

The Buffalo Republican, in announcing the death of Capt. Samuel L. Russell, says: "We did not yesterday announce the melancholy tidings of the death of this excellent officer, perfect gentleman, and exemplary Christian, because in a hasty notice at the impulse of the intelligence, we could never do justice to the relations between the deceased and the citizens of Buffalo.

"Captain Russell was stationed at this city, in the recruiting service, in the year 1836, and left in the spring of 1837, for the west. His stay was short--only a few months--but it was sufficient to attach all who became acquainted with him, and when he left he had enlisted more hearts than accompanied him. To his exertions chiefly, do we owe the establishment of Trinity Church, and the settlement of Mr. Hawks among us; and for this effort of his Christian enterprise, our citizens owe his memory a grateful tribute.

"It is a solemn consideration, that we so much esteemed and so worthy of all esteem, should be thus cut down, in the midst of his usefulness, and in the flower of life. Many hearts will feel this; and not a few will bleed more for the surviving family than for him whose warfare is now ended, and whose last battle has been crowned with the triumph of victory."

The sentiments of respect and esteem expressed by the editor of the Republican, are fully responded to by the numerous friends and connexions of the deceased, in this village and vicinity. In the words of Halleck, it may be said of Capt. Russell--

"None knew thee but to love thee,
None named thee but to praise."

1817

Samuel L. Russell.

married: At Plattsburgh, Lieut. Samuel Russell, of the U.S. Army,
to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of the late Major N. Z. Platt. - New-York
Advertiser, March 30, 1822.

CLASS OF 1817.

SAMUEL L. RUSSELL.

FROM THE SAVANNAH GEORGIAN.

FROM FLORIDA

LOSS OF ANOTHER GALLANT OFFICER.

We are pained to communicate to our readers, the following intelligence received by the editor of the Georgian, from his attentive correspondent. When will our country be rid of a pest, which causes such distress to the domestic circle, while it cuts off one by one of our gallant officers?

By the steamer Charleston, Capt. Hubbard, our correspondent write:

Garey's Ferry, March 13, 1839.

My dear Sir:-By advices received from the South, we have the melancholy intelligence of the death of Capt. Samuel L. Russell, of the 2d Infantry; a gallant officer, God's noblest work, an honest man, and a sincere christian; he deserved and enjoyed the esteem and love of all who knew him. He was descending the Miami river on the 28th ultimo on his way to Fort Dallas, with a part of his company, in open boats--the savages, in ambush on the river bank, waited until he arrived within gunshot, when the boats received a volley from the Indians, who being on an eminence, fired over them, and no one was injured. Capt. Russell immediately struck for the opposite shore, and on reaching it, leaped out on the ground and turning round to address a few words, to his men, was instantly fired at by several rifles, three of which took effect, two in his body, and one just above the temple, producing instantaneous death. Lieut. Woodruff, Capt. Russell's subaltern, who was some distance behind, heard the firing, and hastening to the succor of his Captain, engaged the Indians for nearly an hour, when he forced them to retreat. He then collected his boats, and having obtained possession of his captain's body, proceeded to Fort Dallas.

The Indians were pursued, but as usual, their perfect knowledge of the country enabled them to escape. Captain Russell was clad in the undress uniform of the infantry, and it was to this that we may probably attribute his death, as but one man of the company besides himself was touched. The loss of the Indians was not known, their number was much greater than has fought us together for a long while. The remains of Captain Russell were interred with military honors on the 1st instant. By intelligence received from the interior, we learn that Major Noel's wound had proved mortal, and thus are we compelled at the same time to mourn the loss of two brave and efficient officers, and to acknowledge that in the midst of life, we are in death.

Yours truly,

Morning Courier & New-York Enquirer
March 22, 1839.

CLASS OF 1817.

SAMUEL L. RUSSELL.

The second regiment of infantry, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel B. Riley, embarked at Palatka for Savannah on the 27th of May, thence to proceed north to the Niagara frontier. This regiment had served in Florida since June, 1837, participating with fortitude in the toils incident to the service. Two commissioned officers and one hundred and thirty-one non-commissioned officers and privates fell victims to the climate, and to the rifles of the enemy. Captain Samuel Russell was shot by a party of Indians secreted on the margin of the Miami, near Key Biscayne, when landing from his boat, on the 28th of February, 1839.

That intrepidity and resolution which cost him his life, and which had distinguished him in the service of his country, was sustained by an undisguised and undeviating adherence to the principles of the Christian religion, making him the soldier and the man. His home was made happy by the most tender ties of affection, and by children nurtured under the influences of his precept and example.

The Florida War p. 473.
John T. Sprague
1848

Mr. Russell married a daughter of Major N. Z. Platt of Plattsburgh in 1822. He was survived by his wife and children. - J. R. Brown '03

CLASS OF 1817.

SAMUEL L. RUSSELL.

N. Y. SECOND LIEUTENANT 2nd Infantry 13 Aug 1819.
Assistant Commissary Subsistence July 1824
First Lieutenant Dec. 1827
Captain June 1836

Commanded in a fight with Seminole Indians and
killed 28 February 1839 on the Miami in Florida
near Key Biscayne.

Dict. of the U. S. A.
Gardner.
1860.

N. Y. 2lt 2 inf 13 Aug 1819; 1 lt 31 Dec 1827;
capt 28 June 1836; killed 28 Feb 1839 in
action with Seminole Indians near Key Bis-
cayne Fla.

Hist. Reg. & Dict. U. S. A.
Vol. 1
Heitman
1903.

Capt. Co. I, Second Regiment of Infantry. Killed in
action February 28, 1839 at Miami River.

Hist. of the Florida War p. 537
John T. Sprague
D. Appleton & Co. N. Y.
1848.

SAMUEL L. RUSSELL, 1817, of New York City, was a member of the Adelpic Society.
Adelpic Catalogue 1830

Samuel L. Russell 1817
A/B