

**MEMORIAL ADDRESSES ON THE LIFE AND
CHARACTER OF NEWTON W. NUTTING (A
REPRESENTATIVE FROM NEW
YORK), DELIVERED IN THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES AND IN THE SENATE,
FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION**

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Memorial addresses on the life and character of Newton W. Nutting (a representative from New York), delivered in the House of Representatives and in the Senate, Fifty-first Congress, first session by Anonymous

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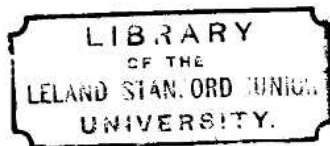
FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION.

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1890.

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Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be printed of the eulogies delivered in Congress upon the late NEWTON W. NUTTING, a Representative in the Fifty-first Congress from the State of New York, ten thousand copies, of which two thousand five hundred copies shall be for the use of the Senate and seven thousand five hundred for the use of the House of Representatives; and the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, directed to have printed a portrait of the said NEWTON W. NUTTING, to accompany said eulogies, and for the purpose of engraving and printing said portrait the sum of five hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated. That of the quota to the House of Representatives the Public Printer shall set apart fifty copies, which he shall have bound in full morocco, with gilt edges, the same to be delivered when completed to the widow of the deceased.

Approved, September 19, 1890.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DECEMBER 18, 1889.

MR. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it becomes my painful duty to announce the death of the Hon. NEWTON W. NUTTING, a Representative-elect to the Fifty-first Congress and my immediate predecessor. Judge NUTTING was a member of the Forty-eighth Congress and also of the Fiftieth Congress. At a later day I shall ask the House to take appropriate action in recognition of his faithful public services and of the purity of his private character.

I offer the following resolutions.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with deep regret and profound sorrow of the death of the Hon. NEWTON W. NUTTING, late a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That the Clerk be directed to communicate a copy of these resolutions to the Senate.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

MARCH 22, 1890.

Mr. PAYNE, by unanimous consent, submitted the following resolution; which was considered, and adopted:

Resolved, That Saturday, April 5, beginning at 3 o'clock p. m., be set apart for paying tribute to the memory of Hon. NEWTON W. NUTTING, late a member of the House of Representatives from the twenty-seventh district of the State of New York.

APRIL 5, 1890.

The SPEAKER. Three o'clock having arrived, the House will proceed to the consideration of the special order.

Mr. PAYNE. I submit the following resolutions.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the business of the House be now suspended, that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. NEWTON W. NUTTING, late a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, As a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased and in recognition of his eminent abilities as a distinguished public servant, that the House at the conclusion of these memorial proceedings shall stand adjourned.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

ADDRESS OF MR. PAYNE, OF NEW YORK.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is nothing in nature that surpasses the beautiful scenery of the lake region of central New York. Nestling among the hills, these inland lakes lend variety to the landscape and give beauty and charm. The soil is rich, the farms are well cultivated, and the people prosperous, intelligent, and contented. They illustrate the best element of our American life. The universal comfort is the result of patient and honest toil. The youth learn early the lesson that success comes only through perseverance and hard and persistent work. At the same time the open book of nature reveals new beauties which bring out and develop the highest and best instincts of humanity. Love of country, love of liberty, and love of virtue are but the natural outgrowth of such surroundings.

It was in this beautiful region, near the shore of Oneida Lake, while much of the country was yet a forest, that NEWTON W. NUTTING was born, on the 22d day of October,

1840. His father was Rev. William Nutting, of the town of West Monroe, in the county of Oswego. With the limited income of a small farmer he was unable to give his son the advantages of a liberal education. But young NUTTING did not lack for sound instruction at his own home. During the weary days of his last sickness he found relief in writing a little history of "One Day Out of Seventeen Thousand," in which he describes his first day's hunt with his father, and these are some of the lessons he received.

Stopping near a spring of sparkling water, the father was interrupted in his reverie by the son with a question for "his thoughts."

"It is thirty years," he replied, "since the first time I saw that spring. I was twenty-one years of age, and these waters bubbled up and ran away just as they do now. All these years has this spring been noiselessly sending forth to the world that life-giving water. It never gets weary, nor does it stop for a moment in its good work. The Divine Being, to Whom we are all accountable and Who guides us all our lives if we will let Him, furnishes the fountain somewhere in the hills. This spring, my boy, should teach us a lesson in life. It should teach us that the things that come from God's hands are pure and clean. It should teach us not to stop in our efforts to do our fellow-men good. It should teach us to do acts of love without show or noise. It does tell us that God has provided and will provide for all the beings dependent upon Him."

Later in the day, remarking the zest of the boy in the hunt, the father said: "You seem to enjoy this, my boy; it is natural you should. This is your first real hunt; you are just commencing, and my hunts are coming fast to an end. You see your sun of life always in the east, and the journey of life to you seems to be a long one. I see my sun of life

always in the west, and the journey of life seems short. Life is a curious state. You can not comprehend it and you will never be able to explain it to yourself even. You are now about ten years of age. Before you realize it you will be fifty, and when you are fifty I will sleep my last sleep. My labors and cares in life are drawing to a close; yours are just commencing. You will find this life, that now looks so pleasant and rosy to you, unsatisfactory. You will long for something beyond; and there is something worth longing for after this life is past. I can not express to you how anxious I am that you should choose the right way and the 'better part.'"

The teachings of the father bore fruit in the life of the son, as we shall witness later on.

But though the little farm stood almost alone in the clearing and the forest, with the growth of centuries, seemed to shut out young NURRING from the great and busy world beyond, his was an indomitable spirit that could not be confined. He possessed what is better than unlimited means for the average American youth. He had pluck, push, and energy. He had an inquisitive mind and a genuine thirst for knowledge. By dint of teaching the district school he managed to acquire a thorough academic education, although he was unable to supplement this by a collegiate course, and the lack of this was a fact he often deplored in his later life.

Supporting himself still by his own efforts, he pursued the study of the law and was admitted to the bar soon after he attained his majority. He began the practice of his profession in the little village of Parish, among the neighbors and friends of his boyhood. Is there a position more trying than that of the country lawyer? He is the observed of all observers. If he gets a retainer the neighborhood

knows it. The merits and demerits of his cause are tried at the bar of public opinion, and often the verdict is rendered before he gets a chance to present them before the legal tribunal. If he swerves a hair's breadth from the line of strict integrity the people find it out and set upon him the seal of condemnation, while on the other hand an intelligent community is ever ready to judge him upon his merits. If he deserves success they will not fail to accord him the full measure to which he is entitled. They become jealous of his honor and constitute themselves the guardians of his reputation. It is no mean achievement to obtain the confidence of such a constituency. Such was young NUTTING'S success in obtaining the esteem of his neighbors that in his twenty-third year he was elected to the important office of commissioner of schools, in which position he served most successfully for a term of three years.

During this time his profession called him frequently to the county seat, where he presented his cases to the highest courts of his county. He had the qualities of a successful lawyer. He was studious, thorough in his profession, trusted his clients and believed in the justice of their cause, and he was self-reliant. His talents attracted the attention of his associates and his peers, and he removed to the city of Oswego in 1866, where he entered into partnership with Hon. John C. Churchill, formerly a member of this House and now a justice of the supreme court of New York.

It was in this city that he passed the remainder of his days. It was a commercial town of no mean pretensions, being among the first twelve in the whole country in the volume of its trade and commerce. With the enlarged field came opportunities for achievement and success, and he did not fail to improve them. The people again and again recognized his ability and worth, and again and again called