

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY PASSES AWAY IN PEACEFUL SLEEP

GREAT LIFE RECORD

McKinley's Career a Rich Legacy to Countrymen Present and Future.

RISES FROM OBSCURITY BY OWN WORTH

Demonstrates His Qualities in the Army While Yet a Youth.

ENTERS AS A PRIVATE, QUITS AS A MAJOR

Seven Terms in Congress fruitful of Important Legislation.

CLIMAX OF CAREER IN PRESIDENT'S CHAIR

Brilliant Public Service Coupled with a Homeless Private Life Makes Him One of the Most Beloved of Men.

The life of William McKinley, like that of the martyred presidents, Lincoln and Garfield, and like those of many other men whose voices have been heard in the councils of the nation, characteristically illustrates the possibilities of our free institutions.

As to the McKinley Bill.

The republican party had regained control of the government through its pledges to revise the tariff along protection lines, and the ways and means committee began the task with all the earnestness and industry at its command.

His Early Ancestry.

William McKinley was born in Niles, O., February 25, 1844, and he was, therefore, a few months past the prime age of 57. His father was a man of character and integrity, a hard and constant worker and of frugal and regular habits.

His Career as President

During the first term of President McKinley one of the two questions pressing for consideration by his administration and which his party supporters in the late election demanded should be given precedence was the revision of the Wilson tariff act.

Chronology of McKinley

Record from Year to Year of His Progress to the Highest Office in the Land. 1867—Returned to Poland and at once began to study law. 1868—Entered the Albany, N. Y., law school.

As a Congressman.

For fourteen consecutive years McKinley represented the congressional district of which Stark county was a part. His popularity rendered him practically invulnerable as a candidate and three times a democratic gerrymandered his district in the hope of accomplishing his defeat.

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WILLIAM MCKINLEY Born in Niles, O., February 26, 1844—Died at Buffalo, N. Y., September 14, 1901.

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McKinley's Last Words

"Goodby, all; goodby. It is God's way. His will be done."

Defeated at Election.

1880—As a result of a gerrymandered congressional district and the reaction against the tariff bill, McKinley is defeated in the election for congress by 209 votes in counties that had previously gone democratic by 3,000.

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BRAVE BATTLE OVER

End Comes at Quarter Past Two O'Clock in the Morning.

DYING PRESIDENT'S NOBLE SENTIMENTS

With Hymn on Lips McKinley Lapses Into Eternal Silence.

FINAL MESSAGE IS TO DEVOTED WIFE

Whispers Gently and Breathes "Nearer, My God, to Thee."

HER COMFORT IS HIS DYING THOUGHT

Calmy Closes His Eyes and with a Display of Sublime Faith Surrenders Himself to the Inevitable.

MILBURN HOUSE—2420 a. m.—Secretary Cortelyou made the announcement that President McKinley died at 2:15 a. m.

MILBURN HOUSE—Sept. 14—2:15—The members of the family with the exception of the bereaved wife were at the death bed. Mrs. McKinley was in an adjoining room. Dr. Hixey was the only physician present.

MILBURN HOUSE, BUFFALO, Sept. 14.—President McKinley died at 2:15 o'clock this morning. He had been unconscious since 7:50 p. m.

His last conscious moment on earth was spent with the wife to whom he devoted a lifetime of care.

He was unattended by a minister of the gospel, but his last words were a humble submission to the will of the God in whom he believed.

He was reconciled to the cruel fate to which an assassin's bullet had condemned him and faced death in the same spirit of calmness and peace which had marked his long and honorable career.

His last conscious words, reduced to writing by Dr. Mann, who stood at his bedside when they were uttered, were as follows: "Goodby, all; goodby. It is God's way. His will be done."

All in Tears.

His relatives and the members of his official family were at the Milburn house, except Secretary Wilson, who did not avail himself of the opportunity, and some of his personal and political friends took leave of him.

This painful ceremony was simple. His friends came to the door of the sick room, took a lingering glance at him and turned tearfully away.

He was practically unconscious during all this time. But his personal friends took leave of him, including oxygen, were employed to restore him to consciousness for his final parting with his wife. He asked for her and she sat at his side and held his hand. He smiled at her and bade her goodby. She then held the heart-breaking scene with the same bravery and fortitude with which she had borne the grief of the tragedy which endangered his life.

Autopsy Necessary.

The immediate cause of the president's death is undetermined. His physician, a dis-agree and it will possibly require an autopsy to fix the exact cause.

The president's remains will be taken to Washington and there will be a state funeral. Vice President Roosevelt, who now succeeds to the presidency, may take the oath of office wherever he happens to hear the news. The cabinet will, of course, resign in a body and President Roosevelt will have an opportunity of forming a new cabinet. He is expected to do so tomorrow.

Final Scenes at Bedside

Little Group of Relatives and Friends Listen for Dr. Hixey's Fatal Word.

MILBURN HOUSE, Sept. 14.—From authentic officials the following details of the final scenes in and about the death chamber were secured:

The president had continued in an unconscious state since 8:30 p. m. Dr. Hixey remained with him at all times and until death came. The other doctors were in the room at times and then repaired to the front room, where their consultations had been held. About 2 o'clock Dr. Hixey noted the unmistakable signs of dissolution, and the immediate members of the family were summoned to the bedside. Mrs. McKinley was asleep and it was deemed desirable not to awaken her for the last moments of anguish.

Assemble for Last Time.

Silently and sadly the members of the family stole into the room. They stood about the foot and sides of the bed where the great man's life was ebbing away. Those in the circle were Abner McKinley, the president's brother; Mrs. Abner McKinley, Miss Helen, the president's sister; Mrs. Sarah Duncan, another sister; Miss Mary Barber, a niece; Miss Sarah Duncan; Lieutenant J. J. McKinley, a nephew; William M. Duncan, a nephew; Hon. Charles G. Dawes, comptroller of the currency; F. M. Osborn, a cousin; Webb C. Hayes; John Barber, a cousin; Secretary George H. Cortelyou; Colonel W. C. Brown, the business partner of Abner McKinley; Dr. P. M. Hixey, the family physician, and six nurses and attendants.

In adjoining rooms were the physicians, including Drs. McBurney, Wastin, Park, Stockton and Myer.

It was now 2:05 o'clock and the minutes were slipping away. Only the sob of those in the circle about the president's bedside broke the awe-like silence. Five minutes passed, then six, seven, eight.

Now Dr. Hixey bent forward and then one of his hands was raised as if in warning. The fluttering heart was just going to rest.

The President is Dead.

A moment more and Dr. Hixey straightened up and with choking voice said: "The president is dead."

Secretary Cortelyou was the first to turn