

Henry A. Ball

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HENRY A. BALL, LAST CIVIL WAR VETERAN OF GRAFTON, PASSES

Served in New York Heavy Artillery During Civil War and Saw Active Service Against Lee at Richmond

JOINT FUNERAL SUNDAY

Masons, American Legion, Company C and Citizens Follow Body to Resting Place

Seldom has the Armory held a larger gathering of people than Sunday afternoon when Grafton paid its last tribute of respect to the memory of Henry A. Ball, and listened to eulogies by clergy and laity of this man who, for forty-two years had made Walsh County his home. In that audience were citizens from all walks of life; pioneers of the early eighties who had grown old with him; their children, middle-aged men and women now, and their children whose destiny it is to carry on the work these others began. There were little children, too, who regarded the jovial old man who carried the flag behind which they marched as a part of Decoration Day, and they wondered, as we all do, at the stillness of that form in the flag-covered casket. Every organization in the city was represented save one — Louis Hamilton McLean Post No. 14, Grand Army of the Republic. The last Post Commander, Comrade Ball was also its last surviving member. There are none to answer "present" to Roll Call now.

Mr. Ball's last illness dates back over a period of three years when a growth on his neck finally developed into cancer. Treatments and operations brought only temporary relief, and when in January it became evident that nothing could be done for him, he faced the final issue with that courage born of simple faith in God which gives men the victory over the last of foes. It was in the full light of morning that the soul of this old soldier marched on. Just a smile and a wave of the hand for the devoted wife who watched beside him, and he was gone.

Born in East

Henry Arthur Ball was one of that long list of men, who, born in an eastern state, brought to the middle west the capital of industry, energy and virile manhood. Born in the historic Hudson Valley, near Berne, New York, where every farm and hamlet had played its part in the struggle for independence, love of country was a natural to him as the air he breathed. Patriotism with him meant service. It was inevitable, therefore, that at the outbreak of the Civil War he should volunteer. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, 7th New York Heavy Artillery, serving with his company and regiment until mustered out as sergeant at the close of the war. He knew the horrors of war for he was at Gettysburg, although not in action as his company was with the reserves. But in the eastern campaign the following year, when the Army of the Potomac kept pushing Lee back towards Richmond, he was in several engagements. In one of them, the battle of Cold Harbor, he was wounded, and his older brother, Lucius, who enlisted with him, fell in the first day's fighting, June 3. His mangled body was found in a clump of bushes three days later.

A few years ago, while attending a reunion of the Blue and the Gray at Gettysburg, Mr. Ball and the comrade who shared his hard-tack when rations were short and marched beside him through the war, Private McTice, met for the first time in fifty years. Past seventy each remembered the other as young. Mr. Ball always referred to this experience with deep emotion.

Moved Here in 1883

After the war Mr. Ball moved to Delano, Minnesota, where he learned photography and went into business. He was married June 9th, 1879, to Miss Jennie Webb, and in the early winter of 1883 came to Grafton, Mrs. Ball following later. For several years he conducted a portable photograph gallery and "Col." Ball and "Charlie," the calico pony, were familiar figures from Neche to



Henry A. Ball, pioneer citizen of Grafton and the city's last veteran of the Civil War.

Grand Forks. He filed on a claim in the western part of the county and later bought the gallery his brother Jerome had established here, taking as his partner the late J. C. Rindahl. After the dissolution of this firm he sold out to Horace Salter and retired from active business.

Made a Mason over fifty years ago, he was one of the charter members of Golden Valley Lodge, Park River, and served as its Worshipful Master in 1887. His interest in Masonry never abated. He was also a charter member of Mizpah Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star.

As a citizen Mr. Ball took an active interest in civic affairs. At the time of his death he was Justice of the Peace, a position he held for several years. In his personal life he was a staunch friend, a good father, a loving husband. The common sorrow that came to Mr. and Mrs. Ball thirty-five years ago in the death of their little son, Webb Arthur, strengthened the bond of affection between them. His one regret in going was that she must finish the journey alone.

Besides his wife, Mr. Ball is survived by one son by a former marriage, Winnifred Ball of St. Paul; two brothers, Charles, who lives on the family homestead near Berne, and Jerome of Crookston; and a sister, Mrs. Emma Oke, of New York City.

Funeral Impressive

The funeral services were impressive. The body was taken to the Masonic Temple Sunday morning where it lay in state among a profusion of flowers seldom seen here, until two o'clock, when escorted by the members of Crescent Lodge, Company C, and the American Legion, it was removed to the Armory. The pall bearers were James McDonald, A. E. Cobb, J. H. Kelley, T. I. Dahl, Thomas Stamus and J. A. Foley. A male quartette and a mixed choir sang "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground" and "Nearer My God to Thee," both favorites with Mr. Ball, and in compliance with one of his last wishes, Mrs. Lynn Williams sang "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere." Rev. A. Roe delivered the opening prayer and Rev. Samuel Currie of Park River spoke earnestly of the deceased as a man and a Mason, using as his central thought the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Men. Judge A. G. Burr of Rugby eulogized him as a soldier and citizen, and voiced the thought in many minds that in the death of Mr. Ball the last link in this community between the Civil War period and the present was broken. Rev. P. H. Pollock offered the closing prayer, and followed by a military guard of honor, members of Company C, and the American Legion, his Masonic brethren, and hundreds of citizens, the body was taken to Crescent Cemetery, where Past Grand Master James McDonald conducted the beautiful burial service of the Masonic order. A firing squad from Company C fired three volleys over the grave. Bugler Kenneth Thompson played Taps, and all that was mortal of Henry A. Ball, soldier of the Grand Army of the Republic, was consigned to its final resting place.

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J. O. Rindahl, Prop.

Crafton, N. D.

J. O. Rindahl

J. O. Rindahl was one of the most artistically talented men to live in Grafton. A resident of the city for 35 years, he came as a young man and joined H. A. Ball, pioneer photographer, in his studio where he learned the profession. He became Mr. Ball's associate and a partnership was formed which lasted for 25 years. Many early photos are printed with the Ball and Rindahl stamp. He later was in business by himself and only shortly before his death June 18, 1923, did he sell his studio to A. Rydholm.

A stockholder in the Scandinavian American Bank, he owned a farm north of Grafton and 75 feet of property on the west side of Hill Avenue in the 600 Block. An artist of unusual ability, two of his paintings can be seen hanging in the Grafton Lutheran and Our Savior's Lutheran churches.

Horace E. Salter

Horace E. Salter could be classified as the last of the three early photographers to live and work in Grafton.

Born in Canada in 1884, he came with his family to Langdon as a child. He was in the photography business in Langdon with his father and three brothers.

In 1914 he married Clara Erickson and in 1918 they moved to Grafton where his brother, Everett, had rented a studio from H. A. Ball. At that time Mr. Salter purchased the studio from Mr. Ball. Mr. and Mrs. Salter operated the business until his death in 1951 after which their two daughters continued it until 1967 when the building was sold to Rilie Morgan who razed it for expansion of the Grafton Record buildings.

Mr. Salter had served as president and director of the North Dakota Photographers Association and was well known for his musical talents also. He was a member of the Clown Band and the

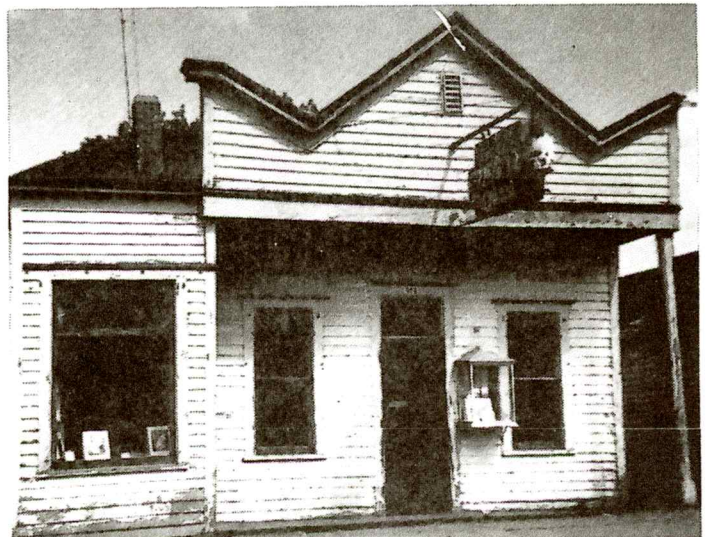
Golden Gate Quartet.

In January of 1926, using eight spools of film, he photographed the historic Shannon-Helland fire, selected four of the pictures, had them copyrighted and sold them on a door-to-door basis in the city. As a result a number of these pictures have survived to this day.

Salter died February 28, 1951, and is buried in Crescent Cemetery.



Horace E. Salter



Salter's Photo Studio