

Lieutenant Colonel **John Baughman McAllister**, (24 Apr 1833 – 28 Feb 1897), Peoples Advocate and Press, Wednesday, March 10, 1897

Col. **John B. McAllister** peacefully passed to rest Saturday morning at two o'clock after years of suffering.

Some eight years ago **Col. McAllister**, while a resident of Oil City, Pa. was stricken with paralysis, which, as years passed, developed more markedly into paresis, as well as weakening him physically. The last two years he had been confined to his bed comparatively helpless. Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>, of last month he was stricken a second time with paralysis, affecting chiefly his face and throat, rendering the process of swallowing impossible, his death resulting there from.

**John Baughman McAllister** was born at New Buffalo, this county, April 24, 1833, and at the time of his death was consequently aged 63 years, 10 months, and 12 days.

He spent his early boyhood on his father's farm, but developing an aptitude for study and having exhausted the curriculum of the country schools of those days, he became a student at the Bloomfield Academy. After a well rounded course in this institution he entered the law office of William A. Sponsler, in this place, April 7, 1854, and on the 5th of April, 1856, was admitted to practice at the Perry County Bar. In October, 1856, he was elected District Attorney of the county on the Democratic ticket. Accepting a re-nomination from his party in 1859 he was defeated by G. Rush Roddy in October of that year, the latter having a majority of 34 votes.

Imbued with a military spirit, Mr. McAllister had been, prior to the rebellion, an able and efficient drill master of the local militia. After the outbreak of the civil war he helped organize Company I, (which was recruited in Perry county and Philadelphia of the 17th Pennsylvania Cavalry, and became its captain when he was mustered into service, October 7, 1862; on November 6 of the same year he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel of the regiment. After a term of gallant service he resigned his command May 31, 1863, and returned to this place.

In the year 1864 **Col. McAllister** moved to Oil City, this State, for the practice of the profession of law. There he speedily rose to the front rank of the bar and acquired a large and lucrative practice, which he retained until he was stricken with paralysis as above stated. Finding himself unable to do him justice in his chosen profession, **Col. McAllister** and family moved to this place in 1891, where he resided in retirement until his death.

January 8, 1858, **Mr. McAllister** was joined in marriage with Miss **Margretta E. Rice**, daughter of the late **Judge John Rice**, of this place. From this union there resulted four children, all of whom survive; **Thomas McAllister**, a resident of this place, now travelling; **Mrs. Bessie M. McIntire**, of Appolo, Pa.; **Mrs. Lillian Boal**, of Great Falls, Montana; and **J.R. McAllister**, of Whiting, Ind. Of these **Mrs. McIntire** and **J.R. McAllister** were at their father's death and funeral. **Mrs. McAllister** departed this life August 23, 1870.

**Mr. McAllister**, on the 27th of February, 1873, was married to **Miss Emma Watson**, of Niagra Falls, who survives him, and who through all her husband's long illness cared for him with a

patient and loving devotion that within the writer's knowledge finds no parallel.

Three brothers, **A.U. McAllister**, Esq., of Montpelier, Indiana; **D.A. McAllister**, of Mr. Holly, Cumberland County, Pa. and **J.C. McAllister**, Esq., of Washington, D.C., survive; the last two were at the funeral.

The deceased was a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Oil City, Pa. and during his residence there and before permanently enfeebled was recognized as a prominent member of his church.

Socially, **Col. McAllister** was a cordial gentleman, most courteous to friends and affable to all. In his earlier years and up until his illness, **Mr. McAllister** was a strikingly handsome man, conspicuous in any gathering. In politics he was an uncompromising Democrat, always aggressive, and on the stump was a logical and eloquent speaker, and rendered able service to his party in many political campaigns.

The remains of **Mr. McAllister** were interred in the cemetery this place, Monday. Rev. William Dorwart, rector of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Newport, officiating. At the conclusion of the services at the grave by the minister, the Masonic fraternity, of this place, performed the beautiful burial service of the order. Mr. McAllister had been a member of the Perseverance Lodge, of Harrisburg.

[www.theperryhistorians.org](http://www.theperryhistorians.org)