

Charles McCormick Reeve 1848-1947

Noted General, Cousin Plymouth Woman, Dies

Died June 24 '47

Gen. Charles McCormick Reeve, 99, the oldest living Spanish-American war veteran in the nation, who died Tuesday at his home at Minnetonka Beach, Minn., was the cousin of Miss Nell Reeve of North Center st., Plymouth. The late C. A. Reeve pioneer resident of Plymouth, was also an ~~uncle~~ ^{uncle} of the grand old general who would have been 100 years old August 7.

General Reeve led the famous 13th Minnesota volunteers in the battle of Manila, Aug. 13, 1898, under Gen. Arthur MacArthur, father of Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

He was graduated from Yale University in law in 1870 and was the school's oldest alumnus.

Most of his time in recent years had been spent in reading and in writing his memoirs.

"I haven't any recipe for longevity," he said on his last birthday. "I used to drink and smoke occasionally but I gave it up just because I felt like it."

A colonel in the first Minnesota National Guard, Gen. Reeve succeeded in having President McKinley assign his regiment to the Eighth Army Corps during the Spanish-American war.

For his action in leading the regiment to victory in the battle for Manila Aug. 13, 1898, he was recommended for promotion to brigadier general by Gen. Arthur MacArthur. In 1892 he made a trip to Russia as one of three commissioners appointed by the governor of Minnesota, to accompany a shipload of "mercy flour" to that country, which was at that time stricken by famine.

He was born in Dansville, N.Y., the son of a United States army officer, and spent his boyhood at various army posts to which his father was assigned.

He was a member of the Minnesota legislature in 1890-91; warden of the Minnesota state prison at Stillwater in 1899 and 1900; a Mason, a member of the Odd Fellows, Military Order of the Loyal Legion, Society of Foreign Wars, Society of the Army of the Philippines, the Lafayette Club and Yale club in New York.