

Mr. Frederick A. Schermerhorn Dies at Union Club Dinner Given in His Honor

Retiring President of Organization Stricken as He Begins Address—One-Time Real Estate Dealer Was
Veteran of Civil War.

A dinner given by the Board of Governors of the Union Club last night in honor of Mr. Frederick Augustus Schermerhorn, retiring president, was brought to a dramatic climax at half-past ten o'clock by Mr. Schermerhorn's death. He was stricken just as he began his address.

Throughout the evening, members of the club, seated near him at the speakers' table, took note that he seemed in perfect health. His age, seventy-four years, seemed to drop from his shoulders as the night wore on, and when Mr. Charles F. Hoffman, the newly elected president, arose to introduce Mr. Schermerhorn as the next speaker, he was engaged in lively conversation with men near him.

In introducing Mr. Schermerhorn Mr. Hoffmann referred to his work since the war began in 1914. He recounted Mr. Schermerhorn's efforts in behalf of the club and, finally, turning to a huge American flag fastened to the wall behind the speakers' table, told the story of how it was brought to the club by Mr. Schermerhorn to remind the members of their patriotic duties.

Mr. Schermerhorn pushed his chair back from the table and stood up. He waited for the applause that had greeted the story of the flag to stop.

"In the civil war," he began. At the same instant men seated near him noticed a change that swept over his face.

His hands grasped at the edge of the table and he swayed back toward the wall. Mr. Hoffman reached out to steady him and Dr. George N. Miller, a member of the Board of Governors, rushed to aid. Before either could catch him, he fell. A chair against which he had fallen tilted backward and its high back became entangled in the folds of the great American flag suspended against the wall. The flag, torn from its fastenings, fluttered down, covering the dying man's body.

Its folds were hastily swept aside. Dr. Miller made an examination of Mr. Schermerhorn's heart action and then sent an attendant to summon Dr. James F. Nagle, of No. 16 West Fifty-fourth street. Mr. Schermerhorn died before Dr. Nagle reached the club.

Mr. Schermerhorn, who had retired from the real estate business in this city after years of successful operation, made his home with his sister, Mrs. Ellen Auchmuty, widow of Colonel Richard T. Auchmuty, of No. 101 University place. From 1913 to the end of 1918 he served as president of the club. At the recent election of officers he declined to be a candidate for re-election.

Born in this city November 1, 1844, he was a member of one of the oldest families in the city. Following preparatory courses, he entered the School of Mines at Columbia University. He was graduated in 1868.

His college course was interrupted by the outbreak of the civil war. He enlisted in the old Seventh regiment, but listed in the old Seventh regiment, but ment of infantry, a unit organized in New York city. He received a commission as first lieutenant in January, 1865.

For gallant conduct at the battle of the Five Forks he was promoted to captain, and was mustered out of service with that rank at the end of hostilities.

Mr. Schermerhorn was a trustee of Columbia University for many years. He served also as trustee of the New York Trade School. He held membership in the American Geological Society, the St. Nicholas Society, and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion. He had been identified for many years with the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Metropolitan Museum of Natural History. Among his clubs were the Metropolitan, Century, City, Army and Navy, Union, Knickerbocker, Tuxedo, Coaching, Westchester Country, New York Yacht, Seawanhaka-Corinthian Yacht, Mendelssohn Glee, and Riding. He was unmarried.