

Charles Nutt (1868-1918)


Charles Nutt was editor and publisher of The Spy, from 1897, the year he turned 29 years of age, and the demise of the paper upon its inability to recover from a fire in 1904. In 1919 Nutt published, posthumously, his four-volume *History of Worcester and Its People*, a combination of history, biography, and genealogy.

Note below that the *Post* said Nutt was a victim of the influenza epidemic of 1918, while the *Gazette* traced his death to diabetes.

Also included is the "bio" of Nutt written by the publisher (name not given) that was included in his own book.



**CHARLES NUTT
PASSES AWAY
AT WAREHAM**



CHARLES NUTT

Charles Nutt of 7 Monroe avenue, prominent author and former editor and publisher of the Worcester Spy, died at 1 o'clock this morning at his summer home in Wareham after a short illness brought on by diabetes, with which he has been suffering for the past three years. His illness was not considered critical, however, and his death came as a surprise to his relatives who were at his bedside when the end came, shortly after midnight. Many relatives called yesterday to help celebrate his 50th birthday at his summer home in Wareham, at which place he spent his vacations for many years. Mr. Nutt was last in Worcester about two weeks ago.

BORN IN NATICK

Mr. Nutt was born in Natick, Sept. 26, 1868, the son of Col. William and Abigail (Puffer) Nutt. He was president and valedictorian of the class of 1886 in the Natick high school. He graduated from Harvard college with the degree of A. B. and with standing of magna cum laude. He wrote

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Charles Nutt
Evening Gazette, Sep-27-1918

**CHARLES NUTT
DIES AT WAREHAM**

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for the Worcester Spy from 1890 to 1891 and in 1891 founded the New Rochelle Paragaph in New Rochelle, N. Y. Returning to the Worcester Spy in 1897 he took up the editorship, which he held until 1904. Since that time he has been a writer of genealogical subjects and has compiled some 40 works for the Lewis Historical Publishing Co. of New York, and also for private individuals.

Mr. Nutt was a Republican in politics until 1912 and served on various ward and city committees. He was a member of the Worcester Society of Antiquity, the New England Historical and Genealogical society, Massachusetts Society Sons of the American Revolution, American Historical association, Huguenot lodge, Free Masons, and the Church of the Unity.

Mr. Nutt married Ada Sophia Robinson in Natick in 1891. She died in 1899 and he married Lucia Janet Morrill in Haverhill in 1911.

At present Mr. Nutt's History of Worcester is practically completed, the first volume being already in the hands of the printer. His last published work was the completing of the history of the First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery started by the late Alfred S. Roe. Among his writings are a history of the Crompton & Knowles loom works and many family genealogies. He leaves besides his wife five children, Isabel Ella, a nurse at the U. S. base hospital in Chelsea, Charles Stanley of the U. S. army, Arthur, Dorothy, May and Ruth. The body will be brought to Worcester today in charge of the F. A. Caswell Co. of 21 Pearl street. The funeral will be from the home, 7 Monroe avenue, and burial will probably be in Natick. Funeral arrangements have not yet been completed.

FORMER SPY OWNER, NUTT, GRIP VICTIM

Charles Nutt, owner of the Worcester Spy from 1899 until 1904, died last night at his summer home in Wareham, from Spanish influenza, following an attack of diabetes. Yesterday was the 50th anni-

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versary of his birth. Mrs. Nutt was at his bedside.

In recent years Mr. Nutt wrote several books, including a "History of Worcester," the copy for which was almost ready for the printer. He was one of the best-known men in the city.

Charles Nutt was born in Natick, September 26, 1868, the son of Col. William Nutt. He graduated in 1886 from Natick High School and was president and valedictorian of his class. At Harvard University, he took second-year honors in physics in 1887, and was graduated in 1890 with the degree of A. B., magna cum laude, both for general rank and for honors in physics.

Mr. Nutt did newspaper work while in school and college for the Natick Bulletin, Natick Citizen and Boston Evening Record. In 1890, he became a reporter on the staff of the Worcester Daily Spy. In 1891, he founded The Paragraph, New Rochelle, N. Y., and later became the owner of newspaper and printing plants at New Rochelle and Mamaroneck.

Active in Politics

Active in Politics

He was active in politics; was delegate to various Republican conventions, including the state convention when Roosevelt was nominated for governor of New York; candidate of his party for the office of supervisor; treasurer of the New Rochelle Republican Club; chairman of the Fourth Ward Republican Committee of New Rochelle.

On Oct. 1, 1899 he purchased the Worcester Spy and conducted it until June 1, 1904, when it passed out of his hands and was suspended. The plant was destroyed by fire May 21, 1902, and the loss was disastrous to the business.

During the presidential campaign of 1904 Mr. Nutt was in charge of the Speakers' Bureau of the Massachusetts Republican State Committee. Since then he has been engaged in genealogical research and writing sketches for Lewis Publishing Company of New York. Most of the sketches in this were written by him.

He sold the New Rochelle Paragraph Nov. 1, 1900, and the Mamaroneck Paragraph to Charles F. Rice.

Mr. Nutt was a member of the Massachusetts Sons of the American Revolution; the New England Historic-Genealogical Society; the Worcester Society of Antiquity; Huguenot Council, Royal Arcanum, of New Rochelle; Huguenot Lodge, Free Masons of New Rochelle. In college he was a member of the Pierian Sodality, in which he played the double bass and of various other clubs.

Was Twice Married

On Aug. 26, 1891, he was married to Ada Sofia Robinson. The following children were born to them: Isabel Ella, Harold, Arthur, Dorothy and Charles Stanley, all of whom survive him. Mrs. Nutt died Nov. 17, 1909. In 1911 Mr. Nutt was married

Lucia J. Morrill of Pike, N. H. A daughter, Ruth, was born to them. Mrs. Nutt at the family home at 7 Munroe Ave.

is a nurse attached to the Naval Base Hospital at Chelsea, Harold employed by the Sturtevant Airplane Co. at Hyde Park, Arthur is employed by the Cur-

of the Worcester Consolidated Street Railway Co. and Charles S., U. S. N., is a seaman on the Westerdijk.

Mr. Nutt had completed a "History of Worcester" and would have turned the copy over to the printer within a short time. He completed a history of the First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, which was started by the late Hon. Alfred S. Roe. He also wrote a history of the Crompton & Knowles Loom Works.

Funeral arrangements have not been completed.

from Nutt's *History of Worcester and Its People*, v. IV p. 568-69

written by the publishers after his death

CHARLES NUTT, Journalist, genealogist, historian, was born in Natick, Middlesex county, Massachusetts, September 26, 1868, and died September 26, 1918, at Wareham, Massachusetts, the son of Colonel William and Abigail (Puffer) Nutt. His preparatory education was acquired in the schools of his native place, he graduating from the Natick High School in 1886, president and valedictorian of his class. He then entered Harvard University, took second-year honors in physics in 1887, and was graduated in 1890 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, both for general rank and for honors in physics. During his course in school and college, Mr. Nutt did newspaper work for the Natick "Bulletin," Natick "Citizen" and Boston "Evening Record," this experience laying the foundation for his after career in journalism, he having been one of the best known men in that line throughout his section of the State of Massachusetts. In 1890, the year of his graduation from Harvard, he accepted a position as reporter on the staff of the Worcester "Daily Spy," for many years the leading paper in that thriving city, and in the following year, having gained additional experience, he founded "The Paragraph," in New Rochelle, New York, and later became the owner of newspaper and printing plants at New Rochelle and Mamaroneck, New York. On October 1, 1899, he purchased the Worcester "Daily Spy" and conducted it until June 1, 1904, a period of five years, when it passed out of his hands and was suspended. The plant was destroyed by fire, May 21, 1902, and the loss was disastrous to the business. He disposed of the New Rochelle "Paragraph," November 1, 1900, and the Mamaroneck "Paragraph" to Charles F. Rice. With thorough training, true journalistic instinct, broad knowledge of affairs, he reflected honor upon his profession, and in his conduct of the various papers with which he was identified he made them the exponent of the highest interests of the community, of the State and of the Nation.

In addition to his journalistic work, Mr. Nutt devoted considerable time to genealogical research, in which he was an expert, and from 1904 until his death was associated with the Lewis Publishing Company, of New York, and at the time of his death was watching through the press the later pages of a monumental work which he had already completed—"A History of Worcester," which will be read with great interest by his many friends and acquaintances in Worcester, his adopted city. He completed a history of the First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, which was begun by the late Hon. Alfred S. Roe; wrote a history of the Crompton & Knowles Loom Works, one of the largest enterprises in Worcester, and was the author of several other books which received favorable comment from the press and from the reading public.

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from Nutt's History of Worcester, part 2 of 2

Although so much of his time and thought were given to the duties above mentioned, Mr. Nutt was also an active participant in political affairs, in which he took a keen interest, and was chosen by his fellow-citizens to serve as delegate to various Republican conventions, including the State Convention when the late Theodore Roosevelt was nominated for Governor of New York. He was the candidate of the Republican party for the office of supervisor; during the presidential campaign of 1904 was in charge of the Speakers' Bureau of the Massachusetts Republican State Committee; was chairman of the Fourth Ward Republican Committee of New Rochelle, New York, and treasurer of the New Rochelle Republican Club. Mr. Nutt held membership in the Massachusetts Sons of the American Revolution; the New England Historic-Genealogical Society; the Worcester Society of Antiquity; Huguenot Council, Royal Arcanum; and Huguenot Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, both of New Rochelle; and during his collegiate course was a member of the Pierian Sodality, in which he played the double bass, and he was also a member of various other clubs.

Mr. Nutt married (first) August 26, 1891, Ada Sophia Robinson, born March 5, 1871, at Natick, died November 17, 1909, at Worcester, daughter of Walter Billings and Ella Maria (Bullard) Robinson. He married (second) at Haverhill, New Hampshire, November 28, 1911, Lucia Jeanette Morrill, born November 28, 1885, at Benton, New Hampshire, daughter of Eben and Nancy (Holt) Morrill, of Haverhill, New Hampshire. Children by first wife: 1. Isabel Ella, born at New Rochelle, New York, June 27, 1892; married, February 15, 1919, Robert Trumen Bamford, United States Navy, of Ipswich, Massachusetts. 2. Harold, born December 3, 1893, at New Rochelle, New York; graduate of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, class of 1916. 3. Arthur, born February 6, 1895, at New Rochelle, New York; graduate of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, class of 1916; married, November 29, 1917, Anne Josephine Dewey, of Buffalo, New York, daughter of Frank Cline and Helen May (Keon) Dewey. 4. Dorothy May, born August 23, 1897, at New Rochelle, New York. 5. Charles Stanley, born at Worcester, November 10, 1899; seaman, United States Navy, on United States Steamship "Kansas." Child by second wife, born at Worcester: Ruth Nutt, born April 7, 1913.

In the death of Mr. Nutt the city of Worcester lost a man who had made a name for himself in the city of his adoption, a man of courage and determination, of untiring energy, who added to these qualities the courtesy of a gentleman. Burial was in Dell Park Cemetery, Natick, Massachusetts.

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