

Oliver D. Barrett (- 17 Sep 1901)

Barrett. On Tuesday, September 17, 1901, at 6:30 a.m., Oliver D. Barrett, attorney-at-law, Washington, DC. Funeral services Thursday, September 19 at 2 p.m. at residence of Mr. Edward G. Niles, 138 Massachusetts avenue northeast. Friends and members of the bar invited.

The Evening Star, September 17, 1901

Oliver D. Barrett Dead One of Oldest Attorneys In District of Columbia For Twenty Years Was Partner of General Benj. F. Butler -- His Career

O.D. Barrett died this morning at Providence Hospital, where he had gone to have a surgical operation performed. He had been sick and in bed for the past three weeks. Death resulted from dropsy. The deceased was one of the oldest members of the bar in this city, having practiced law here for over forty years. For twenty years he was the law partner of General Benjamin F. Butler, having offices in Washington, New York and Boston. Since the death of General Butler he had been senior member of the firm of Barrett & Niles of the local bar. He was a member of the Bar Association of the District of Columbia, and had tried many famous cases in this jurisdiction. He was leading counsel in the celebrated case of Samuel Strong vs. the District of Columbia and had had entire control of the estate of General Benjamin F. Butler in Washington since his death.

In 1859 he conceived the idea of buying all the land at the Great Falls, so as to control the water power, and it is only within the last two years that it has been sold to the railroad syndicate in Washington, commanding a large price, by the heirs of General Butler.

Success in Criminal Practice

Years ago Mr. Barrett was known as one of the most successful of criminal lawyers, having defended as high as twenty murderers in this jurisdiction and never permitting a man to be hung. Of late years he had devoted his entire practice to corporation interests.

Oliver D. Barrett was born in New York and taught school for many years in that state. He moved to Illinois and became an intimate friend of President Lincoln, who gave him an appointment as a young man in the patent office. He was a graduate of the University of Vermont, was a Mason of high standing and also belonged to the Psi Delta fraternity.