

C. E. FLANDRAU DIES IN ST. PAUL

Pioneer of Minnesota and a Member
of First Supreme Court
Passes Away.

He Had Been Ill for About Two
Years With Kidney
Trouble.

Was a President of First Minneap-
olis Board of Trade and
City Attorney.

Judge Charles E. Flandrau died at his residence, 385 Pleasant avenue, St. Paul, at 8 o'clock this morning. For two years he had been suffering from a kidney ailment, which slowly undermined his vigorous constitution, and in the past week his illness took so serious a turn that his end was known to be a matter of a few days. All the members of his family were at his bedside when the end came.

The state thus loses a prominent citizen and a pioneer settler who was closely connected with many of the stirring incidents in the territorial and early statehood history of Minnesota.

Born in 1828.

Judge Flandrau was born July 15, 1828, in New York city. His father, Charles H. Flandrau, was for many years a law partner of Aaron Burr. The judge's mother was the daughter of General Alexander Macomb.

After attending school in Georgetown and Washington young Charles E. Flandrau ran away to sea at the age of 13 and passed three years before the mast. When 19 he began the study of law in his father's office at Whitesboro, N. Y. He was admitted to practice in 1851. Coming to St. Paul in 1853 with Horace E. Bigelow, he hung his banner to the breeze



JUDGE CHARLES E. FLANDRAU.

on Third street as the junior half of Bigelow & Flandrau. The following year, convinced that Rock Bend, now St. Peter, was going to outgrow St. Paul, Mr. Flandrau occupied the first house in the new settlement. A few months later he was made deputy clerk of the district court and was then elected district attorney for Nicollet county. He was sent to the territorial council in 1855, but resigned after one year's service. His next office was that of United States agent for the Sioux of the Mississippi. In 1857 he served as democratic member of the state constitutional convention.

Member of Supreme Court.

While a member of the convention he was appointed associate justice of the state supreme court. He held this post until 1864. While on the supreme bench he instituted many reforms in the organization of the judiciary and the system of practice, and acquired a deserved reputation for sagacity and high principle.

It was during the Sioux outbreak of 1862 that Judge Flandrau added military lustre to his civic reputation. As commander of the volunteers defending the town of New Ulm, Judge Flandrau conducted a fierce fight that lasted forty hours, saved the town, and rescued many women and children from massacre.

City Attorney of Minneapolis.

After a brief absence in Carson City, Nev., Judge Flandrau returned to Minnesota and formed a law partnership with Judge Isaac Atwater of this city. In 1867 Judge Flandrau was elected city attorney of Minneapolis. He was also chosen president of the first board of trade organized here, and represented that board at the important commercial convention held in St. Louis, in 1868, to advance the interests of navigation on the upper Mississippi.

Two years afterwards, Judge Flandrau, going again to St. Paul entered the firm of Bigelow, Flandrau & Clark, and became subsequently the head of the reorganized firm of Flandrau, Squires & Cutcheon. Of late years Judge Flandrau has practiced alone. He did not finally retire from his profession until six months ago.

Ran for Governor in 1867.

Judge Flandrau was always an influential democrat. He ran as an unsuccessful candidate for governor in 1867 and, in 1869, he was named chairman of the state central committee and delegate to the national convention. He advocated his party's principles for a short time as editor-in-chief of the St. Paul Globe. He was a chairman of the commission that framed the present city charter of St. Paul.

The first wife of Judge Flandrau was Miss Isabella R. Dinsmore, whom he married in 1859. They had two daughters, Mrs. T. R. Selmes and Mrs. F. W. M. Cutcheon. The second wife was Mrs. Rebecca B. Biddle, wedded in 1871. Her son is now prominent in the diplomatic service. The children of this second marriage were Charles M. Flandrau and William Blair McC. Flandrau, both of St. Paul.

Judge Atwater's Tribute.

"I am greatly surprised, for I had no idea that Judge Flandrau's condition was so serious," said Judge Isaac Atwater, when informed this afternoon of Judge Flandrau's death.

"It was only three months ago that he was in here to see me and while he was accompanied by an attendant for safety's sake, he was feeling perfectly well and I did not look to see his death some so soon."

"He was one of the finest men I was ever acquainted with," said Judge Flandrau's one-time colleague on the state supreme court. "I first knew him in 1853, and he was one of the best and ablest lawyers we had in that early day. He was in every respect a most true and worthy man and his word could always be relied upon to the last extremity."

"After we left the bench we practiced together at Carson City, Nev., and later here in Minneapolis, and he was one of the most popular and successful lawyers before and after leaving the bench that the state ever knew. He was always as

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popular as he was successful as a lawyer and maintained this character up to the time of his death.

"I think he was the oldest practitioner in the state at the time of his death, altho I am a little older than he was, and he will probably be more missed and lamented than any other member of the bar of the state of Minnesota.

"There is no member of the bar at least that I am acquainted with, whose death I shall more deeply regret than that of Judge Flandrau, and I think every member of the bar here will feel the same as I do in regard to him."

Judge Atwater, who is now in his eighty-sixth year, and Judge Lafayette Emmett, acting librarian of the territory of New Mexico, were with Judge Flandrau on the supreme bench, Judge Emmett as chief justice. Altho Judge Atwater suffered a stroke of paralysis several years ago, which rendered him almost helpless, his mind is still as clear and his grip as strong as ever.

Judge Lochren's Tribute.

Judge William Lochren of the United States court had known Judge Flandrau for nearly half a century. "I first met him," said Judge Lochren to-day, "in 1856, and I always held him in the highest esteem. It was he who opened the first term of the district court of Hennepin county, at the old courthouse, in the fall of 1857. His ability was manifest from the start. He proved, in the general estimation of the bar, one of the ablest men who ever presided in the court. He made himself equally influential as associate justice of the supreme court of the state during the early sixties. He did much towards forming the judicial department, and by his acumen, accurate knowledge and fine sense of equity, he was enabled to correct abuses incident to legal practice in a frontier state. Judge Flandrau will be remembered by all who knew him personally as a striking example of the thoro culture and the high character that characterized so many residents of Minnesota in the earliest days."