

MAJOR-(WN . ROMEYN B. AYRES .

Major-Gen. Romeyn B. Ayres, United States Army, died at noon yesterday at Fort Hamilton, where he was stopping on leave of absence on account of sickness.

He was born at East Creek, Montgomery County, N.Y., in December, 1825. In 1843 he entered West Point, and on being graduated in 1847 was commissioned in the regular army as a Brevet Second Lieutenant of the Fourth Artillery, and served in the Mexican war at Pueblo and the city of Mexico with such valor as to be commissioned a Second Lieutenant. He was in active service, mostly on the frontier, until the breaking out of the civil war, when he held the rank of Captain of the Fifth Artillery. He was present at all the early engagements of the war about the defenses of Washington. He accompanied the Army of the Potomac in the Peninsular campaign and in the Maryland campaign of 1862, and participated in all of the long sequences of battles ending at Antietam. He was made a Brigadier-General of United States Volunteers and promoted to Brevet Major, United States Army. Continuing with the Army of the Potomac, he served through the engagements at Warrentown, Rappahannock Station, and the battles of the Wilderness. In July, 1863, he was placed in command of a regiment and sent to New York City to aid in the draft. During the riot he rendered gallant service. On Aug. 1, 1864, he was promoted to Brevet Major-General, United States Volunteers, for conspicuous gallantry during the campaign, and less than a month later was made a Brevet Colonel for gallantry at Weldon Railroad. His valor at Five Forks gained him the title of Brevet Brigadier-General of the United States Army, and afterward he took part in the pursuit of the rebel army culminating in Lee's surrender. March 13, 1865, he was promoted to Brevet Major-General, United States Army, and on April 30, 1865, was mustered out of the volunteer service, having been active throughout the war.

Since the war he has been in command at various posts and has served on many important commissions. Three years ago he was ordered to St. Francis Barracks, St. Augustine. The climate there did not agree with him and his health began to decline. Last April he was forced to ask for sick leave of absence, and came to Governors Island. In May he removed to Fort Hamilton, where his wife's family have a house. He has been up and around ever since, but has been steadily failing. A short time ago paresis set in, which resulted in his death. He leaves several children by his first wife, one of whom, Charles Ayres, is a Lieutenant in the army. His second wife and two little girls survive him.

Major-Gen. Ayres was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, and of the Loyal Legion. The funeral arrangements will not be completed until after a conference with the authorities. A service will be held at the Fort Hamilton house and then the body will probably be taken by a guard of soldiers to the Pennsylvania Railroad to be forwarded to Washington for burial at Arlington. When the news of the death was made known the flags on Fort Hamilton were set at halfmast and a detail of soldiers was sent as a guard to the house.

Deaths.

Ayers. Thursday, November 26, 1925, at Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, D. C. Mrs. Julie Opie Ayers, widow of Gen. Romeyn Ayres.

From: The Evening Star, Washington, D. C.  
Nov. 28, 1925, p. 7, c. 7.

Note: No further information found in "Star" about Mrs. Ayers.