

COL. F. W. FOSTER

Death of a Prominent and Public-Spirited Citizen of Wilmington.

He Passed Away Yesterday Afternoon at 4:50 O'Clock—Interment at Oakdale.

Messenger

We regret to chronicle the death of Colonel Flavel W. Foster, a prominent and public spirited citizen of Wilmington, who passed away yesterday at 4:50 p. m., at his home, 110 North Sixth street.

Last June Colonel Foster was taken sick and later in the summer a severe case of jaundice developed that proved exceedingly obstinate. In August he went to Lincoln Lithia Springs, Lincoln, N. C., and returned home during the first week in September very much improved in health. He was able to give attention to his business and went about his work with his usual ardor and brightness. Two weeks ago, however, he had an attack that caused him to take to his bed and he was never again able to leave it. A complication of troubles had set in that ultimately resulted in his death.

Colonel Foster was born at Canton, Pa., February 18, 1840, and consequently was in the 63rd year of his age. He was a federal veteran and was connected with the commissary department with General Terry's troops operating on the N. C. coast during the latter part of the war. He was at the battle of Fort Fisher in January 1865, and after Wilmington fell he was stationed here a year or two. When the war was over he decided to remain in North Carolina, and went to Bladen county where he was interested in the lumber business. With associates he conducted a saw mill at what is now known as Yorkville, a name which he gave the place. He also engaged in mercantile business at Elizabethtown and did a large and successful business. While a resident of Bladen he was elected to the legislature on the republican ticket, and served one or more terms. In 1870 he went to California and after spending a couple of years there came back to North Carolina and located in Wilmington about 1873. He was then in the United States revenue service and invested largely in real estate. He was elected a member of the board of aldermen in 1878, and while serving on the board was the originator and chief promoter of the movement that developed the Clarendon Waterworks. In 1896 he was chairman of the board of commissioners of New Hanover county.

From 1873 to 1885 Colonel Foster gave his attention to his real estate interests and in 1885, with Mr. J. A. Fore as a partner, he established the Fore & Foster Planing Mill, Sash and Blind Company. From that time to this he devoted his attention to the company's factory located at the intersection of Sixth street with the tracks of the Atlantoc Coast Line. The company for years has done a large business in the manufacture of doors, sash blinds, staircases, mouldings, etc. He did a very large business, both foreign and domestic, his foreign business being principally with the British West Indies, Bermuda, etc. Several years ago he established a saw mill at Castle Haynes with a view to furnishing lumber for the factory in this city.

Colonel Foster was a man of enterprise and push and was successful in all his business undertakings. He was a public spirited man and always took the liveliest interest in everything for the industrial development of Wilmington. As the head of one of our most important industrial enterprises, his death will therefore be a great loss to the community.

He was a liberal, generous and warm hearted man and many a good deed is down to his account, though he never made a show of his generous deeds and practical sympathy for those whom he would benefit. He was a strong friend to the Wilmington division naval reserves, and annually made a liberal donation to its support, besides adding other favors from time to time and heartily aiding the division in every way in his power. One of his gifts to the reserves was a large and very handsome United States silk flag which the division highly prizes. For his generosity and interest in the reserves they elected him an honorary member and during his illness the members have daily and anxiously inquired after his condition. As a mark of respect to his memory, the division will be present at the funeral this afternoon.

Colonel Foster married Miss Gertrude S. Hall, of Winston-Salem, and she survives him with one son, Mr. D. Russell Foster, who has about attained his majority and is a student at the North Carolina college of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, at Raleigh. Mr. Foster has been home in attendance at his father's bedside. The deceased also leaves a brother and two sisters, Mr. M. R. Foster, Mrs. Clara VanDyke, and Mrs. Sarah E. VanDyke, of Canton, Pa. The latter has been here a fortnight to be with her brother in his last illness. The deceased also has a niece residing in Wilmington, Mrs. Roger Moore, formerly Miss Calribel VanDyke. The bereaved family has the sincere sympathy of our community in their bereavement.

The funeral will take place this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the residence and will be conducted by the Rev. J. M. Wells, Ph. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian church. The deceased was a member of Stonewall Lodge, No. 1, Knights of Pythias, Wilmington Lodge, No. 139, I. O. O. F., and Wilmington Lodge, No. 532, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He was also a Mason but had never affiliated with the lodges of the fraternity here.

Elsewhere in this morning's Messen-

ger there are official notices summoning the Odd Fellows, Elks, and naval reserves to report at their respective headquarters at 3 p. m., to attend the funeral in bodies. The interment will be made at Oakdale cemetery.

NAVAL RESERVES, ATTENTION!

You are hereby requested to be at Armory at 2 o'clock Saturday evening to attend the funeral of our friend Col. F. W. Foster. By order,
H. C. HOWARD, President
S. K. DeVANY, Secretary.

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WILMINGTON LODGE, NO. 532,

BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS.

The members of the above Lodge and all visiting Elks are hereby notified to assemble at the Elks' Temple at 3 o'clock this afternoon to attend the funeral of Brother F. W. Foster, from his late residence No. 106 North Sixth street.

WILLIAM J. BELLAMY,
Exalted Ruler.

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