WILLIAM LA FAYETTE WARREN

District Attorney William La Fayette Warren was born in Troy, February 4, 1793. He was of patriotic ancestry; his father was Capt. John Warren, an aide to Gen. La Fayette, and his mother was Elizabeth Belknap, daughter of Major Isaac Belknap of Newburgh, a revolutionary veteran. Having been carefully prepared by a full academic course at Ballston, the future judge entered Union College, from which he was graduated in the Class of 1814. He began the study of law in the office of Esek Cowen and was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court in 1817, and immediately entered into partnership with his preceptor. This continued until the appointment of Judge Cowen to be reporter of the Supreme court in 1824. During this close and confidential intercourse Judge Cowen depended much upon the sound judgment of his youthful associate. As stated in the body of this work Mr. Warren was appointed district attorney February 15, 1821 by the council of appointment and was continued in office by the judges of Common Pleas, until September 6, 1836. In 1824, he was appointed Master in Chancery and justice of the peace; and, he held the office of judge-advocate of the 15th division of infantry in the state militia from 1823 to 1831, and was appointed judge of Common Pleas by Gov. Bouck in 1843. He filled every office with credit to himself and honor to the county, and pursued his profession con amore, never fully relinquishing his practice. He was an impressive advocate before a jury and an influential and safe counselor in argument before the bench. He married Miss Eliza White, daughter of Epenetus White, Jr. of Ballston Spa, and granddaughter of Judge White, one of the pioneers of the town of Ballston, who survives him. Possessed of great public spirit, he did much to elevate Saratoga Springs into prominence as a watering place, and was one of the originators of the Saratoga and Whitehall railroad. Judge Warren was of medium stature, comely in person and stately manners; yet possessed of that which the French term bonnehommie which attracted the attention of strangers at their first meeting and endeared him to his friends. Deeply religious in thought, through his long life he illustrated the life of a Christian in his daily walk and conversation, and was for many years a ruling elder of the First Presbyterian Church at Saratoga Springs. He died May 23, 1875. Having been for several years the patriarch of the county bar, at the next term of the Circuit Court, on motion of Judge Lester, customary resolutions of respect were adopted. A feeling eulogy was pronounced by Judge Scott, an associate of the deceased at the bar for thirty years, addresses were also made by other members of the bar, and Judge Landom adjourned the court, after directing the clerk to make suitable entries on the minutes.

FROM The Bench and Bar of Saratoga County--Enos R. Mann.
To Mr. S. F. Warren

of the Class that graduated at Union College, in the year 1814

(or, if deceased, to the friend or relative who knew him best.)

Sir,—

It is the aim of the subscriber, in collecting the information asked for by the following questions, to obtain materials for a concise Biographical Catalogue of the Trustees, Presidents, Professors and Tutors of Union College;—of those who have received Honorary Degrees from it; and of all who have ever entered that Institution, whether Graduates or not.

That such a work would be interesting and useful to the Alumni, will not be denied; but whether it be practicable, will depend chiefly upon the ready aid which they shall impart. This circular will be sent to every Graduate whose residence is known, (or, if deceased, to some near connection,) and it is confidently expected that no one will neglect to return it in due time, with as full information as circumstances will allow,—since the questions, indeed, it may not be possible to answer with certainty; others not at all: still, it is hoped that no important facts will be withheld because of their farness.

Death has removed the twenty-four original Trustees, the first three Presidents, the early Professor and Tutors, and from eight hundred to one thousand of the Alumni of the College. Doubtless their friends and descendants will cheerfully contribute such information as may be necessary to illustrate the lives and services of the departed.

The subscriber desires every aid that may help to throw light upon the personal history of those concerned:—Obituary Notices; Biographical Sketches, Epitaphs, Funeral Sermons, Newspaper Notices of election to important offices or stations, Business Cards and Advertisements; also, copies of their Literary Works, Addresses, Sermons, Essays, Newspapers, engraved Portraits, &c.; all of which will be deposited and preserved in an Album of the College Library, to be set apart for "Graduates' Works."

He also requests that all future changes affecting the answers which shall be given, be made known to him from time to time:—especially the deaths of Graduates, and that the usual obituary notices or funeral sermons published on such occasions, be sent with the announcements, as it is his purpose to publish these deaths hereafter once a year.

JONATHAN PEARSON, Librarian.

UNION COLLEGE.
SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

SPECIMENS OF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES FOR THE PROPOSED CATALOGUE.

John Glidden Brown was born in Quinipedia, N. Y., May 2, 1800; parents, James and Elizabeth (Glidden) Brown, who moved to Epome, N. Y., in 1806. He was prepared for College at Flderburgh High School, under the instruction of Rev. Moses Johnson, and entered Union College Jan. 1817. He studied law with Hon. Septimus H. Smith, of Great Falls; was admitted to the bar in 1821; and commenced the practice of law in Albany, with James S. Van Hoven, Esq. In 1829 he moved to New-York City, which, thereafter, became his residence. He was Member of N. Y. Assembly 1832-3; State Senator 1836-8; Member of Congress 1838-41; and Judge of the Superior Court, 1842-4. He died June 30, 1849, of cholera, aged 49 years. Besides occasional speeches, orations and essays, he wrote a work on constitutional law, and edited the N. Y. State Papers. He received the Degree of L. L. D. from Hamilton College in 1846.

Joseph Hasclow Luther was born in Hanover, Mass., June 1, 1798; parents, Joseph and Madeline (Henshaw) Luther; prepared for College at Yorkville Academy, John Almy, Esq., Principal; and entered Union College Sept. 1814. He taught, 1813-26, in East Philadelphia, (Penn.) High School; graduated at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1823; and was ordained Sept. 25, 1825, at Marbletown, N. Y.; and was Pastor of the Presbyterian Church till 1825. He was Pastor of the 1st Congregational Church of Haselton, Conn., 1825-30; Professor of Rhetoric in Erie College 1831-40; retired on account of ill health, and now resides in Philadelphia, Pa. He has published six sermons on various occasions; a series of lectures on Rhetoric and Belles Lettres; and the "Communicant's Companion." He received the Degree of D. D. from the Hudson University in 1842.

Thomas Pennington Radway was born Feb. 23, 1778, in Benton, N. Y.; parents, John Harmony and Mary (Pennington) Radway; was prepared for College at High Holme School, Rev. Hanover Kelton, Principal; entered Union College Sept. 1795; taught a few months in Simeone, Mass., in 1799; studied medicine with Dr. Jones Physic and Dr. Abram Pollee, of Cambridge; attended medical lectures at the College of Surgeons and Physicians, and was admitted to, and commenced the practice of medicine in La Rhine, in 1806. He was Surgeon in the Army 1813-15, and returned to practice at Oldbury in 1815, where he has since resided. He lectured in the Fairhaven Medical School on Anatomy and Physiology, 1830-5, and has published several articles in the New-York Medical Review, and two larger works on the "Functions of the Brain," and on "Gunshot Wounds."

N. B. 1. Let the answers to the following questions be as full and authentic as possible; but when doubtful let them be marked thus (?)
2. When the person is deceased let some near relative or friend fill out the blanks to the best of his knowledge; if we have but one fact, let that be sent.
3. Let as much time be taken as may be found necessary, for this purpose, and no more.
4. In case this sheet be not sufficient, duplicate all the facts to be sent, add another of the same size, if possible, leaving an inner margin of not less than an inch for binding.
5. In cases where no answers to this circular shall be returned the editor will be obliged to publish such names without any biographical notices, or to rely upon information gathered from other sources, and, therefore, not always authentic.

USC-default
INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR THE FOREGOING SKETCHES.

I. Name: William Lafayette Warren.
   [Let this be written plainly and the middle name in full.]

II. Names of both Parents; thus:
   John Warren & Elizabeth (Belknap) Warren.
   [John and Elizabeth (Belknap) Johnson.]

III. Birth Place: Troy, N.Y.
     Birth Day and Year: 14 Feb 1793.

IV. Various residences and dates; thus:—
   [Please list, e.g.: 1809-1812: Troy, New York; 1812-1815: Saratoga Springs.]

V. At what Academy or Institution prepared for College; with Principal and dates; thus:
   [Saratoga Academy, Benjamin Allen, L.L.D., 1812-1813.]

VI. At what College he graduated, and when:
   Union College, July 1814.

VII. The occupation he followed after leaving college before studying his profession; thus:
    [Teaching, Washington, D.C., 1815-1816; or Merchants' Clerk, New York City, 1815-1816.]

VIII. The profession he engaged in, where; with whom; when; thus:
    [Theology at Amherst Theological Seminary, 1816-1817; or Law at Albany, N.Y., with Rev. Benson Hoke, 1817-1819.]

IX. Where he has practiced his profession, with dates; and in case he be a clergyman, mention the denomination to which he belongs; thus:
    [Episcopal, Saratoga Springs, N.Y., 1818-1819; New York City, 1819-1821.]

X. The other occupations he has followed, when and where; thus:
    [Merchant, Rochester, N.Y., 1820-1821; or Printer, Geneva, N.Y., 1822-1824; or Manufacturer, Schenectady, N.Y., 1840-1845; or Professor, teacher, lecturer, editor, etc.]

XI. The important offices he has held, with dates; thus:
    [Assemblyman, N.Y., 1824-1825; member of Congress, N.Y., 1825-1826; member of Assembly, N.Y., 1845-1847; District Attorney, 1826-1830; 1830-1834.]

XII. The literary and scientific works he has written or edited.
    [Copies should be added to the "Classical Authors" section.]

XIII. The names of his relatives who graduated at Union College.
    [S. John Henry Beach, nephew.]

XIV. The literary, professional, or honorary titles he received; from whence, with dates; thus:
    [M.D. from Union Medical College, 1817; or LL.D. from Amherst College, 1820.]

XV. Is there an engraved portrait of him?
    [Yes or no. If yes, who engraved it and his address.]

XVI. The date, circumstances, and place of his death.
    [If deceased, mention the date, cause of death, and place.]

[Signature at California, 1851.]

[Signature: I.H. Beach.]
XVII. General information respecting character, services, success, interesting passages and events in his life, &c.

John Henry Beach. Studied Law.
Saw service in the War of 1846.
Went to California in 1849, & died in 1851. His mother is at Seattle.
John C. M. Beach, his son, lives at Seattle.

XVIII. Some account of his pedigree and family; its original seat in this or the old country, &c., &c.

XIX. List of such graduates as may not be widely known; their residences, professions, dates of deaths, &c.; the name and residence, also, of some near friend of the deceased, that further information may be sought for; thus:

WILLIAM L. F. WARREN

Was born at Troy, N. Y., February 4, 1793. He was graduated at Union College in 1814, when he came to Saratoga Springs and entered the law office of Judge Esek Cowen as a student. Three years thereafter they formed a partnership, which continued until 1824. In 1819 he was appointed district attorney of Saratoga county, which office he filled until September 6, 1836, when he was succeeded by Nicholas Hill, Jr., who had also been a student in the office of Judge Cowen. It was during their connection with that office that a new edition of Phillips' Evidence, with Cowen & Hill's Notes, was prepared—an elaborate work, in four volumes, of great value to the profession for many years,—in which Mr. Warren assisted; and he prepared the last volume of the series himself. The latter was issued from the press without giving the name of the author, but simply "by a counsellor-at-law."

Subsequent to the elevation of Judge Cowen to the bench of the Supreme Court, Mr. Warren formed a law partnership with his nephew, William A. Beach.

Up to 1824, Judge Warren held various town offices. In that year he was appointed by the Governor and Senate "master in Chancery, injunction and taxing master", a responsible office, which he held until 1848, when the court of chancery was abolished by the constitution of 1846. At the same session of the Senate, in 1824, he was appointed to another office peculiar to those times, viz., "justice of the peace, performing judicial duties", which were, on the common-law side of the judiciary, something like those of a master in the court of chancery. In 1823, he was appointed by the Governor, judge-advocate of the 15th Division of Infantry of the State of New York, the active duties of which office he discharged until 1836.

In 1828 he was married to Miss Eliza White, only daughter of Epenetus White of Ballston Spa.

In 1845 he was made judge of the court of common pleas, and held the office until it was abrogated by the judiciary act of 1848.

In politics he was a Democrat until the Rebellion when he became a Republican and so continued to his death. In 1846 he ran as one of the presidential electors on the ticket with Cass and Butler, but the Van Buren and Adams movement—the so-called Free-Soil ticket—so divided the Democratic party that the Whig ticket for electors was successful. From that time forward Judge Warren was not active in politics.

He was one of the originators of the railroad from Saratoga to Whitehall, the Schenectady Bank, and the Bank of Saratoga Springs, and for a long time one of the directors in each of these corporations.
William L. F. Warren 1814

Soon after the organization of the First Presbyterian church of Saratoga Springs, he became a member. In 1842 he was chosen a corporate member of the board of commissioners for foreign missions, and continued such for about twenty years. In January 1844 he became an elder in the church.

Judge Warren died at Saratoga Springs on Sunday evening, May 23, 1875, aged eighty-two years. Mrs. Warren still survives him, as also his two daughters and their families.

FROM History of Saratoga County  Sylvester  1978
Page 193.
CLASS OF 1814.

WILLIAM LA FAYETTE WARREN.

Was the son of Capt. John Warren, who served in the Continental Army through the Revolution and was a blood relative of General Joseph Warren, of Bunker Hill memory. His mother before marriage was Betsey Belknap.

Judge Warren was born at Troy, Feb. 4, 1793. He graduated at Union College and came to Saratoga and studied law in the office of Esek Cowen, with whom three years later, he formed a partnership, which continued until 1824. In 1819 he was appointed district attorney of Saratoga County and he filled this office until Sept. 6, 1836. On the elevation of Judge Cowen to the bench of the Supreme Court in 1835, the firm of Warren & Hill was formed which was succeeded by that of Warren & Beach, the latter being his nephew, W. A. Beach.

In conjunction with Gideon M. Davison, he wrote a book, entitled, "The Fashionable Tour," which was published in 1820. This was the first guide book especially devoted to Saratoga Springs and became very popular passing through many editions. He built the brick building on the southwest corner of Broadway and Church St where he lived for more than 40 years until the time of his death. This building was razed when the Adirondack Trust Co., was erected in its place.

In 1825 Judge Warren married Eliza White, only daughter of Epenetus White, Jr. They had two daughters, Susan, who married John A. Bryan, and Elizabeth, who married James H. Westcott.

Judge Warren died May 23, 1875, in the 83rd year of his age.

Feminiscences of Saratoga Co p. 235
Cornelius E. Durkee
WILLIAM LA FAYETTE WARREN

Born Troy, February 4, 1793
Married February 27, 1828, Eliza, daughter of Epenetus White, of Ballston.
Died May 23, 1875.

Genealogical Data relating to Families of Saratoga County
Compiled by Cornelius E. Durkee
p. 23
1919

From Saratoga Sentinel
March 4, 1828
JUDGE William Warren was one of the early graduates of Union College, founded, Feb. 25, 1776, receiving his diploma in 1814. He served as district attorney of the county, Judge of the Common Pleas Court, was interested in all village, civic, and educational events, and was one of the prominent Democrats of his day, in 1844 being a Democratic presidential elector. After the Civil War he became a Republican.

FIRST things came first with these first families, and religion was one of them. Ezekiel Cowen, Henry Walton and Dr. John Clarke, the last two members of other founding families, gave the land on which was built the first Episcopal Church of Saratoga Springs, Oct. 4, 1830. The church was built at the corner of East Congress and Putnam Street now a short distance west of the present Casino in Congress Park. Services were held there by the Rev. Edward Davis of Ballston Spa, which had been ahead of Saratoga Springs in having its own place of worship. The present site of Bethesda Episcopal Church in Washington Street was purchased in 1841.

It was told to us by Cornelius E. Durkee that Cowen furnished the money, Henry Walton the timber, and Dr. Clarke the land.