

[Stull, Joseph A.]

JOSEPH A. STULL

Joseph H. Stull, eldest son of John P. Stull and Eliza Sibley, was born in the town of Rush in the year 1828. His grandfather in the paternal line, Jacob Stull, in the year 1801 removed from the vicinity of Frederick, Maryland, to Monroe county, New York, casting in his lot among the earliest settlers in this portion of the state; and among the earliest probate records of the county of Frederick, Maryland is the will of John Stull, the great-grandfather of Jacob Stull, the ancestor above referenced to, recorded in that county in the year 1749.

He was educated at Lima Seminary and Brockport Collegiate Institute, and at the age of sixteen began teaching, and at the same time took up the study of law. In 1851 he entered the law office of Hastings, Newton & Hastings, was admitted to the bar in December, 1854, and was thereafter engaged in the active practice of his profession in this city for over a third of a century, obtaining recognition as one of the leading members of the bar. He served for three years as district attorney, being elected on a republican ticket about 1865. In 1890 he practically retired from active connection with his profession. His political support was given to the republican party, and he was a member of the Universalist church for many years.

Twice married, he first wedded Orphelia S. Sibley, a daughter of Elisha and Charlotte Sibley and a granddaughter of Joseph Sibley, who was one of the first county judges of Monroe county and was also a member of the state assembly about 1830. Mrs. Stull died in 1890, and Mr. Stull afterward wedded Mrs. Sarah F. Galusha. He died in Rochester, in 1903, in the seventy-fifth year of his age.

William F. Peck, *History of Rochester and Monroe County* (1908), p. 1404

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J. A. STULL DIES OF HEART DISEASE

Prominent Member of the Monroe County Bar

FORMER DISTRICT-ATTORNEY

Leaves a Long and Honorable Record. Was Born in Monroe  
County Seventy-four Years Ago—Lived Long at Rush Homestead.

Joseph A. Stull died at 2 o'clock this morning, aged 74 years. Heart disease, which developed within a few weeks, was the cause of death. Up to the time of its appearance he was regarded as remarkably robust.

Joseph A. Stull was a native of Monroe county, where he was born December 28, 1828. His earlier years were spent on a farm in Rush. He was educated at the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary at Lima. In order to complete his education he taught school for several terms. After leaving the seminary he came to Rochester and engaged in the study of law in the office of M. S. Newton, at that time a very prominent criminal lawyer. In 1859, not long after he was admitted to the bar, Mr. Stull, whose legal attainments had already attracted attention, was elected district-attorney and served a term of three years. On his retirement from the office of district-attorney he entered actively upon the practice of law, at once taking a leading position at the bar, which he held until ill health compelled him to relax his activity somewhat. About the year 1873 Mr. Stull was called upon to act as special counsel in the settlement of the large estate of Horace J. Perrin, of Marshall, Mich. Mr. Perrin, who was a millionaire, left his estate very much involved, and during seven years the greater part of Mr. Stull's time was occupied in litigation growing out of its settlement. About the year 1890 he returned to Rochester, and resumed his law practice here, in which he continued until stricken with his late illness, in April of the present year. Mr. Stull was at one time a partner in the law firm of Stull & Bennett; later he was the senior partner of the law firm of Stull, Foote and Taylor, afterwards Stull & Foote. His latest law partnership was in the firm of Stull & Stull Brothers. For many years, and indeed for most of the time during his long practice of the law in Rochester, he occupied the same office in the Reynolds Arcade.

He was married to Miss Orphelia Sibley, daughter of Elisha and Charlotte Sibley, who died eleven years ago, leaving three sons, who survive. Mr. Stull married for his second wife Mrs. Sarah A. Galusha, who survives him. For several years after his first marriage, Mr. Stull lived in this city, most of his summers being spent at the old homestead in Rush. After living several years on South Clinton street, he removed to the Rush homestead, where he remained until 1876. In 1880 he purchased the Martindale residence on West avenue and resided there until last year, when he sold the property.

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In April last, Mr. Stull found himself in feeble health and decided to visit South Carolina. While there an organic disease of the heart developed, and he was chronically ill for some time. When sufficiently recovered to be removed he was brought to Rochester, and taken to the Hahnemann Hospital, since which time he has been steadily failing. Mr. Stull leaves, besides his widow, three sons, Herbert J., Otto S. and John M. Stull, and a niece, Emily Seidell.

Joseph A. Stull leaves a record of which the Bar of Monroe county may well be proud. He was so fortunate as to receive his legal education and training in the office of M. S. Newton, at one time district-attorney, and for many years the leading criminal lawyer of the county. Mr. Stull enjoyed a large and lucrative law practice almost from the beginning of his career. As a man, a citizen and a lawyer, he leaves behind him a record which is absolutely stainless, and his name will always stand high in the roll of the members of the profession which he loved and to which he devoted his life.

*Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester NY, Sat. 13 Jun 1903*

#### Funeral of Joseph A. Stull.

The funeral of Joseph A. Stull was held yesterday afternoon from the home of his son, O. S. Stull, No. 45 Warwick avenue. Many friends, among whom were members of the Monroe county bar, were present. Services were conducted at the First Universalist Church, Rev. I. P. Coddington officiating, assisted by Rev. Dr. Asa Saxe. Fitting tribute to the memory of the dead lawyer was paid. The interment was private.

*Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester NY, Tue. 16 Jun 1903*

Transcribed on 14 Jun 2008 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY