he filled all trusts committed to him with eminent ability and concluded a record which left nothing to be desired.

"Starting with the republican party at its birth, he gave to its advancement all the ardor of his earlier manhood and the ripe experience of his later years. Vigorous with his pen, fertile in resource and suggestion, prompt and thorough in action, he filled a position of great usefulness which it will be difficult to replace. The republican press and party have lost a prominent and worthy member.

"But the loss does not stop here. The death of Col. Remington is a loss to the community. Earnest, active and ready in every public matter, he furnished much of that spirit of enterprise and engagement which, while it moves itself, carries others along with it. We have far too few such men and the death of one of our very best is a loss deeply felt.

"The men most needed, so far as the human eye can see, seem to be those first appointed to death, and so ending a calm, brave, honest life, he bravely, quietly died."

A meeting of the citizens of Ogdensburg, called by the Mayor, was held on the evening of the 20th, for the purpose of expressing the public respect for Col. Remington, at which, after eulogistic remarks by several prominent citizens, the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Allwise Disposer of events has removed from this life the late Col. Seth P. Remington, and we, his neighbors and fellow citizens, having met to express in a public manner our respect for his memory and services, and our sorrow for his loss, therefore,

Resolved, That in the death of Col. Remington, Ogdensburg has lost a sagacious, public spirited and useful citizen. But a few years a resident of our city, and having reached only the early prime of life, he had won a place in the affection and esteem of the community. Unassuming and quiet in nature, and decisive and efficient in action, quick and alert in thought, and holding no uncertain opinions but tolerant in their expression, he drew men to him in friendship, and inspiring them with confidence. The manhood and fine sense of honor that made him a chivalrous and successful soldier,

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marked his course as a man and a citizen. We point with satisfaction to his patriotic service on the field in the hour of his country's peril; to his faithful discharge of every public trust committed to his charge; to his unsullied integrity; his fidelity to the relations of friend, citizen, and neighbor, his intolerance of wrong, and all the elements combined in him that round the character of intelligent manhood, as giving promise of a career of usefulness, and influence for good, which his early decease has disappointed, and created a void which it will not be easy to fill; and we deplore his loss not only as severing the ties of private friendship, but as detrimental to the public. Into the home circle we may not intrude further than to extend our sincerest sympathy to the bereaved family.

Resolved, That, as a public token of respect, we recommend that all places of business in the city be closed during the funeral.

Resolved, That the secretary endorse a copy of these resolutions and communicate it to the family of our deceased friend.

Col. Remington's remains were brought to Canton for burial, on Saturday, arriving by the noon train, a special car conveying his friends. The funeral services were held at the house of M. L. Sackrider, the father of Mrs. Remington, being conducted by Rev. Almon Gunnison, of Brooklyn, a warm personal friend of the deceased.

St. Lawrence Plaindealer, Canton NY, Wed. 25 Feb 1880

Transcribed on 7 Mar 2016 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY