

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Touching Tributes Paid to the Memory of Col. L. D. Warner.

The funeral of Col. Warner was held in the Presbyterian church at Portville yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, Rev. S. J. Clark officiating. Mr. Clark, among other appropriate remarks, said that Col. Warner was a man who when he saw his duty to his God and fellow-men was always ready to perform that duty no matter how much personal effort and self sacrifice it required. Mr. Warner was one of the few men of whom too much could not be said in his praise by one whose duty required him to officiate at the last service which could be rendered the deceased. The Wessel Post, No. 85 of Portville, attended the funeral in a body and accompanied the remains to their last resting place in the pretty cemetery overlooking the valley in which Col. Warner spent the 76 years of his life and in which his influence for good will be felt for many years. The floral offerings were many and beautiful. The bearers were Wm. Holden, E. M. Bedford, H. J. Crandall, F. E. Tyler, J. H. Fairchild and A. McDougald.

In the evening a memorial service was held in the church where Mr. Warner had spent many happy hours and of which he was an active member. The friends and neighbors of the deceased, including the Grand Army Post of Portville and 30 members of Bayard Post No. 222 of Olean, filled the church to overflowing. This service was entirely informal and void of any ostentation which was fitting as Mr. Warner was a modest, unassuming man and one whose noble deeds were done without display. At this service his pastor, Mr. Clark, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Reed, pastor of the M. E. church of Portville. Capt. Wm. Holden in a few well chosen words spoke of Col. Warner's enviable military record and of his association with him as a member of the G. A. R. Although it was not Mr. Holden's fortune to serve during the rebellion in the same regiment with the deceased, he was familiar with the history of his bravery and had learned from those who served with him of the many kind acts and of his ever ready willingness to assist those under his command when fatigue and sickness was their lot.

Supervisor W. B. Mersereau next spoke of Mr. Warner as a public servant, and of the interest he always took in public affairs. Among other important public offices to which he always brought honor was supervisor of his town. He was given this office ten consecutive terms, an honor which Portville has never conferred upon any other person. Mr. Mersereau stated that it was not only years that made history but deeds and the history of Mr. Warner's public service is full of

always upright and... the best interests of those whom he served. Hon. W. E. Wheeler next spoke of Mr. Warner as one whom he had known, honored and respected from early boyhood. In connection with Mr. Wheeler's remarks he read portions of letters written by Col. Warner when he was at the front fighting to maintain his country's honor and for the preservation of the flag. These letters were written to the late Wm. F. Wheeler and to Mrs. Wheeler, who were warm friends of the deceased. It is hard to realize that letters so scholarly could have been written by one who in early life had so few educational advantages.

These communications portrayed the man as he was known by his associates, ever modest, true and faithful to his God, his country and mankind. During his services as a soldier he always gave the credit of his success to others and took no share of it to himself. Mr. Clark, as these interesting services were about being brought to a close, briefly yet eloquently presented a few lessons from this noble man's life, which all could well remember and profit by.

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*Manhattan
John L. Spencer*

(Courtesy of John Lewis Spencer)