

OLDEST EDITOR IN MINNESOTA IS DEAD

**Daniel Sinclair, Veteran Winona
Writer and Statesman, Dies at
Age of 74—Served as Post-
master Under Grant
and Harrison.**

WINONA, Minn., Nov. 20.—Daniel Sinclair, aged 74 years, who held the distinction of being the oldest editor in Minnesota, died here today.

Mr. Sinclair served as editor of the Winona Republican, which he established in 1856, for almost half a century. In 1880 he was named as delegate-at-large to the national Republican convention at Chicago. He was chosen chairman of the Minnesota delegation and gained national prominence by reason of his personal persistence in keeping the name of William Windom before the convention, thus contributing largely to the defeat of James G. Blaine and the nomination of James A. Garfield.

ILL MANY YEARS.

D. Sinclair has lived a rather retired life for the last six and a half years since resigning the editorship of The Winona Republican in 1901, when the consolidation of the Republican and the Herald took place, after having wielded the editorial pen on the former paper continuously for 45 years, a record which it is said is not equaled in the journalism of Minnesota. For several years past his health has been so poor that he has been confined to his home for the greater part of the time, although able to drive out in pleasant weather.

Mr. Sinclair was the first president of the Minnesota Editorial association, an honor which he richly deserved by reason of his ability, integrity and perseverance in the newspaper work. He was born Jan. 12, 1833, at Thurso, Catthness-shire, Scotland, and was educated in the common and grammar schools of his native town. The death of his father when he was five years old left him to work his own way in the world, and from the age of fourteen he cared for himself. The two years from 14 to 16 he spent in Edinburgh, Scotland, and in portions of England, and at the age of 16 he came to this country, locating at Meadville, Pa.

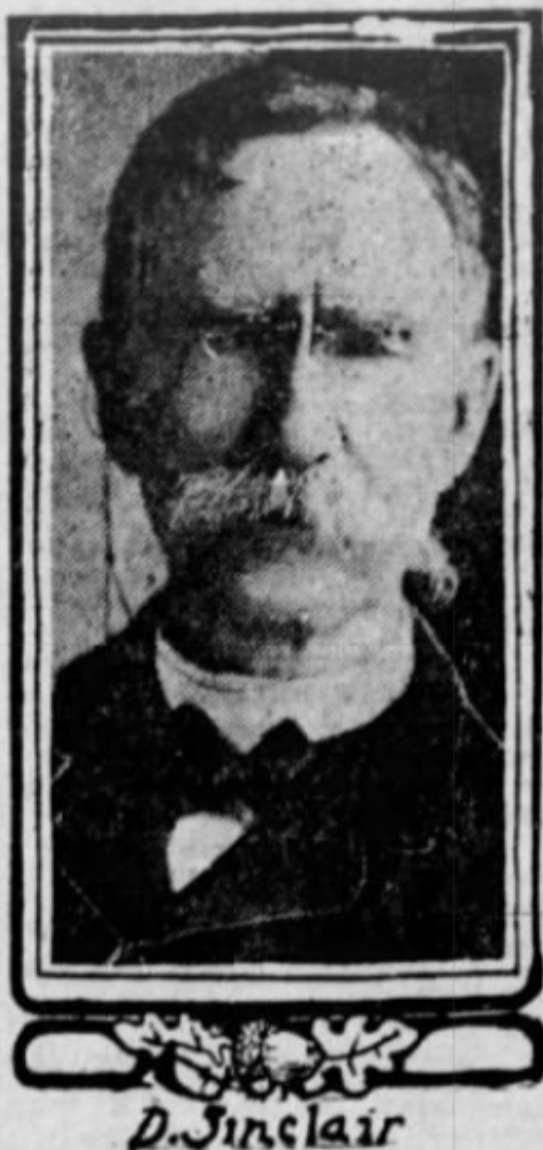
LEARNS PRINTING TRADE.

He learned the printing trade in the office of the Crawford Journal at Meadville, and when 20 years old he had by his own industry and prudence saved enough to enable him to buy an interest in the Conneautville, Pa., Courier, which paper he edited for 15 months. After several years residence in Pennsylvania he removed, at the age of 23, to Minnesota, and in June, 1856, located in Winona, where he made his home for the remainder of his life. He at once took the position as editor of the Winona Republican, and for 45 years exercised a great influence in that position.

August 25, 1855, Mr. Sinclair was married to Miss Melissa Jane Briggs, and as a result of this union six children were born, three of whom are now living—Mrs. W. E. Smith of Des Moines, Mrs. Townsend of Chicago, and Mrs. C. P. Robbins of this city. The only son died at the age of 12 years, and two daughters also died in early childhood.

APPOINTED POSTMASTER.

On May 16, 1869, under the administration of President Grant, Mr. Sinclair was



appointed postmaster at Winona, and held the position until July 1, 1885, for 16 years. Again he was appointed to the same position by President Harrison July 1, 1890, and occupied that post until July 1, 1904, when a change in administration led to his retirement.

Politically Mr. Sinclair was always a Republican, and consistently and continuously advocated Republican policies through the columns of the Republican. He was closely identified with William Windom during his long and useful political career as congressman, senator and secretary of the treasury.

Mr. Sinclair was sent as delegate-at-large to the Republican National convention at Chicago in 1880, and was chosen chairman of the delegation. He supported William Windom for the presidential nomination until the break came. It was well understood that Grant was his second choice, and that his vote would go in that direction should Mr. Windom's name be withdrawn. He was one of the famous 306 who went down with Grant and was presented with one of the medals issued to those who went on record for Grant on the last ballot.

SERVES IN LEGISLATURE.

An able and dignified writer, always conservative and judicial in the expression of his views, he made the Republican one of the most influential papers in the state. For years he exercised a great influence in shaping the political affairs of the state and in advancing the business and industrial interests of Winona and Southern Minnesota. After leaving the editorial harness Mr. Sinclair served in the state legislature one term, and made an able representative for his district.

For more than 10 years he has served as secretary of the Winona park board and has had a large share in shaping the policy which has assured Winona the splendid park system, the foundations of which have been so solidly laid.