



Hon. Alfred Roman.

Judge Alfred Roman is dead. After a long and painful illness, covering a period of many months, the distinguished citizen and jurist early yesterday morning breathed his last. Few men in this city were better known and more highly esteemed than Judge Roman, whose character as a man and magistrate always commanded consideration and distinction.

Judge Roman was the worthy son of that chivalrous gentleman Governor A. B. Roman, and was born in St. James parish, May 24, 1824. He attended school in New Orleans and at Jefferson College in St. James. While Judge Roman was a student there, Alexander H. Everett was president of the college. After leaving college, without losing a week, he began to study law in New Orleans under Etienne Mazureau, the distinguished jurist of Louisiana, at that time attorney general of the state, and a giant in his profession. After three years' study under him he was admitted to the bar in 1845, after examination before the supreme bench, the presiding chief justice being Francois X. Martin.

After admission to the bar he remained in New Orleans one year, perfecting himself for the law, but not doing much practice until the next year, when he entered into partnership with his cousin, J. J. Roman, in the parish of St. James, with whom he practiced three or four years.

In 1851 he began to practice alone. In 1853 he abandoned the law practice to his father's great disappointment, but in 1855 he resumed it again, and practiced three years. In 1855 he went to France on account of the health of one of his children, and while in Paris his wife died.

At the news of the war he offered his services to Governor Hebert, president of the military bureau of Louisiana. He was then captain of a splendid cavalry company, composed of the elite of the parish of St. James. Governor Hebert having told him that the state needed no cavalry at that time, "give me muskets, then, governor, and you will have an additional infantry company to muster into service," was Captain Roman's reply. This was done; and in due course of time that company, known as the Chasseurs of St. James, was incorporated in the gallant Eighteenth Louisiana Regiment, at Camp Moore, with Alfred Mouton as colonel, Alfred Roman as lieutenant colonel and Louis Bash as major.

The career of that regiment is well known. After the battle of Shiloh, where the Eighteenth in one single charge, on the 6th of April, 1862, lost more than 200 men, and when the horses of both Colonels Mouton and Roman were shot under them, Colonel Mouton being promoted to the rank of brigadier general, the colonelcy of the regiment was given to Lieutenant Colonel Roman. This position he did not keep, however, owing to a severe illness which had supervened after the hardships of the Shiloh campaign. He took a position on the staff of General Beauregard and remained with him as inspector general from the retreat of the confederate forces from Corinth to the close of the war.

He was brought up a whig by his father, and in the political campaign of 1860 canvassed his district for Bell and Everett. He was clerk of the supreme court under the first Nicholas administration, from January, 1877, to April, 1879, when he was appointed one of the judges of the criminal district court, a position which he held until the expiration of his term in 1888.

Judge Roman first married in the parish of St. James, in 1840, Miss Felicie Aime, and next in Charleston, 1863, Miss Sallie Rhett, daughter of Hon. Robert Barnwell Rhett, Sr., one of the leading men of South Carolina.

Judge Roman was a cultivated gentleman, in the true sense of the word, and enjoyed the advantages of education and foreign travel. He was a finished French and English scholar, and possessed artistic tastes for music and painting. Conspicuous among his many admirable qualities was the virtue of courage, the courtesy of manner and the steadfastness of his friendship. As a judge, it is but fair to here enlarge the able, careful and distinguished manner with which he presided on the bench.

In literary matters, Judge Roman was also well known. His best achievement was the work he wrote some few years ago, "Military Operations of General Beauregard." In point of elevation of style, clearness and force it cannot be excelled. As a historical work it has been pronounced most accurate and reliable.

The funeral will take place from his late residence, No. 92 Esplanade street, at half past 4 o'clock this evening.



Rev. Rene M. J. Vallee.

The news of the death of Rev. Rene M. J. Vallee, pastor of St. Mary's church, Carrollton, was heard with regret throughout New Orleans on yesterday, and especially in the suburban community in which for nineteen years he has been an earnest and zealous laborer.

For more than a year Father Vallee has been seriously ill; a complication of gastric affections gradually undermining his health and quenching the ardent spirits which were characteristic of his cheerful nature. In the hopes of recuperating his strength he was induced to visit the mountain springs during the summer months. Some benefit was experienced and friends began to cherish the hope that he was indeed much better and would be spared many years to the cause of the ministry of Christ. But two weeks ago his symptoms again became alarming, and on Sunday, a week past, all hope of his recovery was abandoned. Rev. Father

Vallee, assistant pastor of the church in Carrollton, administered the last sacraments, and, thus fortified, calmly and bravely Father Vallee awaited the end. It came on Monday at 1:35 p. m., swiftly and almost before his kind nurses were aware. He had begged Father Ferguson not to leave him, but to stay by his side and hold his hand till the spark of life had fled. True to his promise Father Ferguson sat and clasped for many hours the hand of his pastor and friend, and when the eyes, once so bright in health, turned towards him for the last time, fearfully beseechingly, when the lips could speak no more, Father Ferguson knew that the summons had come, and raising his voice, pronounced the last absolution as the spirit of Father Vallee went forth to meet its God.

Rev. Rene M. J. Vallee was born on the 18th of April, 1830, at Tregnon, canton of Poubalay, diocese of St. Brioux and Tregnier, department of Cotes du Nord, France. He studied eight years at the seminary of the Cordeliers at Dinan, four years at the seminary of St. Brioux, and came to New Orleans in 1863. He set sail from the port of France, with fifty-two seminarians, in the good ship St. Genevieve, a three-masted rigged vessel, which had been chartered by Archbishop Odin, then in France, to carry these seminarians to America. Archbishop Odin, being an American citizen, was not allowed to accompany them, as the vessel was bound for a southern port. The students were all compelled to take the oath of neutrality and were placed under the direction of Rt. Rev. C. Dubuis, Archbishop Odin was compelled to go via New York across the federal lines and come to New Orleans. During the voyage of the Genevieve the classes and studies were regularly kept up, as at the seminary.

The seminarians arrived in New Orleans safe and in good health on Good Friday, April 5, 1863, after a trip of 53 days and 5 hours. After their arrival studies were continued till November. The 4th of November, 1863, was a memorable day in the Catholic annals of this diocese, for on that day Archbishop Jean Marie Odin, of sainted memory, raised ten young deacons to the holy priesthood in the sanctuary of the cathedral. Of this number was Rev. Rene M. J. Vallee. The others were his companions on the Genevieve, who afterwards rose to positions of distinction in the diocese of New Orleans, to-wit: Very Rev. Father Prof. Chavre, C. SS. R., late rector of St. Alphonse church; Very Rev. Gustave A. Rouxel, at present rector of the Annunciation church; Very Rev. J. B. Bogaerts, vicar general of New Orleans; Rev. J. B. Le Saichero, deceased; Rev. Francis Xavier Ceppens, of St. Terence's; Rev. P. M. Lecilly, of St. Sauveurs church, Lockport; Rev. J. Bouchet, rector of the Assumption church, Lafourche.

After his ordination Father Vallee was sent as curate to Opelousas, where he remained four months, and was then appointed rector at Ville Platte, founded the parish, built the church and remained there five years. Then he was sent to Bayou Goula, where he founded the Catholic parish, built a new church and remained six years. In March, 1873, he was appointed rector of St. Mary's Church, Carrollton. His work there has been of the most excellent kind, his gentleness of heart and nobility of soul winning for him friends all over the parish. He was an indefatigable laborer and never failed where duty called. He was a splendid financier and the affairs of the parish were perfectly regulated. His demise is keenly felt in every home in the mission where he has labored for nineteen years as a Christian and a priest of God.

The interment took place yesterday morning at 10:30 from St. Mary's church, Carrollton, where the body was exposed for his beloved parishioners to look upon for the last time. Sobs and echoes of sorrowful voices filled the sacred edifice. From highest to lowest, all seemed to feel that they had lost a father and a friend. Many reverted to that glorious day, a few years ago in this diocese, when eight priests, Father Vallee among them, celebrated their silver jubilee. The joy and pomp of that occasion, and the sorrow of the present, struck a mournful chord in every heart.

The church was decorated with every symbol of sorrow and heavily draped in black. The body, in a handsome casket, reposed upon a catafalque in the central aisle, near the altar. The solemn office of the dead was chanted without organ accompaniment, and the occasion was one of deep impressiveness. Archbishop Janssens presided at the ceremonies. A solemn requiem mass was offered by Rev. A. Bichlmayer, pastor of Mater Dolorosa church, Carrollton. Rev. C. A. Vigroux, of St. Mary's church, Raceland, acted as deacon, and Rev. Father Vander Heyde, of St. Francis of Assisi, as sub-deacon. Rev. Father Coos, of St. Teresa's church, performed the office of master of ceremonies. The chanters were Rev. Father Lavauquerry, of Mandeville, and Rev. Henry Kohman, of Lockport. The choir of priests was composed of Very Rev. J. B. Bogaert, vicar general; Rev. Fathers Downey, Gaffney and Gerlach, of the Society of Jesus; Rev. Fathers Gundry and Moore, of the Lazarist Order; Rev. Fathers Fallon of St. Patrick's church, Flanagan of St. Peter's, Borronner of the cathedral, Farrelly of St. John's, Lambert of Our Lady of Good Counsel, and Rev. F. Colle.

Archbishop Janssens delivered a few feeling and impressive words, briefly outlining Father Vallee's college life in France and career as a priest in this city. He especially dwelt upon the deceased's great devotion to the Blessed Virgin and the detective work he had accomplished in building churches in Louisiana, and in beautifying and ornamenting St. Mary's church, Carrollton. When the bishop alluded in touching terms to Father Vallee's great charity and love for his people, sobs were heard in every portion of the church. "Faults he had," said the bishop, in a voice quivering with emotion, "but they were not the faults of the heart, and of this we had could constitute himself the judge; but he was sure when the last day would come and Father Vallee's good deeds and faults were placed in the balance, the former would more than outweigh the latter. He concluded by begging the people not to cease to offer prayers for the repose of the soul of the priest who had served and loved them so devotedly.

At the close of the bishop's address, all passed forward amid tears and lamentations to obtain a last look at the face of the revered dead. Then the coffin was closed, the last absolution was given and the remains of Father Vallee were borne away and laid to rest forever in the Catholic cemetery of Carrollton. The entire congregation and many Catholics from all parts of the city testified their respect and love by following in the funeral cortege.

Rev. Father Ferguson, the assistant pastor of St. Mary's church, will conduct the affairs of the parish until the archbishop appoints a rector to succeed Father Vallee.

J. B. Sorapuru.

At 4:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon the remains of J. B. Sorapuru were placed in their last resting place, in St. Louis cemetery, followed from the house by members of the United Confederate Veterans and a host of friends, ranging from young manhood to advanced age, some of whom had known the deceased from boyhood; most of whom, as lads, had studied under the deceased in public and private schools.

The deceased was born in this city July 28, 1812, the son of a French nobleman, the heir of the house of Salamandey, who, fleeing from France during the revolution, found a welcome and a home in New Orleans, where he married a daughter of Commodore Rousseau, stationed here in command of the Spanish fleet.

In 1819 the family returned to France, where young Sorapuru entered the Orthez College. The father died in his native land, and, in 1827, Mme. Sorapuru and her 15-year-old son returned to New Orleans. For a time he clerked in the courts. Later, having studied

diligently and understandingly, he taught school with success.

In 1832 young Sorapuru went to Mexico city, where for four years he clerked for the firm of Fuyez & Co.

Shortly after his return to this city he went to St. Charles, Mo., and filled a professorship in the Methodist College at that place. He resigned to accept a similar position in the Jesuit College in St. Louis, and in 1839 returned to New Orleans. After a short stay in his native city he went to Cuba, where, in 1841, he married Mlle. Marie Labayeville, and returned to New Orleans in 1843.

In response to General Beauregard's call for 90-day men, prior to the battle of Shiloh, the deceased left for the war as first lieutenant of Company A, Orleans Guards. When his term of enlistment expired he rejoined the army as a member of the Pointe Coupee Battery, with which he served until February, 1863, when he was transferred to the heavy artillery.

Shortly after he was detailed for duty as chief clerk in the Mobile office for the exchange of prisoners. When the federal forces besieged the forts outside of Mobile, he rejoined his command, and was appointed post adjutant of Battery Gladdon on Mobile bay. When his command was transferred to Battery Eugene in November, 1864, he was again appointed post adjutant, but in January, 1865, at the request of Major Carroll, General Maury again detailed the deceased for duty in the exchange office, where he remained until the close of the war, surrendering with General Dick Taylor at Meridian.

Returning to New Orleans, he taught in the public schools until reconstruction days began. After that he taught in several private schools. He was himself conducting an institution when, ten years ago, he fell under a stroke of paralysis.

His wife died two years since, and but one of the family survives, Mr. Louis Sorapuru, from whose residence the funeral was held, Father Tamoine, of St. Anne, officiating.