

Captain Dudley Porter Chase

Birth: Feb. 14, 1817

Lincoln, Penobscot County, Maine, USA

Death: May 7, 1863, USA

Burial: Section 1, Lot 44, Grave 1

Family links:

Wife: Olivia Carpenter Chase (1-44-2); Sons: Lincoln M. Chase (1-44-2), Sylvestor Chase (1-44-1)

Captain Dudley Chase came to Minnesota from Lincoln, Maine. He was a 43 year old widower from Minneapolis who left his children with friends when he went to war. The Chase family—Dudley, wife Olivia, and six young children—had pioneered in Minnesota in 1854. They farmed near Monticello, but after Olivia's death in 1857 moved to Minneapolis where the children were placed with other families while Dudley worked as a lumber camp foreman until he was commissioned into the First Company of Sharpshooters in October 1861. He later succeeded Francis Peteler as Captain of Co. A of the 2nd USSS (Berdan's U.S. Sharpshooters), one of two companies of Minnesotans in Berdan's USSS. Capt. Chase died on May 7th, 1863 from complications caused by having an arm amputated.

Dudley's son Henry enlisted at age 17 in 1864 in Company B of Brackett's Battalion of Calvary and served until 1866.

Dudley was original interred in Historic Layman's (now Pioneers and Soldiers) Cemetery on Lake Street and Cedar Avenue in Minneapolis and was removed to Groveland Cemetery in Minnetonka, Minnesota, in 1923 with his wife Olivia and sons Lincoln and Sylvester. GAR Post #22 in Minneapolis was named for him.

Chase's fellow officers of the Second US Sharpshooters in 1863 published a lengthy testimonial in several Minnesota newspapers. This is a small portion:

Resolved, that Captain Chase, one of the first officers who entered this command, by his dignified and gentlemanly deportment, by the kindness of his heart and the affability of his manners, by his inflexible loyalty to our sacred cause, even in its darkest hours, by his constant fidelity to the duties of his position, and by his courage and gallantry in more than a dozen skirmishes and battles through which he led his noble company including Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam (where he was wounded,) Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville, had gained the highest respect and esteem of every officer and man in the regiment, and was justly regarded a one of the bravest and best officers.

A 1910 picture of a reunion of Co. A Berdan's USSS can be viewed at:

<http://collections.mnhs.org/visualresources/image.cfm?imageid=105644&Page=10&Digital=Yes&Keywords=1st%20minnesota&SearchType=Basic>



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