E. W. BURNHAM OF SOUTH WINDSOR DIES: Veteran of Civil War Had Seen Much of Wor
Special to The courant
The Hartford Courant (1887-1922); Apr 12, 1921; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Hartford Courant
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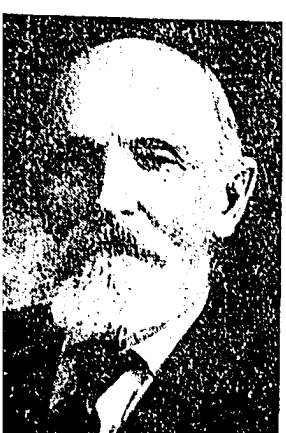
E. W. BURNHAM OF SOUTH WINDSOR DIES

Veteran of Civil War Had Seen Much of World as Sailor Years Ago.

(Special to The Courant.)

South Windsor, April 11.

Erastus W. Burnham, Civil War veteran, aged 87, died at his home in South Windsor, this morning, after a short illness of pneumonia. He was born in South Windsor, April 28, 1834. At the age of 17 he went to sea on the whaling ship, Hannibal, and after cruising two years in this vessel, he left the ship at Hong Kong, China, and joined the British police force, serving in that city. While there he assisted in the capture of a Chinese pirate junk. The crew of twenty-eight was captured and beheaded. While at Hong Kong, he saw Perry's fleet which was on its way to open the ports of Japan to the world. He left Hong Kong as a seaman on the American clipper ship "Challenge." The "Challenge" got into the Arcasain distrtas, where Mr Burnham left her and came to New Bedford on the bark Grampus. The "Challenge," after leaving Port Hauto, was never heard from again.



ERASTUS W. BURNHAM.

He married Mary A. Devine of Glasgow, Scotland, in Holyoke, May 15, 1855, who died at his home in 1911 at the age of 81. He worked as a paper maker in Holyoke. From there he moved to South Windsor, where he spent the greater part of his life. In December, 1861, he enlisted in Co. A, 12th Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers, serving with the regiment at the taking of New Orleans. After receiving an honorable discharge July, 1862, he re-enlisted in Co. A, 1st Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers, Heavy Artillery. He fought in the Battle of the Crater at Petersburg where he was wounded. He served until the end of the war. After the Civil War he became a successful tobacco grower. He was the oldest of eleven children and leaves two sisters, Mrs. George Shippy of Medford, Oregon and Mrs R. S. Simpson of South Windsor; one brother, Walter W. Burnham of West Dummerston, Vermont; six children, O. W. Burnham of South Windsor, Charles S. Burnham of South Windsor, Frederick A. Burnham of East Hartford, Erastus D. Burnham of Springfield, Mrs E. A. Kenyon of Hartford, and Mrs. William King of South Hadley, Mass.; also fifteen grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren.

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