

## HONORABLE GEORGE F. DANFORTH

George Danforth was born on July 5th, 1819, in Boston, Massachusetts. He received a bachelor's degree from Union College in 1840 and moved to Rochester in August of that year to read law. He was admitted to the bar in June of 1843. He maintained a solo practitioner for the next thirty-five years. In 1878, he was elected as a Republican to the state Court of Appeals, sitting from 1879 until his mandatory retirement at the close of 1889. Thereafter, he resumed the practice of law on an intermittent basis. He died in Spetember of 1899, immediately after having completed his arguments in a case.

(following: vol. 1 pg. 6 of RBA Memorials 1892-1925)

**Regular Annual Meeting of the Rochester bar Association, held December 12, 1899.**

**Memorial Resolutions adopted in honor of Hon. Geo. F. Danforth:**

**“The distinguished career of George F. Danforth ended yesterday in this Court House, immediately at the close of an argument before the Supreme Court, which he had made with his usual energy and ability.**

**“It is meet that we put on record a few words in his memory. George F. Danforth practiced his profession in this city for more than thirty years, and until he took his seat on the bench of the Court of Appeals on the first of January, 1879. He continued a member of that court until Dec. 31, 1899, when, having passed the age of seventy years, he was retired under the provisions of the constitution. He returned to his beautiful home in this city and resumed his profession only to such an extent as was enjoyable to him.**

**“Judge Danforth, as a practicing lawyer, was remarkable for untiring industry in preparation for trial or argument, and the skill and ability with which he could present his client’s cause to the court or jury. His learning and ability as a judge are shown in his opinions published in the reports of the Court of Appeals; and it is safe to say that he maintained equal rank with the other members of that high tribunal. His learning was by no means confined to knowledge of the law; he has a large acquaintance with general literature, in which he found recreation from professional and judicial labors.**

**“In his family relations he was a delightful companion, and in his intercourse with his professional bretheren he was considerate and kind.**

**“His death brings to a close a long life of honorable devotion to the private and public interests with which he was charged. He lived respected by all who knew him; he died full of years and honors, a good man, and mourned by all.**

**“Your Committee recommends that the tributes of the Bar of Monroe County with reference to his death be adopted as the expression of our Association, and that such memorial be spread upon the minutes of this Association.”**

**Charles M. Williams  
D.L. Covill  
J.C. Toole**

**Committee.**