

Memoir of Henry D. Barron

By Samuel Stillman Fifield

Henry Danforth Barron, judge of the eleventh judicial circuit, died at his home in Saint Croix Falls, Polk County, Wisconsin, on Sunday, January 22d, 1882.

He was born at Wilton, Saratoga County, New York, April 10, 1833, and hence was forty-eight years, nine months and thirteen days old, when he departed this life.

He began life a poor self-dependent boy, and not having the means with which to acquire anything better than a common school education; and having a taste for books and a natural thirst for knowledge, he early in his boyhood apprenticed himself to and learned the printer's trade, in the office of the *Temperance Chief*, published by the then celebrated Thurlow Weed Brown, at Albany, New York. During his life as an apprentice, he studied hard, and soon found a warm friend in Mr. Brown and his sister, Emma Brown, who, seeing in the boy the making of a man of more than ordinary ability, took a warm interest in his welfare, and rendered him such assistance as in after life served him well, for by them was the foundation laid upon which he could build a brilliant career, if he so willed. The three years spent in the printing office fitted him for more advanced schooling; and having chosen law as his future profession, he entered the law school at Ballston Spa, N. Y., and graduated there, earning his way by extra labor performed at such times as he could obtain, by working at his trade.

The Western fever prevailing, he managed to collect together money enough to bring him to Wisconsin in 1851, and he immediately chose Waukesha, then a small but thrifty village, as the place in which to begin life. Soon making valuable acquaintances and friends, he entered upon the labors of a journalist, taking the editorship of the Waukesha *Democrat*, the name of which he immediately changed to that of *Chronotype*, and which