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DEATH OF GEORGE PANDELY.

A Prominent Figure in the History of New Orleans Passes Away.



Ripe in years, rich in honors, successful in business enterprises, mourned by a host of friends, grieved for by his devoted family, Colonel George Pandely died at his residence, 415 Decatur street, yesterday morning. He was among the oldest and most respected citizens of New Orleans. He had been ill for some time, and though he suffered acutely on many occasions, he bore the pain with the accustomed fortitude which had characterized him all through life. He was a man of indomitable energy and possessed the quality of courage in the highest degree, that courage which meets obstacles without faltering, and which endures pain without complaint.

Colonel Pandely, from his business connections, had a very wide acquaintance in the state, and by the courtesy of his manners and the kindness of his heart had hosts of friends who sincerely grieve that he has gone to join the great silent majority. For sixteen years he was connected with Morgan's Louisiana and Texas Railroad, and in this capacity was called to many portions of the state, in which he always made friends who remained true to him through life.

Colonel Pandely was in his 66th year at the time of his death. He was born on the plantation of his father, Mr. Paul Pandely. The plantation was immediately on this side of the Jackson barracks, a portion of the city not being where were then smiling, well-cultivated fields. Colonel Pandely inherited the mental acumen and business capacity and enterprise which characterized his father. Mr. Paul Pandely was a man of broad business ideas, full of energy, and possessed a scholarly mind, filled with a vast amount of information. He was of Greek and English origin, and was born at Plymouth, England. At one time he was professor of English at the old Poydras College, on Conde, now Chartres street. During the youth of his son, George, he had a saw mill upon his plantation, just above the barracks. In order to facilitate the shipment of lumber from this mill to the gulf he began to have a canal dug, which he intended to perfect for purposes of navigation. But the financial crisis of 1837, which plunged the whole country into business disorder, interfered with the completion of the project, the canal was left in an unfinished condition, but still bears the name of its projector. Mr. Paul Pandely married Miss Euphrosyne Dimitry, from which union many children were born, among them Colonel George Pandely.

In early life Colonel Pandely was sent to school, where he exhibited the aptitude which gave promise of his after success in business life. His body was made strong by the exercise to which he was accustomed upon the plantation. In school he applied himself to his intellectual tasks with the same earnestness that he exhibited in his out of door pursuits. His scholarly attainments were such that in very early manhood he was offered the position of teacher in the public schools of the Second district. He accepted the place, and for two years taught with great satisfaction to the school board. From this experience he always remained a firm friend to the public schools. He afterwards served as chief clerk in Judge Lugebuhl's court, in the Third district. After filling this position for some time, he was appointed by Mr. P. Seven Wilts minute clerk to the court of Judge Philip Hickey Morgan. In each capacity he acquitted himself with credit and to the satisfaction of all interested. From about 1859 to 1883 Colonel Pandely, as superintendent, was connected with the railroad interests of this city. In 1859 Mr. John M. Lapeyre, president of the Pontchartrain Railroad, appointed him superintendent of that road. When Mr. Charles Morgan became owner of the Pontchartrain Road he retained Colonel Pandely in the same position, and also made him superintendent of Morgan's Louisiana and Texas Railroad. It was in this position that he fully demonstrated his great business capacity and his power of endurance. His early training in field sports upon the plantation, his correct habits of life, had fitted him to endure an amount of fatigue to accomplish an amount of work that would have killed a weaker man. He remained superintendent of the Morgan Road till it was incorporated with the Southern Pacific system, in 1883.

In the last-named year he became connected with the Whitney iron works as its president. Here he showed the same business foresight and energy which had characterized him in the past. Among his business associates and the men employed in the works he was very popular, for he was just and generous. For several years he also owned and operated a sugar plantation on bayou Boeuf.

He did not take such an active part in politics as to be a seeker for political preferment, but he always manifested a deep interest in the local affairs of the city. In 1868 and 1869 he was a member of the city council from the Eighth ward, Third district.

At the beginning of hostilities in 1861, Governor Moore appointed him Colonel of militia. While he did not actively participate in the battles and sieges of the four years of bloody conflict, his heart and soul was with the southern cause and as superintendent of the Potchartrain Railroad he contributed materially to the southern armies in the field.

Colonel Pandely married his cousin, Miss Ernestine Martinville. Many children came to bring joy to their home, only one of whom still survives, Miss Laura Pandely. An elder daughter, also named Laura, was the first wife of the distinguished surgeon and eminent practitioner, Dr. Arthur W. de Roulides.

Colonel Pandely was a man of broad views and extensive learning. In addition to the classical curriculum of the school, he had trained his mind in the consideration of scientific, philosophic and economic questions. He had traveled extensively in this country and had visited many of the historic sites of Europe. While he enjoyed the discussions of the schools, his mind was eminently practical and exhibited the highest kind of business foresight. His was a most companionable nature and he enjoyed the society of kindred spirits. He was ever urbane and courteous and was a gentleman in the true sense of that word. He belonged to several social clubs, among them the Boston, Cercle, St. Louis, and Chess, Checkers and Whist Clubs.

To-day his body will be deposited in the old St. Louis cemetery, where so many famous dead now sleep the sleep that knows no waking. His memory will remain green in the loving and mourning hearts which he leaves behind him.