

CLASS OF 1823

JESSE D. DE GRAFF

Jesse D. De Graff was the second son of Isaac De Graff, and a brother of John I. De Graff, Class of 1811.

He was born in Schenectady on the 8th of January, 1801. He graduated at Union College, and studied law with the Alonzo C. Paige, after which he removed to Albany and established himself in the profession with marked success. He was also appointed judge of Common Pleas by the council of appointment. On the 10th of August, 1830, he was married to Miss Gazena Catherine Visscher, the only child of Frederick Herman Visscher, whose name has been previously mentioned. Their union was of a happy character, and Judge De Graff, after his marriage, made the old Visscher mansion his permanent home. He found occupation in the improvement of a large estate, and became a prominent man in the society of the day. He died August 4, 1868, and was buried by the side of his wife in the new cemetery in Schenectady.

His children were four in number, their names being as follows: Susan, Charles Herman, Alfred and Isaac Howard. The first of these became the wife of Mr. William Farnham, of Troy. She was highly esteemed for domestic virtues, but was early removed by death, leaving a precious memory. Charles and Howard died early, and hence Mr. Alfred De Graff is the sole representative of the family. This gentleman now occupies the old Visscher estate, being the fifth generation of proprietorship. He has reconstructed and enlarged the mansion, adding the improvements of modern architecture, until it now presents a tasteful and imposing appearance. The outbuildings are all renewed in the same style, and thus a general harmony pervades the establishment. The spacious lawn is shaded with forest trees, and the effect is heightened by the deer which grace the grounds, and which seem so natural that one at first sight would hardly believe them to be the work of the artist. The Danoscara, dashing over its stony bed and skirting the mansion, adds a fine effect to the general view, which is one of rare beauty. It may be added that the interior is admirably adorned with pictures and other works of art, as well as with a choice and valuable library. Among the curious heir-looms which one meets in this ancestral mansion is a silver dollar which has been in the family for one hundred and fifty years. It is computed that if this sum had been placed at compound interest, carefully reckoned during the whole time, it would have reached the handsome amount of \$15,000. Mr. Alfred De Graff married, October 14, 1869, Miss Anna Phillips, only daughter of the late Cornelius Phillips of the town of Florida, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this volume. Three children adorn this union, Edith, Howard and Florence, who form the sixth generation connected with the estate settled by Herman Frederick Visscher, one hundred and twenty-seven years ago. As a feature in these family records it may be appropriately mentioned in this connection, that Isaac De Graff had two daughters, one of whom, (Nancy) married Captain Philip R. Toll, of the same place. This family have been occupants of a large estate near Schenectady for two centuries, and therefore,

need no farther reference. Philip Toll was bred a physician, but afterward entered service during the war of 1812, holding the rank of captain of artillery, in which he won special confidence of General Hampton. Soon after the close of the war he moved west, his permanent residence being Fawn River, Mich., where his son, Isaac D. Toll has reached a distinction equalled by few public men in that important State. Mrs. Toll is still living, and is the cherished object of affection in a large domestic circle. Another daughter became Mrs. Rev. Dr. Cuyler of Philadelphia, where she still resides, and though now past fourscore, retains the use of her faculties, and is a remarkable instance of well-preserved as well as honored old age.

FROM History of Montgomery and Fulton Counties, N.Y. p 150
F. W. Beers & Co.
New York
1878.

1823

JESSE D. DEGRAFF

MARRIED: At Johnstown, on the 10th inst. by the Rev.
Doct. Cuyler, Jesse D. Degraff, esq., of this city,
to Miss Gazena Catharine, daughter of the late
Herman Visscher, of the former place.

Albany Argus,
Aug. 16, 1830.

JESSE DeGRAFF, Jr. Esq. 1823, of Albany, N.Y., was a member of the Adelpic Society.
Adelpic Catalogue 1830 (Died: 1868)

CLASS OF 1823

JESSE D. DE GRAFF

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His children were four in number, their names being as follows: Susan, Charles Herman, Alfred and Isaac Howard. The first of these became the wife of Mr. William Farnham, of Troy. She was highly esteemed for domestic virtues, but was early removed by death, leaving a precious memory. Charles and Howard died early, and hence Alfred De Graff is the sole representative of the family. This gentleman now occupies the old Visscher estate, being the fifth generation of proprietorship.

NOTE:-Jesse D. De Graff's sister Nancy married Philip R. Toll, Union 1811.

FROM History of Montgomery & Fulton Counties p. 150
F. W. Beers & Co.
New York 1878.

UNION COLLEGE ALUMNI RECORD

1. Name in full Jesse A. DeGraff Class 1823
2. Born on Jan 8-1801 at Schenectady, N.Y.
(Give date and place in full)
3. Residences before entering college Schenectady, N.Y.
4. Prepared for college at _____
(If entering from another college, so state.)
5. Entered 1819 (Give year, month and class if not freshman) Course Classical
6. Left college _____ (Give approximate time of leaving.)
7. College life. Under each head state kind of activity, any office held, and college year in which active or held office, thus (1) freshman, (2) sophomore, (3) junior, (4) senior.
- a. Athletic teams (class or varsity) _____
- b. Other activities (member or officer debating team, musical or dramatic association, press club, Concordiensis or Garnet boards, etc.) _____
- c. Fraternity, literary or social organizations of which a member _____
- d. Class offices _____
- e. College prizes and honors _____
8. Study at other institutions after leaving Union (how long and where) _____
9. Degrees (with institutions granting them and dates) _____
10. Class reunions attended _____
11. Commencements attended _____
12. College reunions and dinners attended _____
13. Member of _____ alumni association (if officer state office and date held) _____
14. Postgraduate office held in class or college organization (member or officer Graduate Council, Trustee of Union, class president or secretary, etc.) _____
15. Relatives (own or wife's) at Union (name, relationship, and class)
Howard A. DeGraff, Grandson Class of 1896
16. Parents' names in full (with country of ancestry, college, occupation, residence, date of birth and death, and other important facts.)
- a. Father _____
- b. Mother _____
17. Brothers and sisters: (name, date of birth and death, college if other than Union) _____
18. Married _____ of _____ on _____
(name of wife, date and place of marriage; if wife dead, date of death)
19. Children (name, date of birth, college, if other than Union) _____

20. Business and professional career, business or professional connections and positions held. (Give each in order with dates when held in place.)

Practiced Law for ten years in Albany, N.Y.

21. Public positions held in civil life (with dates.) (Include such positions as trustee, director, vestryman, etc.)

Held Office of County Judge of Montgomery County for two terms

22. Military history and titles (with dates). (If in army or navy, enter under 20.)

23. Professional and scientific organizations of which a member.

24. Social, civic, and literary organizations of which a member.

25. Literary productions (with date of publication and name of publisher).

26. Religious denomination

27. Political preference

28. Recreations

29. Other facts or remarks

30. Addresses; residential, (a), business (b), with (c) dates when occupied. (Check the addresses to which mail should be sent.)

| | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| a. | b. | c. |
| a. | b. | c. |
| a. | b. | c. |
| a. | b. | c. |
| a. | b. | c. |
| a. | b. | c. |
| a. | b. | c. |

Forwarding address, by which can always be reached

31. Sources of information. A—self; B.....; C.....; D.....; E.....

Use these reference letters in checking any information given above and add date; thus A 1|19|20—information furnished by self Jan. 19, 1920. Use extra pages if necessary, numbering answers to correspond with numbers of questions on sheets. Answer all questions noting any you might not wish published.

1054 of 1875 de 8107-3-0006

1823

JESSE D. DeGRAFF

DIED:-At Danoscara, near Fonda, Aug. 4th.,
Hon. Jesse D. DeGraff, aged 68 years.

Schenectady Reflector
August 6, 1868.

61111111

1868-1869

1823 JESSE D. DE GRAFF.

DIED:-At Mohawk, Montgomery County, November 23, in the
15th year of his age, Isaac Howard, son of Jesse
and Gazena De Graff.

FROM:- Schenectady Reflector
December 4, 1857

Alfred DeGraff, 86, died yesterday afternoon at 1:05 o'clock in his home in the village of Fultonville. Mrs. DeGraff died February 4, after a wedded life of 51 years, and this was a great shock to Mr. DeGraff, who never recovered from its effects.

Mr. DeGraff for more than half a century had been one of the most prominent figures not only in Montgomery county, but also in Schenectady as well, having been largely identified with financial, business and realty interests. He was born July 30, 1835, at the Danoscara homestead, about two miles east of Fonda, which has been in possession of the family since early Colonial days, being the son of Hon. Jesse D. DeGraff and Gazena Catherine Vischer DeGraff. His father was a graduate of Union college, a lawyer and for several years held the office of judge of county court of common pleas. On his mother's side he descended from Colonel Frederick Vischer, commander of the Tryon county regiment of militia during the Revolutionary war, who was scalped and left for dead at the time of Sir John Johnson's raid on the valley in May, 1780, finally recovering and becoming county judge.

Mr. DeGraff received his education at Poughkeepsie and while still a young man, through the death of his father, assumed business interests. For 25 years he was a director of the Schenectady bank of Schenectady and when the bank was changed over to the Schenectady Trust company,

MRS. HAYDOCK SAVED FROM AN OPERATION

Followed Advice of Her
Druggist's Wife and Took
Lydia E. Pinkham's
Vegetable Compound

Chicago, Ill. — "I was in bed with a female trouble and inflammation and had four doctors but none of them did me any good. They all said I would have to have an operation. A druggist's wife told me to take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and I took 22 bottles, never missing a dose and at the end of that time I was perfectly well. I have a six room flat and do all my own work. My two sisters are taking the Compound upon my recommendation and you may publish my letter. It is the gospel truth and I will write to anyone who wants a personal letter."



Free Instructions in Knitting.

July 19 1921
Woven Names

Now is the time to order Cash's woven names for the clothing that will be worn this Fall to school or college.

The orders will be filled in two or three weeks and the prices run like this:

One name in lots of 12 dozen are \$5; six dozen, \$2; three dozen, \$1.50. Lots of 12 dozen are 80c for two initials, \$2 for three initials, and \$2.50 for four initials.

Lots of six dozen are 45c for two initials; \$1.50 for three and \$1.75 for four.

—Main Floor
Notion Section.

H. S. BARNE

about 15 years ago, he was elected as one of its board of trustees, remaining as such up to the time of his death, serving the organization for over 40 years.

Upon the establishment of the Starin Silk Fabric company, of Fultonville, in the early '80's, one of the first silk manufacturing plants in the country, he was elected president of the company and remained at the head of the concern until it was sold a few years ago. In 1883 when the Fultonville National bank was organized he became one of its first board of directors and continued on the board since that time. Upon the death of John H. Starin, he was elected president of the board, thus serving the bank 38 years.

He has for a half century been identified with the Fonda Reformed church, of which he was an elder and for many years president of the board of trustees. He was a member and at one time one of the vice-presidents of the Holland society of New York and was also a charter member of the Montgomery County Historical society.

The surviving relatives are two daughters, Mrs. Fred S. Haslett of Fort Plain, and Miss Florence DeGraff of Fonda, and one son, Howard A. DeGraff of Fonda; also three grandchildren, Alfred DeGraff, jr., Anna DeGraff and Howard A. DeGraff, jr. No arrangements for the funeral have been made as yet.

1823

1822

JESSE D. DE GRAFF.

The Judgeship.-The appointment by the Governor of Jesse D. DeGraff, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the expiration of the term of the Hon. Jacob De Graff, we believe will meet the most decided approbation of the people and particularly of the democratic party in this county.

It is universally conceded that Mr. DeGraff is a man of the most amiable character, sound moral habits, a good scholar, a man of gifted talents, and a most estimable citizen. He will be an ornament to the bench, and as a lawyer will confer honor upon the station which he is called upon to fill. (Fonda Sentinel)--Daily Albany Argus, Feb. 6, 1845.

1823 JESSE D. DeGRAFF.

DIED: On the 23rd December at the family residence in
Montgomery County, in the 54th year of her age
Mrs. Jesse D. DeGraff.

FROM: Weekly Albany Argus
Jan. 17, 1867.