

MANY WILL REGRET PASSING OF
A. N. RUSSELL.

Prominent Factor in Building of
Splendid Village Water Works Sys-
tem—Native of Oneida County and
Active in Various Lines.

Ilion, Aug. 1. (Special.)—With the knowledge of having a life of service and value to thousands of others that must truly remove the sting from death, Albert Newton Russell passed away last evening at his home in Otsego street, aged 87, with the realization that his life's work had won him the gratitude, love and re-

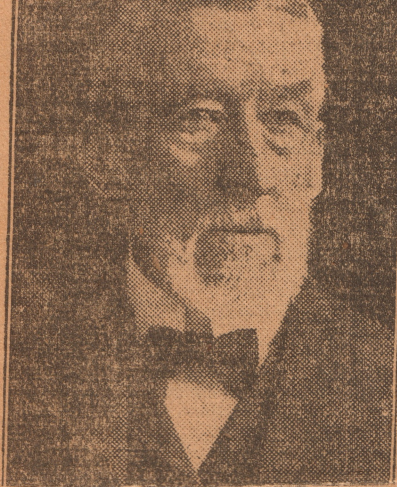


Photo by Thompson.
A. N. RUSSELL.

spect of a community. Mr. Russell had been ill six months and a few weeks ago the condition of his health compelled his resignation from the Board of Water Commissioners of this village, of which he had been one of the most valuable members since its origin, 22 years ago. At that time the letters of sincere regret and expressions of deepest gratitude from the Water Board and village trustees and the praise of the entire press of this community must have been a source of gratification to him. During his connection with the board Mr. Russell had given to its matters much of his best thought and energy, and that Ilion has one of the best water systems in the Empire State is largely due to his efforts. Mr. Russell will also be remembered as having instituted the weekly pay system in Ilion manufacturing while he was receiver for the firm of E. Remington & Sons. Mr. Russell occupied many public offices of trust and was for many years president of the Herkimer County Historical Society.

Mr. Russell was born March 17, 1827, on a farm in Chukery, town of Kirkland, Oneida county. When he was 10 years old his father sold his farm and engaged in the drug business in Sherburne, where he died, leaving three children, the youngest, Albert Newton, being 12 years old. Moving to New Hartford his mother gave the children such educational advantages as the district school afforded. Subsequently he attended a select school at New Hartford, supporting himself by working at a bench in a cabinet shop nights, mornings and Saturdays, thus acquiring some knowledge of mechanics as well as books. Later he spent several years at what was then Whitesboro Academy.

After leaving school he worked for some time on a farm and later clerked in a general store, but shortly secured employment with George W. Head, then a merchant at Paris Hill, where he received his fundamental training in commercial matters enabling him to fill later positions at New Hartford, Elmira and Corn-

At the latter place, through hard work, his health was impaired, and a change of climate made necessary, so in 1846 he moved to Fairfax county, Virginia, near the District of Columbia. After two years of farm life, which restored his health, he was engaged for some years as a superintendent of public works at Washington, D. C., having charge of the grading of Maryland and other prominent avenues, as well as being connected with the laying of the foundation for the Washington Monument.

He married May 2, 1850, at Fairfax, Mary Hatch, the daughter of Wells Hatch, who had come to that section from Chenango county. She died in 1905. Following his marriage he became proprietor of a steam saw and grist mill, in which business he continued until the breaking out of the Civil War in 1861. Being an ardent disciple of Horace Greeley, and his sympathies being entirely with the Union, he was prominent in the so-called American movement opposed to secession. The failure of that movement and the subsequent bombardment of Fort Sumpter, followed by the reckless action of the local rebel leaders, convinced him that he must leave the south, and, taking his family in a light wagon, he started north by way of Georgetown and Harrisburg, where, turning their vehicle over to an old neighbor, the family proceeded to Wellsville, Allegany county, where his brother resided. In October of that year Mr. Russell obtained employment with E. Remington & Sons at Ilion, where he soon moved his family, and had since lived.

Following the failure of E. Remington & Sons, Mr. Russell was appointed a receiver, with Addison Brill, and in that capacity had charge of the Remington Works for a number of years until its affairs were settled and properly disposed of. Mr. Russell was also engaged for many years in the retail lumber and wood working business, the firm being known first as Brill & Russell, and later as A. N. Russell & Sons. This business was sold some 10 year ago and since that time Mr. Russell had been president of the A. N. Russell & Sons Co., manufacturers of cabinet work.

Mr. Russell was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, being a member of the official board, and was prominent in many local activities.

There survive two daughters, Harriet Elizabeth and Mary Ella, and two sons, Samuel Thomas and George Rexford, all of whom are residents of Ilion. The funeral services will be held from the home Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock, Rev. E. B. Topping officiating.