Charles Sumner Crysler

1884-1885



Birth: Aug. 21, 1856 Marcellus, Onondaga County, NY

Death: Feb. 8, 1915 Kansas City, Jackson County, MO

Charles Sumner Crysler was born 21 August 1856 in Marcellus, New York to Cornell Crysler (1829 - 1900) and Nancy Dunlap Crysler (1830 - 1912). Following the Civil War, his father's poor health forced him to search for a better climate than New York could offer him. In 1868, he moved with his family to Independence, Missouri.

When the Civil War began, Cornell put his business aside and answered Lincoln's call raising volunteer Company D

122nd New York Infantry serving as its captain. Capt. Crysler participated in every campaign up through the battle of Antietam. He then rode with Gen. Sheridan to Winchester. He resigned from service following the Battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Charles' younger brother, Philip, died unexpectedly at the age of 16 making it impossible for Charles to stray away from his parents. At an earlier age, both boys were promised scholarships to attend Cornell University to study law. Now, Charles decided to remain in Missouri and he began to study law with Corning and Slover in Independence in 1875. The Kansas City Bar admitted him on June 1, 1879.

On October 1, 1879 Charles married Harriet E. Child, daughter of John Adams and Sarah (Drake) Child. Sarah was a descendant of William Brewster, a Mayflower passenger.

Charles Crysler is best known as a prominent and successful attorney of the law firm of Harkless, Crysler & Histed of Kansas City, Missouri which was organized in 1890 and made its office in the Grand Avenue Temple.

In 1884, Mr. Crysler became a Charter Member and, subsequently, the first Division of Missouri Commander for the Sons of Veterans of the United States of America, a term he held for two years. This he did in honor of his father.

The SVUSA was created by the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization established after the Civil War for veterans of the Union. The SVUSA was the rightful heirs of the GAR. Eventually the SVUSA changed its name to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW).

Charles Crysler died 8 February 1915 at his home, 1001 Askew in Kansas City, Missouri at the age of 58 years, 5 months, 18 days. He was interred in the Crysler family lot #697 of the Kansas City Heritage Gardens section in Mt. Washington Cemetery next to his father.



Note: Permission granted to copy the headstone photo by j baulch.

Bio prepared by smarker

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