



*A. G. Rice*

The Hon. ADDISON G. RICE was born at Richfield Springs, Otsego Co., N. Y., Dec. 29, 1821, and removed with his parents to the town of Otto (now East Otto) in May, 1826, and from that time until the fall of 1867 was a resident of this county.

Facilities for an education in those days in this locality were limited, but he availed himself of all that were to be had. He attended the district school, and then a few terms at the Springville Academy, and was taught at home by his father, who was then regarded as among the best educated men in the county.

In 1841 he commenced the study of his profession with the Hon. William P. Angel, at Ellicottville, and was admitted to the Court of Common Pleas in June, 1843, and at the October term, in 1846, was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court. He commenced the practice of his profession at Ellicottville, where he continued to reside until he left the county.

By his untiring energy and ability he became thoroughly learned in the law and well skilled in the practice, and almost immediately after his admission to the bar, he became a leading and successful lawyer, and took a high position as an advocate and counselor, often meeting in the courts of his own and adjoining counties in large and important cases as opposing counsel, such men as Judge Martin Grover, of Allegany County, Judge Hiram Gray, of Chemung, Judge John L. Talcott, of Buffalo, and others equally learned and celebrated in the profession. No client of his ever had reason to complain that his case was not well conducted. During the last ten years of his residence in

the county, he was emphatically a leader in the profession, often employed by other attorneys as the leading counsel in the trial of the most important cases. He now resides in Buffalo, and stands in the front rank of the lawyers of the State.

In politics, like his father, the Hon. Elijah A. Rice, of East Otto, he was a Whig, and prominent in the counsels of the leaders of the old Whig party, and became a Republican with the organization of that party in 1855. He was a delegate to the first Republican National Convention in 1856; was a member of the Assembly in 1862, in which he served as chairman of the committee on Claims, and a member of the Ways and Means, and of the committee on the revision of the Rules and Joint Rules of the two houses.

In person he is tall, large, well-proportioned, and of commanding and dignified presence, and endowed with great physical powers, and his forty years' life in Cattaraugus in his earlier days not only proved, but developed in him powers of endurance found only among the pioneer settlers of new countries.

Shortly after he was admitted to the bar, he was married to Miss Ellen R. McCoy, and they have three children,—one son and two daughters.

Mr. Rice is a man of varied learning, of comprehensive views, of great force of character, of sound judgment, of strict integrity, resolute and determined, and unyielding in the cause of right as he understands it. A true friend, large-hearted, and possessed of a genial, kind, and generous nature.

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