

In the Spring of 1864, Col. Larrabee migrated to California, accompanied by his daughter, stopping at San Jose. Visiting Virginia City, Nevada, he was attacked with his old army complaint, the diarrhœa; and finding he could not stand the climate, he returned to San Jose, and spent the summer on Gen. Naglee's ranch near that city; but in the early autumn he was attacked with erysipelas in the head, and barely survived. Thinking a higher latitude would prove more healthful, he removed to Salem, in Oregon, in October, and engaged in the practice of law with Hon. Lansing Stout, and was the next month joined by his wife and son.

He had some recurrences of his old army complaint. But his nature was restless, and he sought too frequent change of residence for his success. After awhile he returned to California, residing for some time at Los Angeles. His wife died in San Francisco, Aug. 7th, 1873. He subsequently located, with Beriah Brown, at Seattle in Washington Territory. Having been a framer of the Wisconsin constitution in 1847-48 thirty years later, in 1879, he was a member of a convention in Washington Territory to frame a constitution in anticipation of its admission as a State into the Union. But the people were not yet prepared for such a step, and did not adopt the constitution submitted to them. Col. Larrabee was chosen one of the five trustees, and the treasurer of the board, for organizing at Seattle a University for the Territory, which was favored with an endowment of public lands.

Col. Larrabee finally settled at San Bernardino, in Southern California, resuming the practice of his profession, and fitting up a lovely rural home, with a fine variety of tropical fruits. Returning from a visit to San Francisco, when near Los Angeles, Jan. 20th, 1883, the train making a brief stop on a summit it had just gained, being detached from the engine, started off on the down grade at a frightful speed, a distance of four miles, and then plunged down an embankment, killing and burning in the shattered cars some sixteen persons—among them Col. Larrabee. His melancholy and shocking death cast a gloom over his many friends in every part of the country. A son, daughter, and three grandchildren survive him.