

[Phillips, Edgar D.]

Edgar D. Phillips

Cortland lost another of its honored citizens Saturday night when Mr. Edgar D. Phillips passed away at about midnight at the VerNooy sanitarium where he had been for several weeks.

Mr. Phillips was a man who won friends wherever he was known, and his acquaintance was very large in this locality by reason of his connection with the Lehigh Valley company for a long period of years and his association with Civil war veterans, of whom he was one. He sustained a light shock [stroke] three or four years ago, and though he recovered from it, he had not been a well man since. For the past nine weeks he had been confined to the bed.

At the beginning of the Civil war Mr. Phillips enlisted in Company M, Tenth N.Y. Cavalry and served through the war. He then went West and located on a homestead claim. Later he returned East and on Dec. 11, 1872, he married Miss Eliza Jane Baker, who died Nov. 6, 1898.

About the year 1881 he entered the employ of the Cortland and Ithaca railroad company as agent in Cortland. This railroad later became absorbed by the E. C. and N. and still later by the Lehigh company, and Mr. Phillips was retained by both these companies. He remained as agent until a year or so ago when he was given the position of city solicitor for the Lehigh company.

Mr. Phillips was a regular attendant of the Universalist church up to the time of his illness, and he was also a member of Grover Post, 98, G.A.R.

In January, 1900, he married Mary A. Luce, who survives him, with one son, Horace D. Phillips of Cleveland, Ohio, and two sisters, Mrs. Rhoda P. Williams of Galveston, Texas and Mrs. J. P. Short of Winfield, Kansas.

The funeral was held Wednesday afternoon at his late home, Rev. F. [Frederick] W. Betts [Universalist] of Syracuse officiating, owing to the absence of Rev. H. C. Ledyard from town. Superintendent Abbott and several other Lehigh Valley railroad officials attended, Mr. Phillips having been one of the oldest employees of the company.

*Cortland Democrat*, Cortland NY, Fri. 3 Nov 1916