

REMARKS BY ELDER MANTEL AT RICHFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY, SEPT  
23 1894

General Riley Lucas Bartholomew has to long held a high and honorable place in the profound esteem and confidence of the neighbors and fellow citizen, that all the neighbors and fellow citizens, that all the impulses of our hearts prompt us to gather with expressions of sincerest respect, around the casket that held the remains of our venerable friend. We esteemed him, we loved him. In sadness we bid him farewell; but turning from his quiet resting place in the cemetery, we shall not fail to cherish in memory the character, which won our admiration and bound us to him.

General Bartholomew was born to Geneva, Ashtabula County, Ohio May 30, 1807. In early manhood he quickly won a high place in the thoughts of his fellow citizens. For several years he was honored with the office of sheriff in his native country; soon he received the commission of Colonel, which was quickly followed by that of Major General, which he bore to his death. He was married to the widow, who survives him, April 9, 1829. In 1879, friends and relatives celebrated, at his home in Richland, his golden wedding. The celebration was a most brilliant one and bore ample testimony to the affection for the venerable bride and bridegroom.

The general came to Minnesota in 1852, and soon after settled with his family in his Richland home. When the convention to frame the Constitution for the State was called for in 1857, he was elected a delegate. He was also elected a senator the same year.

In 1882, in his native town he publicly declared his faith as a Christian and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church. In obedience to his strong independence convictions with regards with the teachings of the Scriptures, he confessed his faith by baptism by Immersion.

We honor him as one of the early Christian pioneers, who with unswerving fidelity unfurling the banner of Christianity did noble work in laying the foundations of virtue and religion. His character like his physical frame was broad, large, strong. His unbending integrity, his purity and nobleness of spirit, his firm, lofty principles, his lovable though stern virtues, command admiration and affection. He had a clear, strong faith in God whom he delighted to worship, revere, honor and obey as the Almighty Ruler and Maker. To him the bible was the word, the truth of Jehovah. He heartily received it as the Law and Testimony and Revelation of God making known the way and condition of Eternal life though Jesus Christ, in whom with a deep sense of human imperfections and sinfulness he trusted with a sustaining trust. One of the strong traits of his Christian faith was a great importance he ever attached to a preparation for the Judgment and Eternity.

A sincere earnest desire to be ready for the hour of dissolution and for the future life characterized all his closing days. This readiness we feel happy insurance, he enjoyed. The richest legacy he has left to his beloved family, widow, sons and daughters is of that of a noble Christian character an unswerving faith in Christ and the word of God. Though dead may he never cease to speak to you of God and Heaven. May his testimony come to you as a voice of Love saying amidst all the busy scence of the day and still hours of the night, be Ready.