

and is exceedingly considerate and liberal toward his patients peculiarly. When he dies, no human being can say he distressed me by pressing the payment of his well-earned fees. Many a physician would become rich on the debts which he remits, when he thinks that payment might not be convenient. But the highest honor of Dr. Wolcott, by which he is most distinguished, is his eminent skill as a surgeon. His superior has not appeared in the North-west. During the late war he visited almost every battlefield where Wisconsin troops were engaged; and many would have slept in a Southern grave, had he not helped them. Such is the man imperfectly sketched in the above, but more perfectly in the hearts of those who know him, which is to love him; and also in the library of the State he holds a prominent position.

HON. CHARLES G. WILLIAMS. — He was born in Royaiton, Niagara County, N.Y., Oct. 18, 1829. He was the youngest of ten children. His first educational advantages were such as only a district school afforded, and which were much broken in upon by ill health. He early manifested a desire for intellectual pursuits. Oratory was especially pleasing to him; and in very early life he gained considerable reputation as a speaker. At the age of fourteen he notified his father of his desire to prepare for the legal profession. His father planned accordingly, intending to give him a full course of study, but died when Charles was sixteen years of age, throwing him upon his own resources for the future. By the aid he received from his brothers, and working on the farm during vacations, he acquired an academic course. During this period of his life, he exercised rigid economy, and was exceedingly persevering in his work. He commenced the study of law with Judge Brever, at Lockport, N.Y., and prosecuted his work by teaching portions of his time in the high school of that place. In 1852 he moved to Rochester, N.Y., where he completed his studies, and was admitted to the bar in 1855, and where he was married to his first wife. After the end of one year he went to Janesville, Wis., where he was aided in his pursuit by Judge Noggle. Two months after his arrival, his wife died. He afterwards married the eldest daughter of the judge. In 1856 he was prominently brought before the public in connection with the Fremont

campaign. As an ardent Republican, he needed only an opportunity to express his mind on political matters, and very soon attracted attention, and took rank with the first speakers of the North-west. He was engaged to canvass the State, and spoke in every considerable town in Wisconsin. At the close of the campaign, the Milwaukee press highly complimented him, both as an orator, and a man of ability in the legal profession. In 1863 he was elected to the State senate, and re-elected to the same position in 1870. He was nominated by acclamation, and elected to the Forty-third Congress in 1872, and re-elected in 1874 as a member of the Forty-fourth Congress, which position he now holds. His career in Congress has been characterized, thus far, by modesty, caution, and great industry. He has spoken but seldom, and has never failed to elicit the closest attention. "The Washington National Republican" spoke of him at the close of the last session as follows: "As a new member of the house, he was modest enough not to attempt to attract attention; but when the time came for him to take an active part in the proceedings, he not only acquitted himself with extraordinary credit, but at once asserted a prominence on the floor which was readily acknowledged by members of both parties."

Mr. Williams is a man of firm decision and good judgment. He is among the first to avow his position upon the great issues of the day. He is now forty-six years of age, in robust health, in the full maturity of his powers, and believed to have a useful and brilliant future before him.

COL. SAMUEL RYAN. — He was born in Tipperary County, Ireland, May 22, 1780. In 1800, while going to England, he was impressed on board the British gun-brig "Virago," while in Queens-town. From this he was transferred to the frigate "Barbadoes," one of the worst ships for usage in the British navy. They sailed to the West Indies. They were ordered to convoy seventy-six sail of merchant-ships, being assisted by the "Polyphemus," a sixty-four-gun ship, to cross to the banks of Newfoundland. They encountered a terrible storm, when eighteen out of the seventy-six sail were lost, and every sail in the fleet dismasted; and they put into Bermuda for repairs. After this we find him in the war of 1812, where he manifested the bravery of a true soldier. Peace being proclaimed in