

Dr. Robert McClellan Alexander, (10 Jan 1840 – 1911), Newspaper Clipping,
The Perry Historians

Dr. Robert McClellan Alexander, age 71 years, the well known dentist of this place, died at his home here last night at twenty minutes of one o'clock, after a long illness from a spinal affliction. He had been confined to the house for about a year and for several days past had been in a paralyzed and unconscious condition.

Dr. Robert McClellan Alexander was a son of **Randall** and **Sarah H. (Carothers) Alexander** and was born at Shirleysburg, Huntingdon County, Pa. His parents on both sides were of Scotch-Irish decent and his ancestors were among the most prominent settlers of his section of the State. The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the common schools, at Juniata Academy and Tuscarora College. When yet in his teens he taught school for several terms.

On the breaking out of the Civil War in 1861 he enlisted in Co G, 5th Pennsylvania Reserve Volunteers Corps and served three years, being honorably discharged June 11, 1864. During that time he saw much active service, taking part in the hottest and most memorable engagements of the Army of the Potomac----Fredericksburg, where he was slightly wounded; Richmond, the Seven Days' fight, Mechanicsville, Gaines Hill, Charles City Cross Roads, Malvern Hill, Second Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Bristow Station, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Court House, Bethesda Church, the North Anna and other battles. His gallant and patriotic services were rewarded by rapid promotions. Entering the army as a private he rose to corporal, fourth sergeant, first sergeant, second lieutenant and first lieutenant. Thus it will be seen that he had a brilliant military career. In 1865 he began the study of dentistry with Dr. G.W. Stewart at Dry Run, Franklin County, Pa. and after a three years course located at Landisburg, this county and began the practice of his profession. He remained in Landisburg one year and then moved to Loysville, where he practiced until 1879, when he came to this place and continued to successfully practice until about a year ago, when declining health forced his retirement.

Dr. Alexander was a Democrat, and a Presbyterian. He was a man of high intelligence and strong conviction and impressed all who knew him with the strength and character. He had a wide acquaintance throughout the county and his many old friends will learn of his death with sincere sorrow.

Dr. Alexander was first married to **Mary W.**, daughter of **George B.** and **Elizabeth (Scott) Rakard**, in June, 1868. Four children by this marriage are

living--**Mary (Mrs. John H. Sweger,) Arthur C., William L. and Robert Malcolm. Mrs. Alexander** died March 4, 1887. The Doctor's second marriage was to **Laura V. Comp**, daughter of Hon. **Jacob Sheibley**, of Spring Township. They have one daughter, **Laura Jeannette**.

The funeral was on Friday morning and was in the charge of the John Jones Post #448, G.A.R. of which the Doctor was a prominent member.