

**MEMORIAL. CHARLES DELANO:
BORN AT NEW BRAINTREE,
MASS., JUNE 24TH, 1820. DIED
AT NORTHAMPTON, MASS.,
JANUARY 23D, 1883**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649308828

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Cover @ 2017

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PUBLISHED BY MEMBERS OF THE
HAMPSHIRE BAR.

1883.

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PUBLIC
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LIFE SKETCH.

CHARLES DELANO was born at New Braintree, Worcester county, Massachusetts, June 24, 1820. His father, Gideon Delano, born June 4, 1771, was the son of Thomas Delano, born May 10, 1704, who was the son of Jonathan Delano, born about 1648, who was the son of Philip De La Noye, a French Protestant, who joined the English at Leyden, and arrived at Plymouth in the second vessel (the Fortune) on Nov. 9, 1621, and settled in Duxbury. Gideon Delano, in 1808, married Betsy Brimhall for his second wife, and Charles was the youngest but one of their five children. They lived in New Braintree until Charles was about thirteen years of age, when they removed to Amherst, in order to give their children better facilities for education. Charles was fitted for college at Amherst Academy, and graduated at Amherst College in 1840, with high honors. In the following year he gave much attention to lit-

2700 11 Feb 19-30

erature and music, in connection with his intense devotion to the studies of his profession. He early made choice of the legal profession as his occupation in life, and immediately after leaving college he entered the law office of Hon. Osmyn Baker, in Amherst, as a student. Soon after that time, Mr. Baker was chosen to represent his district in Congress, and Mr. Delano, who had been admitted to the bar in 1842, took charge of his office business during his absence. While Mr. Delano was a student in Mr. Baker's office, Samuel T. Spaulding, afterward District Attorney for the Northwestern District and Judge of Probate and Insolvency for the County of Hampshire, and Henry M. Spofford, afterward Judge of the Supreme Court of Louisiana, were students in the same office. In January, 1847, Mr. Baker and Mr. Delano, desiring a larger field of labor, removed to Northampton and formed a copartnership, under the firm name of Baker & Delano. This firm at once stepped into the front rank of practitioners at the Hampshire bar. One of the first important cases that it was engaged in was the celebrated contest over the will of Oliver Smith of Hatfield. Baker & Delano were the local counsel of the eight towns named in the will as beneficiaries, and with them was associated Daniel Webster, the contesting heirs being represented by Rufus Choate. This co-

partnership continued until 1859. In 1848, the contest over the will proving successful, Mr. Baker was made president of the board of trustees of the Smith Charities, and from that time withdrew from active practice at the bar. On Sept. 12, 1848, Mr. Delano was married, by Rev. A. M. Colton, then pastor of the Village Church in Amherst, to Miss Sarah B. Gridley, daughter of Dr. Timothy J. Gridley of that town. They have had three children—Chas. G. Delano, Winthrop Delano, and a daughter, Sarah, who died in infancy. In 1849, Mr. Delano was chosen Treasurer of the County of Hampshire, and held that office by successive re-elections nine years, retiring from it in response to a call to a higher field of service. In the fall of 1858, without any preliminary canvass in his behalf, he was nominated by the Republican party, then newly-formed and flushed with the hope of victory, which was soon realized in the election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency, for Representative to Congress, and was elected by a majority of 3,568 in a total vote of 10,634. He was re-elected in 1860, by a majority nearly twice as large, and served in Congress four years. He was chairman of the committee on the District of Columbia, also chairman of the committee on Arms and Arsenal, and a member of the committee on Pensions. Returning from Congress in the midst of the ex-

citing scenes of the war, he devoted himself with redoubled zeal to the work of his profession. In June, 1859, he formed a copartnership with William E. Turner, Esq., which continued until Mr. Turner's decease in January, 1868. In November of the same year, he became associated with John C. Hammond, Esq., who had been a law student in the office of Delano & Turner, and the firm of Delano & Hammond continued until the decease of the senior partner.

Aside from his arduous labors at the bar, Mr. Delano devoted much time to literary culture and work. He was a member of the Northampton Literary Club, an association of the leading professional men of the town. In 1868, he delivered the annual address before the Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden Agricultural Society. He also devoted much time and labor to the affairs of the town. He was a regular attendant at the town meetings, took an active part in the discussions, and was very influential in shaping municipal affairs. He erected two fine residences for himself, one on Phillips Place in 1850, and one near the agricultural show-grounds in 1870. He served as a director of the Hampshire Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and as a trustee of the Clarke Institution for the education of deaf mutes, from 1877 until his decease. He was instrumental more than any other man in founding the Hampshire Law