

[Ward, Henry Alson]

## DR. HENRY ALSON WARD

Doctor Henry Alson Ward died at his residence here on Saturday morning, June 30th, 1928, after a short illness. He was born in Hartland, Niagara County, New York, on December 1st, 1853, the son of the late Reverend Samuel R. and Thankful Sheldon Ward. The family removed to Richfield Springs when Doctor Ward was eight years of age, his father then commencing his pastorate here in the First Universalist Church, serving the whole community as its beloved and revered minister, for a half century.

As a young man Doctor Ward was the teacher and afterward the principal of the old Lake Street School, serving in that capacity until the organization of the Richfield Springs High School. His pupils are now middle-aged men and women, but to the end they sat as scholars under their old master, appreciating more and more with each passing year his great and outstanding gift to them. Although the major portion of his life was given over to the profession of medicine, his remarkable talent as a teacher demonstrated the versatility of his genius. In 1887 he graduated from Pulte Medical College of Cincinnati, Ohio, and for a time practised [sic] in Kansas, later removing to Ilion, and taking up his residence here in 1894. During that time he has ministered to thousands, day and night, comforting, healing and carrying cheer into the homes of this and other communities. Dr. Ward had served the county of Otsego as coroner without interrupted term of office for thirty years and had he lived was endorsed for re-nomination. He had acted for many years as the surgeon for the Southern New York Railway and as examiner for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. He had been a Mason for many years, joining Richfield Springs Lodge No. 482, F. & A. M., in 1881. He was a member of Central City Consistory, 32nd degree, and of Ocquionis Lodge, I.O.O.F. His earlier church affiliation was with the Universalist faith [e.g. until the local congregation disbanded], but at the time of his death he was a communicant of St. John's Episcopal Church of Richfield Springs.

Dr. Ward married Nettie Tuller of Richfield Springs on April 29, 1886, and this union was characterized by its harmony and happiness. He is survived by his widow; a brother, Charles Ward, of Watertown, N. Y.; a niece, Mrs. Bertran Cade of Ilion and four nephews. The funeral was held from the Ward residence on Main Street, Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock, the Reverend Gordon Lee Kidd, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, officiating, assisted by the Reverend Johnson A. Springsted, now of Glens Falls, formerly rector of St. John's here. The honorary bearers were Doctors H. V. Frink, A. R. Crain, M. W. Dawley, S. A. Haggerty, W. P. Borland, Harry Tuller, Perrin Masters, Fred Bronner, Charles M. Tuller and James McKee.

It is difficult to pay appropriate and fitting tribute to one who has labored so well and so long. His mental and physical attainments were superb. He had faults but no imperfections in the splendid equipment nature had endowed him with. There comes particularly to the minds of his old boys, the example and precept of his school discipline, his painstaking in his instruction and his continued interest in them through all the years that have followed. The sick and troubled will remember his tender ministrations and the extent of his sympathy and care, and all of those who knew him will unite in the largest measure of sympathy to his devoted wife.

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