

DEATH OF GEN. GRANT.



THE SCENE AT THE DEATH-BED.

Peacefully sleeping into the Valley of the Shadow.

The Soldier and Ex-President Passes Peacefully Away.

A SKETCH OF HIS CAREER.

His Birthright of Poverty and Manhood—His Education at West Point—Classmate of Franklin, Sherman and Smith—Contemporary of Meade and Thomas—His Distinguished Military Achievements.

DEATH-BED SCENES AND INCIDENTS.

Eight Years in the Presidency—Tour Around the World—Financial Reverses and Falling Health—The End of All Things Human.

Mr. McCREGOR, July 23.—General Grant died at 8:38 a. m. surrounded by all his family. The end was peaceful and without apparent pain. It had been anticipated all day yesterday and last night and was the relaxation of a painful tension. So far as known the last words uttered by the general were a request for a glass of water at three o'clock a. m.

In the consultation of physicians at four o'clock yesterday it was agreed that death was near. The family dined in a private room apart from the general and the order which they might be excluded from the observation of the many visitors and guests with whom the general's condition from hour to hour had been the topic of the day. The closed and silent cottage had all day suggested mutely the enactment of the last scene in General Grant's earthly existence, and upon guests and visitors had settled a sense of the nearness of death, and there seemed a hush upon the mountain and in the valley as if the general were about to be laid to rest. At seven o'clock, however, as the three physicians were at dinner, Harrison came to the hotel and called Dr. Douglas, who went at once and alone to the cottage. Soon thereafter another messenger from the cottage announced that the general was dead, and they repaired to the cottage, closely followed by Dr. Newman. The exits of the doctors and clergyman from the hotel were so quietly effected that few knew that the general had been summoned to the cottage. Arrived at the cottage, the general was found lying in bed, his eyes closed, his hands clasped, and his face as pale as death. The general seemed restless. "Would you like to lie down, father?" asked Colonel Fred Grant, who noticed his father's restlessness. The general nodded and at the same moment essayed to rise unaided. But the effort was too great, and he sank back into the chair, and the colonel and nurse aided him to arise and then supported him to the bed, where he was carefully lowered to a reclining position and partly on his face. Dr. Douglas then rolled the general's head and neck to the right and asked that the general had now left his hair for the last time. The belief was that the general Grant had at length lain down to rest.

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water to the general's lips. He would close the lips on it when put to his mouth. Mrs. Grant kept repeatedly saying to him, "Do you know me?" and no reply would be heard. Then she would say, "If you know me, press my hand." He sometimes closed his eyes and would close them soon again. This occurred at intervals of nearly every five minutes. The one peculiarity of his demise was the exhibition of remarkable vitality which he seemed to present as the obstacle to death. Family after family flickered away. He died with his conscience about him. Toward the last his respiration was panting, shallow and noiseless. His breathing became very quick. His death resulted from exhaustion, and he evidently suffered no pain from the time he began to sick. His last voluntary words were spoken ten days afternoon shortly after two o'clock, when he said: "I hope nobody will be distressed on my account."

THE SCENE AT THE DEATH-BED.

Peacefully sleeping into the Valley of the Shadow.

Mr. McCREGOR, N. Y., July 23.—Shortly before eight o'clock this morning while the family were preparing for breakfast and the doctors were discussing the patient's chances in the room and at a glance, Henry, the nurse, who was with the general, stepped hurriedly out of the sick room and going to where the doctors were standing, informed them in a whisper that he thought the end was near. The doctors hastily went to the room and at a glance of the situation. They quickly ordered the nurse to summon the members of the family to the sick room at once.

Mrs. Grant, Mr. Jesse Grant and wife, U. S. Grant, Jr., and wife and Mrs. F. Grant, instantly on the summons and word came from the edge of the sick bed. Mrs. Sartoris not waiting upon the doctors, hurriedly went to the room and was the first member of the family present. Col. Fred Grant was the only member of the family absent, having straggled around the grounds. His servants were sent in search of him, but he entered the sick room of his own accord before any one had succeeded in bringing him the news of his father's approaching dissolution.

Col. Grant took a seat at the right hand side of the bed of the dying man, placing his left arm on the pillow above his father's head. Close by the bedside sat Mrs. Grant, intensely agitated with her emotions but bravely suppressing them and appearing calm. She sat slightly upon one elbow and gazing with eyes blinded with tears in the general's face. There was, however, no sign of recognition in his pallid face. He was breathing fast, and with slightly gasping respiration. Mrs. Sartoris leaned upon the shoulder of her mother, who was weeping and showing emotion the ebb of life in which she had constituted an element of pride.

The scene was a quiet one. The general was peacefully passing into another world. At a little distance behind Mrs. Grant and Mrs. Sartoris stood the general's sons, Douglas, Macready and Sands, silent spectators of a scene which but for their efforts would doubtless have occurred months ago. Jesse Grant and U. S. Grant stood opposite their mother at the other side of the bed. Near by at the foot of the bed stood Mrs. Jesse was Mr. N. E. Dawson, the general's confidential secretary and stenographer. At the foot of the bed stood Mrs. U. S. Grant, Jr., and by her side Mrs. F. Grant and Mrs. Jesse Grant. These three gazed directly down into the face of the general, while their eyes became suffused with tears. The sad expression of their faces plainly reflected the intense anguish of their feelings. Now and then they stole a glance at Mrs. Grant, who was weeping and sobbing, watching the face of her dying husband. Not a word was spoken and the stillness of the room added to the impressiveness of the sad scene.

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Governor Hill's Proclamation.

ALBANY, N. Y., July 23.—Governor Hill has just issued the following proclamation: By the Governor, State of New York, Executive Chamber.

Ulysses S. Grant, twice president of the United States, the defender of the Union, the victorious leader of the soldier and general on the field, the noble and noble official life, and following that notable journey around the world, when tributes of esteem from the nations of the earth, he chose his home among the citizens of our state. He died upon our soil, in the county of Saratoga, overlooking scenes made glorious by his valorous and patriotic life. It fitting that the state which he chose as his home should especially honor his memory. The words of the prophet of sorrow which we mark his death shall honor the officers which he held and proclaim that praise which shall ever be accorded to those who serve the republic.

Therefore it is hereby directed that the flags on the public buildings of the state be placed at half mast, and that on that day yet to be appointed—all ordinary business in the executive chamber and in the departments of the state government be suspended. The people of the state are expected to display in their funeral emblems of mourning, and it is requested that they discontinue their business and pay respect to the distinguished dead. Given under my hand and the privy seal of the state of New York at the capital in the city of Albany, this twenty-third day of July, eighteen hundred and eighty-five.

By the governor. WM. G. RICE, private secretary.

ALBANY, N. Y., July 23.—Governor Hill, this morning, in addition to his proclamation, sent the following personal dispatch of condolence to the Grant family, at Mount McGregor:

MOUNT McCREGOR, N. Y., July 23.—By proclamation, this morning issued, I have officially spoken the deep sorrow which the people of this state feel on the death of our noble and patriotic leader. I add my personal condolence and sympathy to all his family in the hour of their great bereavement. (Signed) DAVID B. HILL.

THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION.

The Chief Executive Pays Fit Honor to an Illustrious Predecessor.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 23.—The president at a few minutes past eleven o'clock this morning issued the following proclamation: By the President of the United States of America: Proclamation.—The president of the United States has just received the sad tidings of the death of that illustrious citizen and ex-president of the United States, General Ulysses S. Grant, at Mt. McGregor, in the state of New York, in which place he had lately been removed in the endeavor to prolong his life.

In making this announcement to the people of the United States the president is impressed with the magnitude of the public loss of a great military leader who was in the hour of victory magnanimous and merciful, serene and self-sustained; who, in every station, whether as a soldier, or as a chief magistrate, twice called to power by his fellow-countrymen, led unwaveringly the pathway of duty, undeterred by doubts, single-minded and straightforward.

The entire country has witnessed with deep emotion his prolonged and patient struggle with painful disease, and was watched by his couch of suffering with tearful sympathy. The nation and the world are united in the grief which his death has caused, and his memory will be held in reverence and honor by his fellow-countrymen, led unwaveringly the pathway of duty, undeterred by doubts, single-minded and straightforward.

The entire country has witnessed with deep emotion his prolonged and patient struggle with painful disease, and was watched by his couch of suffering with tearful sympathy. The nation and the world are united in the grief which his death has caused, and his memory will be held in reverence and honor by his fellow-countrymen, led unwaveringly the pathway of duty, undeterred by doubts, single-minded and straightforward.

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North and South. In Washington there was every expression of popular sorrow; it is believed the interment will be made in Washington, and the funeral services will be abandoned their intended location in Washington to-night and sent a sympathetic message to the Grant family.

SOLDIER AND PRESIDENT.

A Sketch of the Career of the Famous Union General and Republican President.

Ulysses Simpson Grant, first christened Hiram Ulysses, was born at Point Pleasant, Clermont county, Ohio, on the 27th of April, 1822. He was the eldest of six children. His early surroundings were severely plain, his father, who was of Scotch descent, being a dealer in leather, neither rich nor poor, but ranking among the hard workers of a young and growing state.

The aged Grant entered the military academy at West Point. He had been christened Hiram Ulysses, but the congressman who secured his appointment, by mistake wrote him down as Ulysses S. Grant. He graduated in 1843, twenty-first in a class of twenty volunteers in cadets. Four years later he was promoted to the rank of major in the army. He was in every battle of the Mexican war except Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo. He was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel in 1848. In 1848 he married Julia T. Dent, daughter of a merchant in St. Louis. In 1854, being then a captain, he resigned his commission in the army and went to St. Louis, where he operated a farm. There his daughter Nellie, now Mrs. Sartoris, and it is supposed that she was the first to place was known as the Wish-to-Wash. While residing there Grant made an effort to obtain the position of county surveyor, and was deeply disappointed at not receiving it. He removed his family to St. Louis after an experience as an agriculturist, which could not be considered a success.

His military achievements. On the 13th of April, 1861, Fort Sumter fell. On the 15th President Lincoln made his call for troops, and on the 19th Grant was drilling a company of volunteers in Galena. Four days later he took it to Springfield. From there