

NATHANIEL WATTS DEAD.

ONLY ONE OLD DEFENDER LEFT.

THE MEN WHO FOUGHT FOR BALTIMORE.

A Sturdy Warrior and an Ardent Democrat, One of Whose Wishes were that He Might Live to Vote for Cleveland.

[Reported for the Baltimore Sun.]

Nathaniel Watts is dead. He was an Old Defender, one of the gallant little band of patriots who on September 13, 1814, repulsed the British attack upon Baltimore. When the anniversary of the battle was celebrated, last September, only two of the Old Defenders were then living in this city. They were Nathaniel Watts and James Chamberlain Morford, the latter of whom is now the sole survivor.

Mr. Watts died Sunday morning at 9:40 o'clock at the residence of his daughter, Miss Sallie J. Watts, 333 West Biddle street, aged 73 years. The direct cause of his death was an attack of pneumonia which was developed on Monday last from a cold contracted about two weeks ago. The general decay of the vital powers, which began last year, prevented him from rallying from this third attack of pneumonia which he had had within a year. He became unconscious late Thursday night, and remained so until his death.

The Old Defender was the son of the Rev. Nathaniel Watts, a popular Methodist preacher, who was born November 10, 1794, in the dwelling on the old Watts homestead at Barnes's cove, Patapsco Neck, Baltimore county, the birthplace of his father. The house was built by his grandfather, Josiah Watts, one of the early English settlers. The place is still owned by one of the numerous members of the Watts family.

Shortly after Mr. Watts was born the family moved away from the old home place to the upper part of Baltimore county, near the present station of Fowlesboro, between Hanover and Gettysburg Branch of the Western Maryland Railroad.

In the war of 1812-14 Mr. Watts served in Capt. Showers's company of militia, formed of men from the upper part of Baltimore county and from Carroll county. He was stationed for some time at Bladensburg, but for the most of his time was with the command at Chincapin Hill, which is now part of Patterson Park, where a trace of the old earthworks still remain.

After the war he married Miss Mary Brown, from the upper part of Baltimore county, and then went back to farming, at his birthplace on Patapsco Neck. His wife died not long afterward, and he married again, his second wife being a widow, Mrs. Catherine Laughlin Blair. He remained on the old place until about forty years ago, when he came to Baltimore and began work as a carpenter. The highest position he ever held was that of sergeant-at-arms in one of the branches of the city council.

He was an ardent Methodist, having been a member of that denomination for more than 70 years, connected most of the time with Emory Methodist Episcopal and Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church South. He joined the latter when it was organized, and until recently had been one of its active workers. He had never held any office in the city churches, but was Sunday-school superintendent and class leader in the North Point Meeting House, near his old home. During his illness he received frequent visits from the Rev. W. H. D. Harper, the Rev. J. N. McCormick, and the Rev. Dr. T. J. Wrightman, of Chatworth Church.

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Is he on your list?

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Mr. Watts had always voted the
cratic ticket. Up to the last presidential
election he enjoyed comparatively good health.
In January following the election he caught
cold while taking one of his customary long
walks in the country, and this brought on his
first attack of rheumatism. He did not
leave the house again until the last gubern-
atorial election, when he asked to be taken
to the polls so that he might cast his last bal-
lot. He voted for Governor Jackson.

Mr. Cleveland had no greater admirer than
Mr. Watts, and the old gentleman often ex-
pressed the hope that he would live to vote
for him in the coming election. As men-
tioned in THE SUN on Saturday, he expressed
some time ago a wish to be registered, and
the registers of the seventh precinct of the
eleventh ward called at his house and regis-
tered him. Mr. John L. Brown, one of his
friends, wrote to President Cleveland about
the incident, and a few days ago the Old De-
fender received a cabinet photograph of the
President. Mr. Watts had been a subscriber
to THE SUN from its first issue. He kept
up with the topics of the day, and
was until within a short time ago always
ready to discuss any question of interest.

His family was noted for the longevity of
its members. He was the eldest of four
brothers, the youngest of whom is 76 years of
age. His brothers are Benjamin Watts, of
Pikesville; the Rev. Thomas Watts, of
Baltimore county, and Kinsley Watts, of Bal-
timore. He had received a number of calls
lately from his old friends, and on September
14 he was visited by his old friend and com-
rade James Chamberlain Morford, the last of
the Old Defenders. One son, Benjamin Watts,
four daughters, Mrs. Rebecca Troyer, Miss
Ellen Watts, Miss Kate Watts and Miss Sallie
J. Watts, the grand children and ten great-
grandchildren survive him.

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