

BIOGRAPHIES of Notables buried in VALE CEMETERY

Alexanderson, Ernst - He came to the U.S. in 1901 to meet the electrical wizard, Charles Steinmetz at General Electric. He had been employed at GE for only a short period of time when GE received an order from an American professor and researcher, Reginald Fessenden, for an alternator 1000 times more powerful than any in existence at that time. Two years later it was installed in Fessenden's radio station in Brant Rock, MA. On Christmas Eve 1906, Fessenden broadcast the first radio transmission with music and talk, played the violin and read from the Gospels. The transmission was heard as far away as the Caribbean Sea. Alexanderson was also involved in railway transmission, phone relays, and long distance power transmission. He developed facsimile radio broadcasting of hand written notes across the Atlantic. When his son was kidnapped and held for ransom, the radio transmission of his description led to the apprehension of the culprits. Dr. Alexanderson was also instrumental in the development of television. The first television broadcast was to his GE Plot home at 1132 Adams Rd. in 1927. Over his lifetime Dr. Alexanderson received 344 patents, the last awarded in 1973 at age 94.

Barney, Howland S. - Founder of Barney's Department Store on State Street near Ferry Street in Schenectady.

Berg, Ernst Julius - He was an eminent mathematician and electro-physicist who was born in Oestersund Sweden. He began his career as an assistant to Steinmetz. He became a consulting engineer at General Electric and joined the Electrical Engineering Faculty at Union College. He became E.E. Department Head at the University of Illinois in 1906, but

returned to Union College in 1913 and later became Dean of Engineering. A pioneer in radio development, he produced the first 2 way radio voice program in the United States. (grave site is in M-3 #12). Born 1871 – died 1941.

Beyer, Jacob - In 1889 Jacob Beyer took over the VanHorn Furs business which was founded in 1837. The Beyer Fur Salon is still operating today making it one of the oldest businesses in Schenectady.

Brown, Helen (Nellie) - Founder of the prestigious Brown School, a private school, established in 1893 on Liberty St. as an alternative to public school. Children from Schenectady's professional and affluent families attended the Brown School. It later moved to Rugby Road and is now located on Consaul Road in the Woodlawn section of the city.

Cady, Jay - President of The Schenectady Bank, and involved in building the Masonic Temple on Church Street.

Casey, James Seaman (1833-1899) - He was a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor for his participation in the Indian Campaigns He served as a Colonel in the U.S. Army. He was awarded the Medal of Honor as a Captain in the 5th U.S. infantry for action on January 8, 1877 at Wolf Mountain, Montana. He is buried in the Thornton Family grave site because his wife was a Thornton.

BIOGRAPHIES of Notables buried in VALE CEMETERY

Cermak, William - He was a master potter who was born in Bohemia and came to the United States in 1886 at age 38. He became head of the porcelain division of the Edison Machine Works which became General Electric. He developed the electrical insulators usable with 10,000 volt transmission lines, a breakthrough that promoted rapid growth of electrification of the United States.

Cermak, Frank - He was the son of William Cermak; he worked with his father and specialized in ceramics and electrical insulator development. Another branch of the Cermak family settled in Chicago. One member of that branch of the family, Anton Cermak, was the mayor of Chicago and died in 1933 of an assassin's bullet intended for President Franklin Roosevelt.

Clute Brothers - Cadwallader, John and Jethro, owned the Clute Brothers Foundry which produced the motor for the revolving turret of the first ironclad ship, the Monitor at the time of the Civil War.

Coolidge, Dr. William (1873-1975)
Inventor of modern x-ray tube. He also developed ductile tungsten; and lamps made with ductile tungsten filaments appeared on the market in 1911 and dominated the lighting industry thereafter. He became the head of the GE Research Development Center. Among his many other accomplishments he developed the sodium vapor lamp and the electric blanket. He was the only person elected in his own lifetime to the National Inventor's Hall of Fame and was the holder 83 patents

Crane, Jonathan - He was the owner of a cotton manufacturing factory in an area known as Cotton Factory Hollow (now a part of the Crosstown Highway) . He is the one for whom Crane Street is named .

Dana, Francis - He was active in the underground railroad and was a contributor to the Albany Abolitionist Newspaper. He and his wife, Diana Harris are both buried in Vale Cemetery.

DeSpitzer, Ernest - He was a German immigrant clergyman and physician who served at Fort Oswego in the French and Indian War, Later he fought in the Revolutionary War and became a Surgeon General of the Provincial Forces.

Duryea, Isaac - He was of French Huguenot descent and spoke both English and Dutch. He was a man of strong abolitionist convictions. While still a Union College undergraduate he established a Schenectady Church for African Americans who were without a place to worship. The Church is now known as the Duryea Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Church. He was a chaplain in the Civil War and died in 1866 from disease contracted while in Libby Prison.

Dodge, Philip - He was the inventor of the Linotype machine that revolutionized newspaper printing because it automated type setting thus eliminating the need to set type by hand..

DeForest, Henry - He was born in 1847 and died in 1917. He was a U.S. Congressman (1911-1913), and Mayor of

BIOGRAPHIES of Notables buried in VALE CEMETERY

Schenectady for two terms. He was a well known land developer and the son of Obadiah DeForest, who was the Schenectady sheriff in 1850's. Henry's daughter married William Wright a member of the family that went on to launch the Schenectady Chemical Co., and now known as the global SI, Inc..

DeGraff, John - He was elected as Mayor of Schenectady in 1836 (a one-year term). He was also elected to the U.S. House of Representatives 1827-1829, 1837-1839.

Duane, James C. - He was the Chief Engineer of the Army of the Potomac in the Civil War and his rank was that of a Bvt. Brigadier General. He served at the siege of Petersburg.

Ellis, John - A Scotsman, he immigrated to the U.S. in 1831 and settled in Schenectady in 1837. He was the founder of locomotive works that became American Locomotive which produced the locomotive that was the first to cross the line linking East and West. The Ellis family built Ellis Hospital. The Ellis family marker looks away from the road and towards ALCO (American Locomotive Work). It is the tallest marker in the cemetery.

Eisenmenger, Frederich (1849-1912) He was a German immigrant who became a soldier in the Civil War. He joined a regiment as a soldier after his father was killed at the Battle of Resaca, Georgia. He was with Sherman on his famous march from Atlanta to the sea. He returned home and worked at the Schenectady Locomotive Works as a machinist. He served as Police Justice from 1883 until elected Mayor serving in 1904 and 1905.

Evans, Charles F. – (1889 – 1916) His nickname was “Chick” and he was a pitcher for the Boston Braves, 1909-1910. The team placed 8th in the National League. His win-loss record for 1910 was 1-1. His earned run average was 5.23.

Ford, Silas Watson - A Troy telegrapher. He was also a paleontologist who made some of the most important discoveries regarding Cambrian paleontology in the 19th century period. He found the first early Cambrian fossils in North America, thereby helping to resolve a geological controversy that had been ongoing for 30 years. Ford published 23 scientific papers. He also wrote a seven part series in the New York Tribune in 1879 for which Union College awarded him an honorary Master's Degree.

Franchot, Richard Hansen (1816-1876) - Civil War veteran – he was a Union Brevet Brigadier General and was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives serving from 1861-1863. He was an RPI graduate, civil engineer and railroad executive.

Fuller, Dr. Robert M. - He was hailed by the medical fraternity of the world as the inventor of the Tablet forms of medicine, earning for himself the title of “Father of Tablet Triturates”.

Fuller, William Kendall – He served as a U.S. Congressman from New York 1833-37.

Furman, Col. Robert – He was self-made local businessman, who was very civic minded. His wife's family maiden name was Van Guysling – and it was said that he

BIOGRAPHIES of Notables buried in VALE CEMETERY

married “the boss’ daughter. He and his family lived in the house that is now the rectory of St. Joseph’s Church on State Street. He helped develop Crescent Park (now Veteran’s Park) by donating some of his own land for it. He was also on the committee that established Vale Cemetery through the purchase of a large piece of wooded land known as the Vale. When his church, the Dutch Reformed Church burned in 1861, he provided money to have it rebuilt. He was one of a group of farsighted Schenectady residents who raised \$7,500 to help Thomas Edison purchase the old McQueen Locomotive Works property thus insuring that Edison would open his new company in Schenectady (Edison had refused to pay the asking price of \$45,000). He was also responsible for bringing trolleys to Schenectady.

Gardner, Carroll “Pink” - Schenectady County Clerk and prior to that the Schenectady County sheriff. Before his political career he was World Middle Weight Champion Wrestler (1921-1923) and World Light Weight Champion (1932-1934). Mr. Gardner’s wife was Eleanor Lunn, daughter of George Lunn, the Socialist Mayor of Schenectady. He has a very interesting monument with a carving of the Roman wrestlers on the reverse side. His father was in the stonemason business.

Glen, Horatio - Descendant of the Glen and Sanders families and one of the founders of the Schenectady Gazette.

Griffis, Reverend William Elliot – He was a Chaplain in the Civil War and a Pastor of the Dutch First Reformed Church. He recommended and supervised the re-

interment of the graves from the church’s graveyard in the Stockade to Vale Cemetery in 1869. He was a prolific writer; most of his books dealt with his long association with the Far East. One of his most famous books is the “Mikado’s Empire.” He helped design the public education system of Japan.

Haigh, James G. – He was known as a gentleman farmer in an area now known as “Central State Street.” His mausoleum has a statue of his dog Lion at the entrance. It is said that the dog came faithfully to the grave site every day and eventually died, and that cemetery workmen paid for the statue of the dog.

Hanson, Willis T. – He was noted for his long association with the Dr. Williams Medicine Company which originated Pink Pills for Pale People. In the late 1800s he acquired the sole distribution rights in the United States for this popular patent medicine. and the business became a huge financial success. He had a beautiful home at 821 Union Street in Schenectady.

Hanson, Willis T., Jr. - He was a director of the Union National Bank in Schenectady and the author of “A History of Schenectady During the American Revolution”. He was a founder of the Schenectady Rotary Club and was very active in civic affairs.

BIOGRAPHIES of Notables buried in VALE CEMETERY

Hazelton, George Cochrane (1832-1922)
He was a U.S. Congressman (1877-1883)
from Wisconsin, and a Union College
graduate.

Heck, Oswald D. – He was the Speaker of
N.Y.S. Assembly (1939-1959). Note the
carved gavel on his tombstone. His family
operated a German printing company in
Schenectady.

Holland, Alexander - He was the first
Treasurer of Union College and first
treasurer of American Express. His
mausoleum in Vale Cemetery was designed
by Edward Tuckerman Potter who designed
the Eliphalet Nott Memorial building at the
center of the Union College campus and also
Mark Twain's house in Hartford,
Connecticut.

Horsfall, Col. William - He was a Civil War
veteran who commanded the 18th New York
Infantry and died in service. The GAR
(Grand Army Republic) of Schenectady is
named for him. Three days before battle of
Antietam, he was killed leading a charge
during the Battle of South Mountain on
September 14, 1862,.

Inull, Joseph – He was an associate of
Thomas Edison when GE moved to
Schenectady and later became head of GE
Works in Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Jackson, Hannah – She was the wife of
Jared Jackson, a Civil War veteran.

Jackson, Jared - (1840-1888) He fought in
the Civil War as a member of Co. N. 20th
Regiment "U.S. Colored Troops". Volunteered

for military service at age 23, worked at
Elmira Prison Camp as guard for
Confederate prisoners

Jackson, Col. William – He as the
Commanded the 18th N.Y. Infantry in the
Civil War..

Jackson, Col. Allen H. – He commanded
the 134th New York during the Civil War;
this was the Schenectady and Schoharie
regiment.

Jackson, A.H – He was a Vice-President
and General Counsel of the General Electric
Company.

Jackson, Bartlett – He was a freed slave
who came North with Captain James T.
Joslin after the Civil War. Joslin was the son
of a Schenectady physician, who joined the
Army after attending Union College. Joslin
hired Jackson to tend his horses. Jackson
became a custodian at the police station and
then baggage man at the N.Y. Central. He
was a man of great physical strength. He
died in 1893.

Jackson, Samuel – He was New York
State Supreme Court Justice.

Jungren, Oscar – He was regarded as a
mechanical engineer genius with 130 patents.
He is credited with the development at GE of
the large turbines, hailed at the time as the
single greatest step forward in power plant
progress since James Watt invented the
steam engine.

Kennedy, Gilbert - He was a Lt. Colonel
in the 134th N.Y.(from Schenectady and

BIOGRAPHIES of Notables buried in VALE CEMETERY

Schoharie) who died of disease (probably camp fever) shortly after entering the service.

Kenyon, William – He was at one time the President of Alfred University, in New York State..

Kerste, Henry - A German immigrant, he was the owner and operator of Kerste's Drug Store on Union Street Pharmacy on Union Street.

Knight, A.F. – He is known as the inventor of the “Schenectady” golf putte.

Kruesi, John – He was a machinist who emigrated from Switzerland arriving in the U.S. in 1870. He joined the Edison Works (later General Electric) and it was said that he could decipher anything that Edison sketched and then build it. He is most famous for constructing the first experimental phonograph. He was a General Manager of GE Schenectady Works until his death in 1899.

Landon, Judson – He was a Schenectady County Judge, and one of the founders of the Schenectady County Historical Society.

Lewis, Charles – He was a graduate of Union College and the son of a Union College professor. He fought in the Civil War, was wounded in the battle of Chancellorville in 1863, and witnessed Lincoln's assassination in 1865.

Liecty, Austin – He was the president and publisher of the Schenectady Gazette from 1920-1945.

Mabie, Jan – He lived on the Mabie Farm (also known as the Mabee Farm) on the bank of the Mohawk River west of Schenectady. He has the oldest named marker in Vale Cemetery. He was a survivor of the 1690 Schenectady Massacre, died in 1725 and was buried in the Dutch Reform Church burial ground in the Stockade. That whole cemetery was re-interred at Vale.

McQueen, Walter - He was the Chief Engineer of Schenectady Locomotive Works; he designed the McQueen Engine and left to start his own factory, but it never opened. The site he chose was later looked at by Thomas Edison's assistants, who were looking for a place for Edison's company to relocate. It became the site of GE's main plant and headquarters.

Marsh, Simeon B – He is famous for composing the hymn “Jesus Lover of My Soul.”

Maxon, George – He was a civic leader, owner of a grocery store and president of the Mohawk Bank. The old bank building is currently the Stockade Inn.

Milton, William H., Jr. – He was a Major General in the Virginia State Militia, and the 8th Superintendent of Virginia Military Institute.

Myers, Mordecai - He was an acclaimed hero in the War of 1812 in which he was wounded at the Battle of Chrysler's Field. He went on to become the Grand Master of the N.Y.S. Freemasons. He was the thee first

BIOGRAPHIES of Notables buried in VALE CEMETERY

and only Jewish mayor of Schenectady (1851).

Mynderse, William TenBroeck - He was the architect for the Second Reformed Church Parsonage on Morris Avenue and many other homes in the city.

Nott, Elphalet - he was a D.D., L.L.D. and President of Union College for 62 years, 1804-1866, during which time student enrollment increased, the campus was developed and a faculty of national stature was assembled. Dr. Nott was a much admired pulpit orator of religious eloquence. He was the inventor of the Nott Stove.

Oathout, Abraham – He was a Colonel of the Schenectady Militia and member of the Committee of Safety at the time of the American Revolution. His home still stands on Washington Avenue in the Stockade section of the city across from the Historical Society.

Old Ladies Home - This burial site with its monument listing so many names was put in place for residents of the Home for the Friendless, a charity founded by Urania Nott, wife of the first President of Union College. The Old Ladies Home is now the Heritage Home for Women on Union Street.

Parker, John N. – He was a local Erie Canal Superintendent and hotel operator who built Schenectady's only "skyscraper, the Parker Building next to Proctor's Theatre.

Parsons, Hinsdill - He was president of Schenectady Railway Company (trolley cars).

Pearson, Jonathan – He was a Union College faculty member who was also a lifelong diarist. His four-volume work began while he was a student at Union College and became a definitive work on life in Schenectady in the 1800's.

Peek, Harmanus (1782-1838) - He was an early Congressional Representative 1819-1821.

Peters, Helena VanEps - She died in 1753. She was the daughter of a survivor of the 1690 Schenectady Massacre. Her portrait is at the Schenectady Historical Society and is the oldest portrait of a Schenectady resident.

Pitkin, Albert – e was president of the American Locomotive Co. from 1903 until his death in 1905.

Potter, Clarkson Nott (1828-1888) - He was a U.S. Representative from New York 1869-1875. He was also a civil engineer and lawyer, President of American Bar Association, and a candidate for Lieutenant Governor of NYS in 1879.

Potter, Judge Platt - He was on the reception committee to greet Lincoln on his journey through N.Y.S. on the way to his inauguration in 1861. A New York State Supreme Court Justice he also helped in the development of Vale Cemetery. He as the author of several law books; was a life

BIOGRAPHIES of Notables buried in VALE CEMETERY

trustee of Union College; and President of Mohawk Bank.

Proper, David S – He was a volunteer fireman who enlisted in the 134th N.Y. during Civil War. He was killed at Gettysburg on July 1, 1863. He is interred in Vale because the volunteer firemen of Schenectady raised money to have his body shipped home.

Putman, Clarissa – She was a local Dutch girl and the first love of Sir John Johnson, son of Sir William Johnson. Although she bore Sir John two children, Sir William refused permission for them to marry. At Sir William's urging, John eventually married a woman of society. Clarissa never married.

Quinlin, Simon - He was born in Liverpool, England, emigrated to U.S. in 1851. He became the Grand Exalted Ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks 1889-1891 and in that capacity he instituted the Book of Remembrance and Remembrance Day in Elks Lodges. He was also a physician, real estate developer and theater entrepreneur in Chicago.

Ramsey, Henry- He was a New York State licensed engineer and surveyor in the 1830s who was responsible for work on the Erie Canal and the early railroads.

Robison, Margaret - She died at the age 108. She was born into slavery and was the last Schenectady witness to the American Revolution.

Romeyn, Dirck - He was a Domine of the Dutch Reformed Church who helped found the Schenectady Academy which over time became the beginning of Union College.

Rowe, Peter - He was a NYS Congressman elected to the 33rd Congress (1853-1855) after he served as Mayor of Schenectady 1846-1850. He was also the Chief Auditor of N.Y. Central Railroad.

Ruffner, Charles – He was president of Adirondack Power & Light and Schenectady Trust Bank President, died 1939.

Scherin, Henry – A German immigrant, he was killed in the Civil War at Battle of Chancellorsville in May, 1863. He was a captain in 119th N.Y. and a friend of Charles Lewis. (see entry for Charles Lewis)

Schoolcraft, J. Teller – He was the mayor of Schenectady (1914-1915)

Schoppe, Amelia – She died in 1858; was a well known German novelist who wrote "Valley of the Temple." Union College President Eliphalet Nott spoke at her funeral, and Hebbel wrote her epitaph.

Stanford, Charles - He was a NYS Senator and he managed his family's interests in the East. His home is now the Ingersoll Home at the intersection of Balltown Road and State Street. He built an early municipal water distribution in the City of Schenectady. His brother, Leland Stanford, who founded Stanford University in California, was a principal in the building of the transcontinental railroad, and it was Leland

BIOGRAPHIES of Notables buried in VALE CEMETERY

who pounded the golden spike at Promontory Point, UT for that railroad.

Steenstrup, Christian (1873-1955) - Born in Aarhus, Denmark, he emigrated to the U.S. in 1894. He designed the GE Monitor Top Refrigerator which made home refrigerators affordable to the average American. He also designed turbines. He was the recipient of 100 patents.

Steinmetz, Charles Proteus - Electrical engineer with strong socialist beliefs. He came to the U.S. because of political persecution in Europe. While he worked at GE, he became one of the top inventor/engineers in the 20th century. He was considered a genius in the field of electricity and he laid the foundation for modern engineering. Steinmetz was very involved in Schenectady, his adopted city, and much loved by its residents. He not only served on the School Board and was President of the Common Council, but was also a prominent figure in the First Unitarian Society of Schenectady, a church that avidly promotes equality for all people. He was a member of the Socialist Party, a group that also supports women's rights. Steinmetz never married as he did not want his humped back, which his father also had, to be inherited by his children. He made a family for himself, however, by adopting one: a young engineer whom he met at GE, Joseph Hayden, his wife, and three children lived happily in Steinmetz's large home on Wendell Avenue. Their youngest daughter died recently in Schenectady. (His sister, an artist, lived with him for awhile when he was younger, but moved to NYC after she grew

tired of the practical jokes that Steinmetz and his friends played on her.)

Swart, Mildred - She lived to be 101. A silent movie pianist at the former Strand Theater, she was a resident of the Vale neighborhood.

Swits, Major Abram - He was a Major in the 2nd Albany Militia during the American Revolution; and commanded the Colonial detachment for the "Battle of the Normanskill" in August 1777 where 17 British Loyalists were captured.

Swits, James Cuff - A Mohawk Indian, he was said to be nearly 7 feet tall. He was an herbalist and collected plants from which he made his remedies. Physicians would often ask him to treat patients if conventional medicine failed. He was buried in the County Plot (for the indigent) from which his body was exhumed for dissection by Union College students. It was apparently returned to the wrong grave in Potters Field. His tomb stone is the only one in Potter's Field with a likeness (his profile) carved on it. It states that he was "admitted to that Equal Sky."

Swits, Walter - He was a Lieutenant with Seth Warner and the Green Mountain Boys in the American Revolution 1777-1780. Participated in Battle of Bennington and Battle of Saratoga.

Thompkins, George W. - He was the recipient of a Civil War Congressional Medal of Honor. He served in the Civil War as a Corporal in Company E, 124th New York Volunteer Infantry. He was awarded the

BIOGRAPHIES of Notables buried in VALE CEMETERY

CMOH for his bravery at Petersburg, Virginia on March 25, 1865. His citation reads "Capture of flag of 49th Alabama Infantry (C.S.A.) from an officer who, with colors in hand, was rallying his men".

Thornton, General William - (1803-1866) He commanded Watervliet Arsenal during the Civil War.

Tulloh, Myrtle - Born in Bermuda, Mrs. Tulloh resided in Schenectady from 1936 to 1996. She worked at the Schenectady County Public Library and was a housemother at the State Correctional School for Girls in Hudson, New York. In 1996 she took up residence in Hawaii and was a volunteer foster grandparent. She was the recipient of a letter of recognition from President Truman for her volunteer service in World War II and from President Bush for her work with the National Children of the U.S.A. She was the recipient of a plaque from First Lady Rosalynn Carter for her work with the Foster Grandparents. She received awards as the Outstanding Senior Volunteer, the J.C. Penny Golden Rule Award (for volunteer service in Honolulu). She was cited for volunteer service by the Hawaii State Legislature and the Honolulu City Council.

VanDyck, Cornelius – He was a Lt. Colonel and Commander of Fort Stanwix who fought at Monmouth and Yorktown during the American Revolution. He was a Charter member of the Freemasons in Schenectady.

Van Guysling, Elias – He died in 1695; his is the oldest grave in Vale. It was moved from the VanGuysling family plot on Van

Slyk Island in the Mohawk River when it was taken over by GE for enlargement of their factory.

VanIngen, Dr. Dirk – He was a doctor in the early days of Schenectady. He was also a member of the Schenectady Committee of Safety and a senior surgeon in the Continental Army during 1777-1780.

VanSantvoord, Cornelius - He is one the earliest pastors of the Dutch Reformed Church in Schenectady. He died 1752.

VanVoast, Horace – He was Mayor of Schenectady 1908-1909.

Van Vorst, Noah Vibbard - Age four years, he was the first burial in Vale Cemetery.

Veeder, Garrett S. – A Revolutionary War officer, he was a Captain in the 1st. N.Y. Regiment from 1776 through the end of the war. He also served in Saratoga in 1777.

Viney, Moses - He was an escaped slave who became the chauffeur for Union College President, Eliphalet Nott. He became a respected businessman in Schenectady, owned and operated a livery stable, and donated his land to the Salvation Army before his death.

Westinghouse, Albert - He was in the cavalry and was killed during the Civil War in December 1864 in a battle outside New Orleans.

Westinghouse, George Family plot – The family was well known in the farming

BIOGRAPHIES of Notables buried in VALE CEMETERY

industry because of the invention of the thresher. George Westinghouse was a competitor of Thomas Edison and became famous for his own work in the electrical and railroad industries. George is buried in Pittsburgh, PA.

Westover, Myron - He was a Company Secretary at the management level in the early days of GE.

Whistler, General Joseph (1822-1899) - He was a Colonel of 2nd N.Y. Heavy Artillery during the Civil War, and was promoted to Bvt. Brigadier General 1865.

Whytmyer, Clarence - He was the Mayor of Schenectady in 1923

Wickware, Frank E – He was born in Gerard, Kansas, became a World War I Veteran, and pitched for the Mohawk Giants baseball team in the Negro League. He once defeated Hall of Famer, Walter Johnson.

Wiederhold, John - He owned a clothing mill on Broadway near the junction with Hamilton Street..

Witbeck, Clark - He owned and operated a retail and wholesale hardware store in the City of Schenectady..

Wright, Thomas Wallace - He was born in Scotland, emigrated to the United States and went on to become a Professor of Physics and Mathematics at Union College.

Wright, W. Howard - He was hired as Assistant Chemist by GE in 1895; he went

on to develop varnishes used as insulation material for GE's new electrical devices; he left GE to establish the Schenectady Varnish Works.

Wright, Henry DeForest - He was the son of W. Howard Wright and became the 2nd. President of Schenectady Varnish Works, which later became the Schenectady Chemical Works and then Schenectady International, Inc. This is now a multinational corporation known as the SI Group with headquarters in Schenectady County

Yates, Col. John – He commanded the 1st. Michigan Engineers in the Civil War

Yates, Christopher – He was the Leader of the Schenectady Sons of Liberty Committee of Correspondence. He fought in the Revolutionary War, was a veteran of the French and Indian War, was a founder of the St. George Masonic Lodge. In this family gravesite are also buried: Mary Elizabeth Dominis and Francis Ann Dominis, sisters of Capt. Owen Dominis who married the last Queen of Hawaii

Yelverton, James W. – He was a NYS Senator 1917 -1919; and founder of Citizens Trust Company. He was a former president of the Vale Cemetery Association.

Youmans, Captain Albert L – He was shot and killed in the line of duty on the evening of November 28th, 1924, the day after Thanksgiving. His assassin was never identified. Captain Youmans was a champion in the fight against speakeasies, gambling houses and other vice. Captain Youmans was

BIOGRAPHIES of Notables buried in VALE CEMETERY

on patrol with Officer John Flynn, who was wounded. The shooting occurred on Edison Avenue near the railroad bridge.

Young, Col. William - He commanded the 18 N.Y. Regiment in the Civil War.

A Note on the "Biographies of Notables Buried in Vale Cemetery":

This brief biography list of notable people at rest in Vale Cemetery was begun in September 2005. There are probably many more prominent people who have been omitted, but not intentionally. We would appreciate receiving any corrections or additions and they will be incorporated into the biography list.

Contributors to the development of this List of Notables:

Ruth E. Bergeron, Katherine Olney Delain, Maureen Gebert Christopher Hunter, Barbara & Bernard McEvoy, Ron Ratchford, Don Rittner, Trish Savage and Paul Tracy