

In Memoriam.

ORLOW W. CHAPMAN.

DIED JANUARY 19, 1890.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

OCTOBER TERM, 1889.

MONDAY, January 20, 1890.

MR. ATTORNEY GENERAL addressed the court as follows:

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT: A decree of Nature, as distressing as it was unexpected, makes it my duty to announce to the court the death of the Solicitor General of the United States. In the Sabbath quiet of yesterday morning, after an illness, painful, but until near the end not believed to be fatal, Orlow W. Chapman rested forever from earthly duty and earthly suffering.

The shock and the grief of this event are to-day, I am sure, too fresh and strong upon all of us to admit of fitting words of eulogy upon the character of this eminent lawyer and good man. Let that grateful duty await some future occasion.

My mission this morning is only to make this sad announcement, and to ask the court to take such action as may be due to the memory of our loved associate and now departed brother.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE responded as follows:

The court receives the melancholy intelligence of the death of the Solicitor General with profound regret.

There is a case now under argument and near its conclusion in which the counsel engaged are from a distant State. We feel compelled, therefore, to continue our session until the argument of that case is closed, but will then adjourn as a deserved mark of

respect to the memory of the lamented deceased, and also in order to enable the members of the court to attend his funeral in a body.

From the New York Daily Tribune of January 20, 1890.

Mr. Chapman was born in Ellington, Connecticut, on January 7th, 1832, and was graduated at Union College in 1854. After leaving college he was for some time professor of languages at Fergusonville Academy. In 1856 he began the study of law with Robert Parker, and in 1858 he entered upon the practice of his own profession at Binghamton. In September, 1862, he was appointed District Attorney of Broome County. In the following November he was elected to the office, which he held until January, 1868. In 1867 he was elected to the State Senate from the Twenty-fourth District as a Republican, and was reëlected in 1869. While in the Senate he served as chairman of the Committees on Literature, and Erection of Towns and Counties, and was a member of the Committees on Claims, Judiciary, Roads and Bridges, and Erie Investigation. He was appointed Superintendent of the Insurance Department of this State in December, 1872, and held the office until January, 1876, when he resigned. His administration of the office was above criticism. After his retirement he resumed his place as leader of the bar of Broome County. He was appointed Solicitor General on May 29, 1889. He was held in high esteem by the members of the Supreme Court and the bar. Attorney General Miller, who had not known him prior to his appointment, became greatly attached to him and valued him highly. He was careful, painstaking and conscientious in the discharge of his public duties, and the Attorney General has frequently been congratulated by the Justices of the court upon having secured a gentleman of so much intelligence, industry and ability as his chief assistant. The Solicitor General is the legal adviser of the Government, and his place is considered inferior only to that of a Cabinet officer.

Mr. Chapman was over six feet in height. He was of a sunny, genial temperament, and his uniform kindness and courtesy endeared him to all who were acquainted with him, while his culture and travels made him a delightful companion. His wife, to whom he had been married many years, survives him.