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ANDREW GREGG CURTIN

PENNSYLVANIA'S WAR GOVERNOR PASSES QUIETLY AWAY!

AN ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER CLOSED

DEATH OF ANDREW G. CURTIN ON SUNDAY MORNING AT 5 O'CLOCK.—DUE TO NERVOUS PROSTRATION AND DECLINING HEALTH—THE FUNERAL OBSEQUIES.—A MILITARY PAGEANT ACCOMPANIES THE REMAINS TO THE GRAVE.—PROMINENT MEN PRESENT—INTERESTING BIOGRAPHY.

During all of last week this community, as well as the country at large, was solicitous in regard to the condition of Bellefonte's most distinguished and esteemed citizen, Andrew G. Curtin, familiarly known as the "War Governor" of Pennsylvania.

Sunday morning at 5 o'clock, as the light of a bright Autumn day was breaking over the mountain tops, his mortality ceased—a great life ended. The final dissolution came without a struggle. He passed from the turbulent scenes of life to a peaceful, unending rest.

The malady which proved fatal was founded on nervous troubles and a general breaking up of the system caused by old age, he being 79 years old on the 22nd of April last. The beginning of the ex-Governor's final illness dates from February 27 last, when he was severely injured by a fall on the ice. This confined him to his home for over a month, but he partly recovered and was able to be about again. A severe attack of stomach troubles, from which he never fully recovered, arose several months ago and since then he had been in failing health.

On Sunday of last week he felt much improved and for a short time sat out on the front porch enjoying the sunshine and fresh air. On Monday he was out also. The alarm of fire at the steam laundry that evening brought him on the porch where for a short time he stood in the cool air with uncovered head, at the same time looking exceedingly pale, and frail in body as he returned to the room at the earnest solicitations of his daughter. Monday night he was overcome by a nervous chill and Tuesday morning upon the advice of his son-in-law Dr. G. F. Harris, he remained in bed from which he never arose. Thursday his condition became critical and a consultation was held by Drs. Harris, Fairbank and Dobbins. On Friday he rallied somewhat but on Saturday he grew worse and in the afternoon sank into an unconscious sleep which continued until Sunday morning at 5 o'clock, when the flickering flame of life became extinct and the great "War Governor" was at rest.

There were no persons present but the members of his family, which included his wife, Katharine Wilson Curtin, and the following children: Mary W. wife

of Dr. George P. Harris; Mary, widow of Capt. D. R. Brees; William W. Curtin, of Philadelphia, and Kate W. wife of M. D. Burnett, of Syracuse, N. Y. Dr. Harris, his son-in-law and attendant physician, was also present. All the members of the family are living but one, a daughter, Jennie who married William H. Sage of Ithaca, N. Y. She died last November. The ex-Governor and his wife had just celebrated their golden wedding on the 29th of May last in a quiet way on account of the recent death of their daughter.

The announcement of Gov. Curtin's death on that bright Sunday morning brought feelings of sadness and expressions of sorrow in this community, where he was born and grew to manhood, and spent the greater portion of his life. For here still dwell many of his companions of youth, many life-long associates, who for years had the privilege of enjoying his closest friendship and the opportunity to appreciate his true personal worth. The community at large venerated his name, and his noble life and illustrious achievements will ever be treasured by our people in grateful remembrance, while he sleeps in an honored grave.

The announcement by wire of the death brought in return many expressions of condolence from eminent statesmen and high officials. Among the first was that of Hon. A. K. McClure, Editor of the *Times*, Philadelphia, who was one of Gov. Curtin's nearest friends and with whom he had been closely associated during the war and in his political advancements. Telegrams were also received from Gov. Pattison, General D. H. Hastings, Gov. Flower, of New York; Congressman John B. Robinson, of Media, Pa.; James Kerr, of Washington; Edwin S. Stuart, mayor of Philadelphia, and many other prominent people.

On Monday morning the Centre County Bar Association met and made arrangements for a public meeting in the court house. Wednesday morning Chief Burgess W. E. Gray issued a proclamation calling upon all places of business to close on Wednesday and that appropriate decorations be made.

Messages of Condolence. The following are a few of the mes-

sages received from prominent personages by the family:

HARRISBURG.—"The sad news of your father's death has just reached me. Present to your mother and family my heartfelt sympathy. Every home in Pennsylvania will mourn with you. I will be present on Wednesday."
—ROBERT E. PATTISON,
(Governor of Pennsylvania.)

ALBANY, N. Y.—"Accept my sympathy in loss of your husband. I recall with pleasure my association with him in Congress, where I learned to appreciate the worth of his character and his great abilities."
—ROSWELL P. FLOWER,
(Governor of New York.)

PHILADELPHIA.—"I keenly share your bereavement. Will be with you Wednesday."
—A. K. MCCLURE,
(Ed. of *The Times*.)

EASTON.—"Dear Mrs. Curtin. Mrs. Hastings and I send you our love and sympathy."
—D. H. HASTINGS.

FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA.—"I have your telegram of yesterday from Beaver, from which I infer the death of your father. If correct, please wire date of funeral ceremony and tender to your mother my sincere sympathy with her in her sore bereavement."
—M. S. QUAY,
(U. S. Senator.)

In Mourning.

The citizens of Bellefonte fully appreciate the worth of the career just ended. If outward demonstration signifies anything the sombre decorations upon our public buildings, business houses, hotels, social, fraternal and political organizations truly signifies in a measure that they mourn the loss of such an eminent and distinguished citizen. The entire front of the court house was appropriately draped. Looking down Allegheny street and along High street there was a universal sentiment expressed that meant much. It was a tribute to a citizen well deserved, and freely bestowed.

Yet in this community there are scores of old soldiers, or their wives and orphaned children, who will offer silent prayers for their friend and benefactor. He was known as the "soldier's friend." His constant solicitude for these was shown by kindness, and a generous charity, of which the public had little knowledge.

These were not the only objects of his care. With a great tender heart for his fellow man, poverty and distress, whenever and wherever they came to his attention in this community, received a kind word and helping hand, from Andrew G. Curtin. His unsolicited charity brought sunshine and warmth to many a sad home and fire-side.

While others may properly pay a fitting tribute to his memory, by public demonstration, these alone can unite in an eulogy that has more merit than a profusion of drapery or the magnificence of military pageantry. The public pay a fitting tribute to an illustrious career. The latter—decrepit soldiers, widows, orphans and the poor—mourn the death of a true friend.

THE FUNERAL.

Attended by an Immense Concourse of Citizens and Organizations.

The heavy rain on Wednesday morning that continued until noon, kept thousands at home.

General James A. Beaver, of our town, who is the only surviving ex-Governor of Pennsylvania, had charge of all arrangements for the funeral exercises on Wednesday.

Early in the morning the town began to fill up with people from the surrounding country, there being a general prevalence of Grand Army buttons and members of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, who began to arrive in large numbers on each incoming train. All trains were crowded beyond their limit and many extra coaches were pressed into service.

At 10 a. m. a public meeting was held in the court house, by the Centre County Bar Association, of which Gov. Curtin was one of the oldest members. It was a distinguished gathering of prominent state officials, men who fill high stations in life, eminent attorneys, journalists and political leaders and citizens.

The front of the room was heavily draped and so was the desk and chandeliers. Over the presiding officers chair on the wall hung a portrait of Gov. Curtin.

The interior of the bar was reserved for visitors and distinguished persons. The memorial exercises began by the call of Hon. A. O. Furst P. J. to the chair. Vice Presidents: Hon. Jerome B. Niles of Tioga county, and Hon. Augustus Landis of Hollidaysburg. Secretaries: Wm F. Smith prothonotary and W. G. Rumberger, register of Centre county. Hon. A. O. Furst then made an opening address after which Gen. Beaver read the resolutions prepared by the committee.

Addresses were then made by the following distinguished gentlemen: Col. Wm. B. Mann, of Philadelphia; Robt. E. Pattison, Governor of Penna; Senator; John Scott, of Philadelphia; Col. A. K. McClure, Ed. of the

Philad. *Times*; Senator Wm. A. Wallace, of Clearfield; Hon. John M. Bailey, of Huntingdon, and Gen. Gobin, Lebanon.

Their eulogies of the dead were glowing tributes, especially Col. McClure's, extracts of which will be given in our next issue.

At 12 m. the body was taken from the residence to the court house under an escort of the Grand Army of the Republic, who acted as guard of honor, and members of Co. B, N. G. P., of Bellefonte, all of whom were under the direction of John C. Miller. The casket reposed upon a catafalque inside the bar railing.

THE CASKET.

The body reposed in a heavy red cedar casket covered with black broad cloth, with oxidized trimmings. The name plate bore the inscription: "Andrew Gregg Curtin." The interior of the casket was trimmed in black satin. The casing, or rough box, was of red cedar highly polished. The casket was furnished by Henry Harris and was one of the finest.

FLORAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

The following floral contributions accompanied the body to the court house and were arranged on tables back of the bier. The lower portion of the casket was covered with an American flag draped, and on this rested a beautiful palm design, from Soldiers' Orphan Sixteen Club of Penna.

On the tables were a large pillow of fern and roses from the Masonic Fraternity, of Bellefonte.

A broken column by the Centre County Bar Association.

The Grand Army of the Republic, Gregg Post, of Bellefonte, a handsome floral design of a G. A. R. badge draped.

A large pillow with cross design in the centre, by the Blair county bank, of Tyrone.

A harp by Fred Stinson.

Also a large star with no card attached.

Several thousand people viewed the remains. There was a great crush but all passed in without any difficulty or serious interruption.

At 2 p. m. the body was returned to the residence where the funeral services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Laurie, pastor of the Presbyterian church, at Bellefonte, of which the deceased for many years had been a member, assisted by Rev. Dr. T. H. Robinson, of the Western Theological Seminary, Allegheny City, who had been Gov. Curtin's pastor while living at Harrisburg. These services were attended only by immediate relatives and near friends of the family. The ministers took their place at the foot of the stairway. The services were opened by Dr. Robinson reading from the scriptures, who then offered a prayer.

The opening address and funeral sermon was delivered by Dr. Laurie, who chose for his text:

"Know ye not that a great man is fallen this day?"—2 Sam. III 38.

Dr. Robinson then made the closing address and the services were concluded by Dr. Laurie with prayer.

Funeral Procession.

The procession moved promptly at 3 o'clock in the following order:

1st. The military escort, detailed by Gov. Pattison, Col. Theodore Burchfield commanding, consisting of the following of the National Guard of Pennsylvania: Second brigade band of Pittsburg; Sheridan troop, of Tyrone; battery B, companies A, B, C and G of the Fifth Regiment, and A, B, D, G and H of the Twelfth regiment.

2nd. As special escort of honor, the Grand Army of the Republic, Col. Amos Mullen in charge.

3d. Clergy in carriage.

4th. Honorary pall bearers in the following order: Gov. Pattison and Judge Dean; Senator Scott and Senator Wallace; Gen. Brooks and Gen. Taylor; Col. McClure and Col. Mann; Judge Biddle and Col. McMichael; Judge Furst and E. C. Humes; Gen. Hastings and Thomas Collins.

5th. The body with the carriers on each side the hearse.

6th. The male members of the family on foot.

7th. The representatives of the Pennsylvania Reserve Association, Captain John Taylor in charge.

8th. Representatives of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, of which Gov. Curtin was the only honorary member.

9th. Representatives of the Union League of Philadelphia.

10th. Representatives of the Bald Eagle Valley Railroad.

11th. General officers of the National Guard, the Governor's staff and the staffs of the brigadier generals and other officers according to rank.

12th. Representatives of the Centre County Veteran Association, John Hamilton in charge.

13th. The several Bar associations of Centre and adjoining counties, Col. J. L. Spangler in charge.

14th. Battalion of State College Cadets, Lieut. E. W. McCaskey commanding.

It was a magnificent pageant over a mile in length.

The body was taken to the family plot in the Union cemetery for interment. At the grave the concluding services were conducted by Gregg Post, G. A. R., of Bellefonte. At the conclusion three volleys were fired by the National Guards with a volley from the battery in an adjacent field.

The entire military escort left immediately at the conclusion of the funeral.

A Glowing Tribute.

The "Committee on Invitation" of the Centre County Bar Association issued the following invitations:

Ex-Governor A. G. Curtin died at his home, Sunday morning, Oct. 7th, 1894. His death closes a life distinguished for devotion to duty in public as well as private stations.

Illustrious as a statesman, loyal as a citizen, brilliant as a lawyer, he has left the impress of his character upon the nation's history. A nation mourns his departure, and the homes of her citizen soldiery are saddened by the loss of their staunchest friend. He more than any one else in later years linked the past, with its perils to our national existence, to the present with its fruition of prosperity and extended influence; and for his unselfish patriotism a generous people will ever cherish his name in grateful remembrance.

As a fitting tribute to his memory the Centre County Bar Association, of which Gov. Curtin was the oldest and most honored member, will hold memorial exercises in the Court House at Bellefonte, Wednesday, October 10th, 1894, at 10 o'clock a. m., to which you are most cordially invited.

J. C. MEYER,
E. R. CHAMBERS,
CLEMENT DALE,
Com. on invitations.

Oct. 8th, 1894.

Early Arrivals.

On Tuesday evening the train brought a number of prominent arrivals to town; President Roberts' private car came through from Philadelphia.

Hon. A. K. McClure, editor of the *Phila. Times*, and Col. Wm. B. Mann, the foremost attorney of the Philadelphia bar, were taken to the residence of Hon. P. Gray Meek; Brigadier General Brooks, of the U. S. Army, was the guest of General Beaver; Adjutant General Greenland was taken to Col. W. Fred Reynolds' home.

The following distinguished names were on the Bush House register Tuesday evening: Titian J. Coffrey, Washington, D. C.; Hon. A. O. Barker, Edensburg, ex-congressman; Hon. W. Hayes Grier, Columbia, Pa., State printer; Hon. Lewis E. Atkinson, Mifflintown, Pa., congressman; Hon. Andrew Reed, Lewistown; Henry Manger, Philadelphia, sculptor; Hon. Henry Bumm, Philadelphia, a delegate to the convention that nominated Curtin in 1860; Hon. John Scott, Philadelphia, ex-United States senator, now of the Penna. R. R.; Lewis W. Megargee, Philadelphia, city editor of *Times*; Richard A. Lewis, Maurice E. Fagan, Alex. P. Calesbury, Francis M. Brook, delegation from the Union League of Philadelphia.

The following were at the Brockerhoff House: 3rd Brigade Staff—J. P. Gobin, Lebanon, brigadier general; Maj. W. H. Egle, brigadier surgeon and State librarian; H. P. Moyer, Lebanon, quartermaster 3rd brigade; M. A. Gherst, Lebanon, ass't adjutant general; A. W. Shultz, Lebanon, Ed. Y. Seidel, Danville, aids; H. D. Rice, Lebanon, quartermaster sergeant; Chas. H. Bernheisel, commissary sergeant; S. M. Jackson, State treasurer, Harrisburg.

To give the list of Wednesday's prominent arrivals would be impossible, owing to a lack of time and space.

FOR A MONUMENT.

Henry Manger, a famous sculptor and artist, from Philadelphia, arrived on Tuesday evening for the purpose of making a plaster cast of the face of the deceased statesman. This is done upon the suggestion of prominent military associations with the view of having a suitable monument erected at this place in the near future.

DISTINGUISHED PALL BEARERS.

The following were honorary pall-bearers: Governor Robert E. Pattison, ex-Gov. James A. Beaver, Col. A. K. McClure, General Solicitor John Scott of the Pennsylvania Railroad, Philadelphia; General D. H. Hastings, Supreme Court Judge John Dean; ex-United States Senator Wm. A. Wallace; Captain John P. Taylor and Colonel William Mann, of Philadelphia; Judge A. O. Furst, Thomas Collins and E. C. Humes, president of the First National Bank, Col.

Morton McMichael, of Philadelphia, and Hon. Craig Biddle.

The carriers were representatives of the Pennsylvania Reserve Association, four members of the Soldiers' Orphans' Sixteeners Association, and four members of the Grand Army of the Republic.

GOVERNOR CURTIN'S CAREER.

Personal and Political Biography of a Great Pennsylvanian.

(The following is an extract from Col. A. K. McClure's biography of the deceased. On account of his long personal association with him it is considered the most authentic—Ed.)

Andrew Gregg Curtin was born at Bellefonte, Centre county, on April 22, 1816, the last year of the presidency of Madison. His father, Roland Curtin, who had come to America from the North of Ireland in 1765, was one of the pioneers of the iron industry in Central Pennsylvania. Early in the century he built a forge on Bald Eagle Creek, near Bellefonte, and then he afterward established a furnace—the first, with one exception, in all that region—which was the beginning of the great industry that made the region rich and famous. He married, as his second wife, the daughter of Andrew Gregg, member of Congress and United States Senator from Pennsylvania for many years, Secretary of the Commonwealth under Gov. Heister, and Federal candidate under Gov. Heister, in 1825, who had removed to Bellefonte shortly after Curtin settled there.

The boy thus came of good stock upon both sides. He had every advantage of education that the schools and academies of interior Pennsylvania could afford, and began the study of law with William W. Potter, then of Bellefonte, going afterward to the law school of Dickinson college. He was admitted to practice in 1839, and soon acquired a reputation as an eloquent pleader. He was a brilliant jury lawyer and his persuasive powers made him one of the most popular counsel for the defense in all that section of the country. His unusual gift of speech took him naturally into politics. It was a fine occasion for party eloquence, that period of young Whig enthusiasm, and in the famous campaign of 1840 Curtin's fame as a stump speaker had spread throughout the state. When it came to the great campaign for Harry Clay, in 1844, he was already recognized as a leader and his position in the Whig party was acknowledged.

Tall, lithe and graceful, with a handsome face crowned by masses of dark hair and lighted by flashing eyes, with clear and fluent speech and a fund of ready humor he was an ideal campaigner. But he was more than this, a politician of broad grasp, judgement and foresight and great earnestness. In 1848 he was a Presidential Elector on the Taylor ticket and was elected in the last Whig victory. In 1851 he was again on the electoral ticket and two years later he had become widely recognized as the proper candidate of his party for governor. But the Know-Nothing movement was sweeping over the state at this time and Curtin stood out of the way in favor of Pollock, who was elected governor and made Curtin his secretary of state.

Curtin's services in this office were very important. Its duties at that time included those now performed by the Superintendent of Public Schools, and under his administration the school system of the state received a strong impetus in the direction of its modern development. The county superintendent-elects were established, deriving their office from a direct election, and the system of state normal schools, that most important addition to the state's educational equipment which made possible the progress of later years.

After his term as Secretary of state, Mr. Curtin resumed his professional practice, but giving attention also to the new and important development of his section. His political influence was strengthened. The slavery issue was growing more and more important and Curtin was from the first an earnest opponent of pro-slavery aggression. He was eloquent upon the stump in the early campaigns of the Union Republican party, and when the issue finally shaped itself in the critical election of 1856 Curtin was one of the leaders to lead in the opening battle as the Republican candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania.

Curtin's candidacy had a most important bearing upon political history. It was absolutely essential that Pennsylvania, Indiana, and especially Pennsylvania, should be carried by the Republicans in October if they were to have any chance in the Presidential election in November. But in Pennsylvania they had still to consider the Know-Nothing element that had been locked, and whose defection would defeat Curtin, and this element was bitterly opposed toeward, because he was expected to have favored a division of the school fund in New York. The Pennsylvania delegation to the national convention had been organized for Simon Cameron, in accordance with an understanding reached when Curtin was nominated for Governor, and when they did not expect to nominate him, they were in a position to make their vote effective when they should decide to change. Curtin went to Chicago, with A. K. McClure, chairman of the Republican State committee, and there met Henry S. Lane, the nominee for Governor of Indiana. They had no personal acquaintance of their own, but they were convinced that they could not carry Pennsylvania if Seaward were nominated, and Lane's same conviction as to Indiana. So strong were their representations that many of the supporters of Seaward began to waver, and it was brought about at length that several of the New England and other delegations asked the Pennsylvania delegation to name three candidates who could carry this state. Accordingly they named Cameron as their first choice, John McLane second and Abraham Lincoln as the third. Lane cast his vote in this choice and thus it came about in the end, largely through Curtin's influence, that Pennsylvania practically determined the nomination of Lincoln.

Curtin returned from Chicago and entered at once upon that brilliant personal canvass of the state that is still remembered with enthusiasm, and that did not close until his election in October, by a majority of 2,000 over Henry D. Foster, with that of Lane in Indiana, decided the Presidential campaign of 1856 in favor of the Republican party.

CURTIN AS WAR GOVERNOR.

Pennsylvanians of the present day can hardly appreciate the gravity of the situation which confronted the Governor of this Commonwealth when he came into office in January, 1861. Some of the Southern States had already declared their secession from the Union, and others were trembling in the balance. The attitude of the Federal Government had been vacillating, and was still undecided. More than ever was Pennsylvania the keystone of the Federal arch, and the whole country looked to its action to indicate the course which the future was to take. Pennsylvania was a border state, touching the slave state upon the south and standing between them and the antagonistic Commonwealths of the northeast. A Republican President had been chosen, but had not yet assumed office, and it fell to Governor Curtin, a Republican whose close association with Lincoln was well known, to define the attitude of his state at a time when his attendance was likely to determine the attitude of the whole North and possibly to affect also that of Virginia and other Southern States that had not yet taken the irreversible step toward disunion. It was under these conditions and with a full appreciation of the gravity of his utterances that Governor Curtin in his inaugural address laid down those fundamental principles, defining the relations of the states to one another and to the Union.

As the war clouds deepened, few men in public life showed so full an appreciation of (Continued on 4th page.)