

**OBITUARY ADDRESSES ON THE OCCASION OF
THE DEATH OF THE HON. DANIEL WEBSTER, OF
MASSACHUSETTS, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
THE UNITED STATES: DELIVERED IN THE SENATE
AND IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
THE UNITED STATES, 14TH AND 15TH
DECEMBER, 1852**

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Obituary Addresses on the Occasion of the Death of the Hon. Daniel Webster, of Massachusetts, Secretary of State for the United States: Delivered in the Senate and in the House of Representatives of the United States, 14th and 15th December, 1852 by Various

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OBITUARY ADDRESSES

ON THE

Occasion of the Death

OF THE

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER,

OF MASSACHUSETTS,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE UNITED STATES:

DELIVERED IN THE

Senate and in the House of Representatives of the
United States,

FOURTEENTH AND FIFTEENTH DECEMBER, 1852.

WASHINGTON:
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1853.

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In the Senate of the United States,

DECEMBER 20, 1852.

On motion by Mr. GWIN,

Resolved, That the Committee on Printing cause to be published, and bound in pamphlet form, in such manner as may seem to them appropriate, for the use of the Senate, ten thousand copies of the addresses made by the Members of the Senate and Members of the House of Representatives, together with so much of the Message of the President of the United States, at the commencement of the Session, as relates to the Death of the Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER.

Attest,

ABBURY DICKINS,
Secretary.

Death of Daniel Webster.

"WITHIN a few weeks, the public mind has been deeply affected by the death of DANIEL WEBSTER, filling, at his decease, the office of Secretary of State. His associates in the Executive Government have sincerely sympathized with his family, and the public generally, on this mournful occasion. His commanding talents, his great political and professional eminence, his well-tried patriotism, and his long and faithful services in the most important public trusts, have caused his death to be lamented throughout the country, and have earned for him a lasting place in our history."

[Extract from the President's Message.]

Obituary Addresses.

SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1852.

AFTER various topics of the Message of the President had been referred to the appropriate Committees, Mr. DAVIS rose, and addressed the Senate as follows :

MR. PRESIDENT :—I rise to bring to the notice of the Senate an event which has touched the sensibilities and awakened sympathies in all parts of the country—an event which has appropriately found a place in the message of the President, and ought not to be passed in silence by the Senate. Sir, we have, within a short space, mourned the death of a succession of men illustrious by their services, their talents, and worth. Not only have seats in this Chamber, in the other House, and upon the bench of the Court been vacated, but death has entered the Executive Mansion and claimed that beloved patriot who filled the Chair of State.

The portals of the tomb had scarcely closed upon the remains of a great and gifted member of this House, before they are again opened to receive another marked man of our day—one who stood out with a singular prominence before his countrymen, challenging, by his extraordinary intellectual power, the admiration of his fellow-men.

DANIEL WEBSTER, (a name familiar in the remotest cabin upon the frontier,) after mixing actively with the councils of his country for forty years, and having reached the limits of life assigned to mortals, has descended to the mansions of the dead, and the damp earth now rests upon his manly form.

That magic voice which was wont to fill this place with admiring listeners, is hushed in eternal silence. The multitude will no longer bend in breathless attention from the galleries to catch his words, and to watch the speaking eloquence of his countenance, animated by the fervor of his mind; nor will the Senate again be instructed by the outpourings of his profound intellect, matured by long experience, and enriched by copious streams from the fountains of knowledge. The thread of life is cut; the immortal is separated from the mortal; and the products of a great and cultivated mind are all that remain to us of the jurist and legislator.

Few men have attracted so large a share of public attention, or maintained for so long a period an equal degree of mental distinction. In this and the other House there were rivals for fame, and he grappled in debate with the master minds of the day, and achieved in such manly conflict the imperishable renown connected with his name.

Upon most of the questions which have been agitated in Congress during his period of service, his voice was heard. Few orators have equalled him in a masterly power of condensation, or in that clear logical arrangement of proofs and arguments which secures the attention of the hearer, and holds it with unabated interest.

These speeches have been preserved, and many of them will be read as forensic models, and will command admiration for their great display of intellectual power and extensive research. This is not a suitable occasion to discuss the merits of political productions, or to compare them with the effusions of great contemporaneous minds, or to speak of the principles advocated. All this belongs to the future, and history will assign each great name the measure of its enduring fame.

Mr. WEBSTER was conspicuous not only among the most illustrious men in the halls of legislation, but his fame shone with undiminished lustre in the