

McCall Alexander

1825

Editor "Troy Daily Whig" = 1st Troy daily 1834

do "New York Gazette" 1839-40

do "Troy Post" 1843-6

ALEXANDER McCALL

was born in Hebron, Washington co., N. Y. He paid his way through his school days by farm labor until his eighteenth year and through his Academic course at Cambridge, Washington co., by farm labor and teaching in the vacations. He entered Williams College and left it for Union, where he was graduated in 1825 and especially commended in his classical studies. He was a member of the Pi Beta Phi, an offshoot of the Philomathean in 1810. He became assistant principal in the Lansingburgh Academy and held the principalship until 1834 when he removed to Troy, N. Y., and became editor of the (Daily) Troy Whig, the first daily journal in that city. During his editorship he also conducted a private school but in 1836 bought one-half of the paper and gave it all his attention. On retiring from the Whig in 1839 he bought and edited the New York Gazette; but after a year of doubtful success sold it out and returned to Troy to attend to his real estate there. In 1843 he started the Troy Post (a daily penny paper) which he continued till 1846. After this he gave his attention to his real estate and to the duties of his clerkship in the Board of Water Commissioners, resigning the position from failing health.

He died at Troy, N. Y., Nov. 30th, 1879, of congestion of the lungs, in his 80th year, leaving a widow. He was decided and prompt in action and saved a large sum to the City by his judgment and persistence in procuring proper legislation regarding its Water interests. He showed a good share of public spirit and while very economical in personal expenditures was not unmindful of the needs of others, whether of his poor relatives or of benevolent institutions. During his active political life he was a moderate Whig and from 1860 a strong Republican. In early life he was a member of the Presbyterian Church and studied for its Ministry, but he became Unitarian and remained such till his death.

ALEXANDER McCALL, 1825, of Hebron, N.Y., was a member of the Philomathean Society.
Philomathean Catalogue 1830 (Died: 1879)