Dr. Thomas Winston, Oldest Member of G. A. R. in Kansas, Died Yesterday

WAS IN NINETY-NINTH YEAR

With the death of Dr. Thomas Winston in his ninety-ninth year at his home here yesterday, the oldest soldier of the Civil War in Kansas and the oldest graduate of the Rush Medical College passed from the world.

Dr. Winston's death occurred at his home at 23 Massachusetts street yesterday afternoon.

The funeral services will be held from the union church at Topeka on Monday afternoon, with the Rev. W. W. Anderson, of Kansas City, Mo., delivering the oration. The interment will be at Oak Hill cemetery.

Dr. Winston was born in Derby, Ross, Pennsylvania, on October 27, 1820, with his parents when he was seven years of age. His family moved to Illinois in August in the same year. Partly as the result of his exposure on the trip, his father and mother were both taken ill on the way and remained in a tent shop.

During the next ten years he was a wandering pupil, attending schools in Illinois and Indiana. He learned the tailor's trade and was a journeyman streamer. He married in 1837, and moved to Missouri in 1839, where he taught school in the Rush Medical College, now a part of the Washington University. He graduated in 1840.

Dr. Winston then returned to Mt. Merino, his home, in 1840. About this time he married Caroline, daughter of William and Ann W. and Mary P. Snow, Wayne County, Pennsylvania, in 1841. Their first child was born in the Rock River Seminary. He practiced medicine in this locality for many years.

The only considerable interrup- tion in his medical practice was the period of the Civil War, in which Dr. Winston was an ardent abolitionist, and as a result of his popular activity he was arrested in 1862. He was at first sent to the state's penitentiary, then to the Illinois Volunteers, and later sur- gically in the Union army. He was in General Thomas' Division at the battle of Chickamauga.

With the close of the war, he received the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel by breviet.

His years of medical practice were marked by his breadth of point of view and vacations were undertaken abroad. He took advantage of his leisure to attend the universities of Europe in England, France and Germany. He practiced in the city of his birth as a physician and surgeon, where he had a son who had some years before his death in the university. Being an abolitionist, he was, as Dr. Winston knew much about the development of the university, and the early struggles for its existence.

Dr. Winston was known as the oldest graduate of the Rush Medical College and he also the oldest patient in the care of G. A. R. A, in this state, being half-way through his ninetieth year when the war began. He was born in Massachusetts street, Chicago, A. P. Winston, University of Texas at Austin; Mr. Mrs. Clinton C. Leake, of Kansas City, Mo., and Dr. Alice Winston, of the University of Chicago. Dr. Winston is survived by one son and sixteen grandchildren.
The injured, all hurt in escaping from the fire, included Mary E. Hearn, Louisburgh, O. Atlantic, Miss E. H. Haim, who was found sliding down rope of sheets from a window, and her sister, Miss H. Haim, burnt on body by flames that cut out from the window as she passed.

At some point, the fire, cuts, burns and bruises around wrists and hands, the latter two caused by the broken rib suffered in jump from window.

Marie Schneider, Indianapolis, broken nose.

**TROY MAY GET POST**

Will Succeed Chief Shreve of Barnegat, N. J., in 1870.

**Bulletin**

Kansas City, May 15 (AP)—Chief of Police William A. Shreve of Barnegat resigned today after protests by police commissioners. The resignation was telegraphed from Denver.

Kansas City, May 15—(AP) Police commissioners announced today they will offer $5,000 to any chief of police who would afford assistance in the event of the resigna-

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**Santa Fe Speeds Up Its Freight Service**

Chicago, May 15—(AP)—Requirements of "hand-to-mouth" must be met promptly by railroads. The fresh and up-to-date stocks, were reportedly being shipped by the railroad, which announced a 175 percent increase in freight shipped from Chicago and the Pacific coast.

Chicago, May 15—(AP)—The new schedule which the Santa Fe has adopted for its freight service is said to be the most complete and efficient in the country. It has been in effect since last week.

Oberst May Toll More

Philadelphia, May 15 (AP)—Indications that Oberst will toll more frequently and at other points have been made.

The tolling of the Oberst was taken place to March 20, 1870, when the tolls were 50 cents. Now, the tolls are 75 cents.

Bums was destroyed by fire over the weekend. Seven members of the family were rescued by Sheriff E. E. McKnight, who hailed the fire as a result of this morning.

**Postpone Action on Bill Washington, May 15 (AP)—By agreement of the House and Senate, the Bill to extend the term of the present Board of Public Instruction, of Kansas, and Kendrick of Wyoming, was laid over.

**Jumps to Death from Hotel**

St. Louis, May 15 (AP)—Traveling over the same route as Col. John C. Crease, a former resident of St. Louis, who committed suicide by jumping from the twenty-sixth story window of a Brooklyn hotel today.

**The injured, all hurt in escaping from the fire, included Mary E. Hearn, Louisburgh, O. Atlantic, Miss E. H. Haim, who was found sliding down rope of sheets from a window, and her sister, Miss H. Haim, burnt on body by flames that cut out from the window as she passed.**
A Pioneer Alumnus
Account of the Eventful Life of Dr. Winston, Rush '58, Now in His Ninety-Eighth Year

Dr. Thomas Winston was born in Devynock, Breconshire, Wales, on the 17th of October, 1829. He came to this country with his parents when he was two years old, after a journey of terrible hardships. To go from that remote inland part of Wales to Liverpool took two weeks, and six were required for the sailing vessel to cross the Atlantic. The family were quarantined in the harbor at Quebec for some time, the ship before them having brought in cholera.

Partly as the result of these privations his father and mother were both dead when he was nine. During the next ten years he was a wanderer through Ohio, Wisconsin, and Illinois, without home or education. He learned the tailoring trade, and was a journeyman before he was sixteen. A few years later he came west by a vessel on the Lakes to Milwaukee, then to Lake Mills, Wisconsin.

In the year 1849, he and two others started westward, intending to go to the Pacific Coast. But the horse which constituted their chief asset died on the way, their money ran out, and the little company disbanded.

Winston drifted south and found employment in a shop kept by George Bell, a tailor.

To support him through these trials, Thomas Winston had an interest which is often enough incomprehensible to persons with better-educational opportunities; this was a passion for books and for reading. His family have in their possession two substantial calfskin volumes, the works of Samuel Johnson, which Thomas Winston bought for six dollars—when he was earning ten dollars a month. Macaulay he specially admired. When the History of England was in process of publication, he waited enthusiastically, and bought what he thinks was perhaps the first copy sold in the Mississippi Valley. As a little fellow he froze his ears walking through zero weather to borrow the second volume of Nicholas Nickleby, the owner refusing to part with more than one volume at a time. Pope was a great favorite to be quoted in later years with enthusiasm, and Byron a close second; the subtler cadences of the other romanticists apparently did not penetrate to these remote prairies.

In about 1848 Winston went, partly by stage, partly on foot, to Mt. Morris, Illinois, to attend Rock River Seminary, a school conducted by the Methodist Church. In this vicinity he spent most of his active manhood. He earned his living in various ways here, some of the time as owner and part proprietor of a drug store. He seems to have no definite anecdote to offer as to
not practice medicine very long if at all. The two young men kept bachelor hall and lived, in part, upon provisions sent in by Rice’s mother from Mt. Morris.

Dr. Winston remembers with particular respect and gratitude Dr. Brainard, President of Rush Medical College at that time, and Drs. Davis and Byford, both instructors. The courage and patience of these men, enabling them to continue the work of the College in the face of the most discouraging circumstances, impressed him deeply. Bodies for dissection were difficult to obtain by conventional means. The poverty of the students was almost unbelievable. When Dr. Winston took his degree, one man came up on the platform to receive his diploma—barefoot.

The new-fledged M.D. then returned to Mt. Morris. About this time he married Caroline Mumford, of Pleasant Mount, Wayne County, Pennsylvania, who had come west as a teacher in the Rock River

(Continued on page 250)

Mrs. C. F. Weller (Eugenia Winston), another of the five children of Dr. Winston who attended the University. Mrs. Weller received her Master’s Degree here.
He pronounced the points made in the letter sent to him satisfactory and the secretaries accepted the condition named by him, viz., that they should go on and secure the full $400,000 independently of his donation. The matter of the site finally took the following form: Mr. Field gave to the Education Society for the new institution one and one-half blocks and sold to it for $132,500 another block and a half, the three blocks beginning at the Midway Plaisance and running north along the east side of Ellis Avenue two blocks to Fifty-seventh Street and east along the south side of Fifty-seventh Street two blocks to University (then Lexington) Avenue. These three blocks constituted the site afterward transferred by the Education Society to the University.

The impulse which we had assured Mr. Field would be given to our work by the donation of the site became immediately apparent. We had been at work among the business men three months. We now had the names of twenty-three men of wealth who had assured us of help, but we had not secured a single definite, formal subscription. During the week following the giving of the site, however, three subscriptions of $1,000 each and two of $5,000 each were secured among the business men. The work among them went on from this time with increasing success. The well-nigh universal attitude was one of sympathetic interest and of willingness and desire to assist. No men were ever better treated than were we two unknown solicitors for money.

Such indeed was the public sympathy and interest that two independent, auxiliary movements were launched that contributed greatly to the final success. The first of these was undertaken by the alumni of the Old University. An inconsiderable sum was subscribed toward endowing a chair as a memorial of a fellow-alumnus, Edward Olson, of the class of 1873. Many subscriptions were made in addition to those for this memorial and there were received from the old alumni aggregate pledges of $30,000.

The other auxiliary movement was inaugurated and carried through by the Standard Club, the great Jewish club of the city. At a meeting held April 8, 1890, the club voted unanimously to raise $25,000 for the new institution. This they did, the total pledges received from the Jews amounting to $27,000. This movement gave a new impulse to our work. Men were found increasingly ready to respond to the appeals made to them. On May 1 we issued A Brief Final Statement, setting forth that $50,000 was still lacking and must be raised during the next thirty days, which was sent to a large number of business men. The next week the subscriptions reached $16,000. The week following they aggregated $30,000. We had undertaken to raise among the business men $100,000. Including Mr. Field's gift of ten acres of the site, they gave us $200,000.

The meeting of the Baptist National Anniversaries of May, 1890, was held in Chicago. The interest of the entire series of meetings, covering a week, centered in those of the Education Society. Dr. Gates submitted the report on the general work of the year and called on me to report on our joint efforts in securing the subscriptions for the founding of the new institution. In the course of my report this sentence occurred: "It was this universal interest and this country-wide rally to our support that secured success." At this point I interrupted my report and incidentally expressed the hope that the roll of states and territories represented in the subscription might be completed. The official report of the meeting says:

"At once two or three people are up to speak for missing states. Maine, South Carolina, West Virginia, Utah, are in the field so nearly together that it is impossible to say which led off. Then someone speaks for the Sandwich Islands. The states and territories have all answered. The doors are opened to the nations of the earth . . . the nooks and corners of the atlas are ransacked that the world may have a share in the privilege of building the University of Chicago. It is a cheerful scene and yet with an element of earnestness which the report of it may fail to convey. The subscriptions are small, they are found when
they are footed up to aggregate but a few thousand dollars, but they represent hearty congratulations and a very widespread sympathy."

The total subscription of the year, including all pledges, was found to amount to $549,000. It was approved and accepted by Mr. Rockefeller. A great jubilation meeting was held in the then newly completed Auditorium. As one year before in Boston, the great assembly united in singing the Doxology. Again the anxieties, fears, hopes, and struggles of the year had ended in enthusiasm, shouting, and songs of praise.

The board of trustees was immediately appointed by the Education Society. Its first meeting was held July 9, 1890, when Dr. Gates submitted an important statement from the Education Society, reciting "the engagements and obligations which that Society entered into with the subscribers" to the million-dollar fund and concluding thus: "We now commit to you this high trust. The erection of the buildings, the organization of the institution, the expenditure and investment of its funds, and all that pertains to its work, its growth and its prosperity is placed absolutely without any reserve under your control."

On September 8, 1890, the trustees of the first University of Chicago changed its name to "The Old University" and the way being thus opened to give the new institution its name, two days later the Secretary of State of Illinois issued the Certificate of Incorporation to it as the University of Chicago. The second meeting of the board of trustees was held September 18, memorable because it witnessed the unanimous election of Dr. Harper to the presidency. The officers of the Board were E. Nelson Blake, president; Martin A. Ryerson, vice-president; Charles L. Hutchinson, treasurer; Dr. Justin A. Smith (editor of The Standard), recording secretary; T. W. Goodspeed, financial secretary.

At the end of the first fiscal year, June 30, 1891, $160,000 of the subscriptions to the $400,000 fund had been collected and the proportion due from Mr. Rockefeller, $240,000, had been paid. The block and a half of ground purchased from Mr. Field was paid for and on August 24, 1891, the Education Society conveyed the entire site of three blocks to the University. Thus the Society, in accordance with the policy adopted in the beginning, "to exercise no control over the financial affairs of the institution beyond the time when in the judgment of the board the institution is solidly founded," now withdrew entirely and, turning over all funds and pledges, left the new University it had done so much to originate to the sole care of its own trustees. The first million was now in its hands.

*(To be continued)*

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**A Pioneer Alumnus**

*(Continued from page 226)*

Seminary. He practiced medicine at Mt. Morris and in the neighboring town of Foreston until 1892. The only considerable interruption came with the Civil War. Dr. Winston was an ardent abolitionist, and because of this interest entered the army in 1862. He was at first assistant surgeon of the 92nd Illinois Volunteers, and later surgeon of the 149th Illinois. He was in
General Thomas' Division at the battle of Chickamauga. He went part of the way south with General Sherman's army and had charge of hospitals at Danville, Kentucky, and Dalton, Georgia. At the close of the war he received the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel by brevet.

His years of medical practice were very hard from a physical point of view. Only a man of great strength could have flourished under such conditions and enjoyed them. There were long night drives across the prairies in the bitter winter weather, from which he came back sometimes so numbed that he must let the horse stand in the harness until morning. Vacations were unknown; and year after year he went on in the same routine between his office, his home, and his long country drives. But no one who knew him could have failed to sense his tremendous interest in life. He was never tired and never bored. The community consisted in the main of German immigrants on their way from the stage of civilization represented by a two-room cottage and a trampled, pig-infested doorway to their present sound, if somewhat shiny and ready-made, prosperity. There were few places in the town, except in his own home, where he found any sort of intellectual companionship. But he was too close to the basic experiences of human life to find it anything but engrossing. Not that he had any sentimentalities or illusions. He saw especially the hard lot of women under these pioneer conditions. "Women, darkies and Jews have a hard time," he said, and he once announced that some women would be quite justified in putting poison in their husbands' coffee.

An interesting element of adventure was supplied by the periodical battle against the open saloon. Dr. Winston had been witness to the tragedies caused by the use of alcohol, in its insidious as in its brutal aspects, and has been always eager to combat this evil. About every two years the issue arose and the vote was close and wavering. Yet despite his activity many of the saloon-keepers were his best friends. An interesting episode in Dr. Winston's career, and one which temporarily alienated the affec-

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tions of some of the most rigid of the townspeople, occurred when, in one of the cases, he helped a former saloonkeeper to establish a pool hall. The doctor argued that the patrons must have some sort of recreation if their old loafing place was denied them. His position was more novel than than now.

All his life he had great interest in education and wished to see all his seven children college graduates; an ambition which he achieved with effort and sacrifice. The older children attended Eastern colleges and the University of Wisconsin; and when the University of Chicago opened, he and his family took up residence in Chicago, he giving up his practice in Ogle County at the comparatively early age of sixty-three. Here his two youngest children were graduated: Charles S. Winston in 1896 and Alice Winston in 1898. (The latter took her Master's Degree at the University in 1903.) Three other children have taken graduate work at the University. They are A. P. Winston, A.B., Wisconsin, and Ph.D., Cornell, now Professor of Economics at the University of Texas; Mrs. Mary W. Newson, A.B., Wisconsin, and Ph.D., Goettingen; and Mrs. Eugenia W. Weller, who took her Master's Degree at the University.

In 1906, on account of the state of his wife's health, which was supposed to be affected by the atmosphere of the lake, Dr. and Mrs. Winston moved to Lawrence, Kansas, where his daughter had some years before married a professor in the university. In this same town, by a curious coincidence, Dr. Winston's old friend and employer, George Bell, the tailor, had been killed in the Quantrell raid fifty years before.

Mrs. Winston has since died, but Dr. Winston still lives in Lawrence. He has been fortunate in keeping health, strength and interest until the last year or two. But he has failed rapidly in that period and must now depend on other people for most of his writing. He was much pleased to hear Dr. King's article in The University of Chicago Magazine and is filled with admiration at his alertness.