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the 9th President of the SDDS, serving two

terms. He was born on November 2, 1844

in Cleveland, Ohio. His father was an artist

who moved his family to Cleveland from

Detroit where his older brother George was

born in 1837. Having had an idyllic child-

hood, Charles could never have imagined

the horrors of war that loomed in his future.

Thanks to his brother George who graduated

from the Ohio Dental College in Cincinnati

in 1861 and then opened up a practice a year

later in Newburgh, New York, Charles had

a place to go after the war. In 1865, after

being discharged, Charles moved to New-

burgh and studied dentistry under George's

tutelage until George moved to New York

City in 1869. George left the practice to

In 1881, Dr. Charles Allen married Mary

Elizabeth Crawford McCamly. They had

one daughter, Frances. Ms. Allen was First

Directress for the Newburgh Home for the

Friendless and

the Regent of

the Quassaick

Chapter of

the Daughters

of the Ameri-

can Revolu-

tion (DAR).

To become a

member of the

DAR, you have

to be a descen-

dant from an

ancestor who

aided in achiev-

ing American

independence

during the Rev-

olutionary War.

Today there are

around 168,000

Charles. who made it thrive.

Miles R. Jacobson Daniel M. Goldberg

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# SDDS Presidents: A History

# This Month: Dr. Charles F. Allen

The drums were beating and the smell of smoke from the rifles and muskets was sharp. The line, as usual was two men deep. Holding his gun with attached bayonet aimed at the enemy, Charles Allen, Union Infantryman, waited for the command to be shouted "Fire!" Then the confederates charged...

Charles Frederic Allen was only 18 years old in 1862 when he heeded the call of his country and volunteered for service in the 83rd Regiment of the Ohio Infantry (nicknamed the Greyhound Regiment). As a member of Company H, he was mustered (enlisted) for three years under Colonel Frederick W. Moore at Camp Dennison. Camp Dennison had recently been set up 17 miles from Cincinnati for the purposes of recruitment and training for action in the Civil War. Charles was sent to the front almost immediately with the Army of the Tennessee (Major Gen-

eral Ulysses S. Grant's army). Charles participated in Grant's Vicksburg Campaign, fighting in almost every major battle including the Battles of Fort Hindman, Port Gibson, Raymond, Jackson, Champion Hills and the Big Black River Bridge. In the assault of Vicksburg, Mississippi,



Advertisement for Bracket Table designed by Dr. Charles F. Allen (Dental Cosmos 1878)

Charles was promoted to Orderly-Sergeant (First Sergeant of his company who would convey orders) and entered the city when the confederates surrendered, on July 4, 1863. &After all the battles Charles took ill and ਣੰwas hospitalized for eight months at Benton 'Barracks where he miraculously recovered and was assigned to special duty in St. Louis guntil he was discharged in 1865.

This year is the 150th anniversary of the song "Taps". It was played for the first time in the Zivil War at the Seven Days Battle during The Peninsula Campaign in July 1862. The bugle boys played "Taps" for the 219 men of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regiment who expired during the war, 161 of these men died from disease.

In 1878, Charles F. Allen, M.D.S. became

members and 3,000 chapters of DAR. Ms. Allen was known for her charitable work and Dr. Allen fondly called her his "Golden Milestone and center of his life".

One of Dr. Charles F. Allen's proudest accomplishments was when he received his M.D.S. degree after passing the Board of Censors examination on May 8, 1878, the same year he led the SDDS as its president. He also was an author. Among the articles he had published were: "What should be the relation of Government to the Dental Profession?" (1901), and "Prophylaxis: Its various phases in relation to conservation of the teeth" (JAMA, 1904).

Dr. C.F. Allen was also active in his commu-



DR. CHARLES F. ALLEN

nity and was President of the Historical Society of Newburgh Bay and The Highlands from 1902-1903. He was an officer in the St. George's and St. Paul's Episcopal Churches and Vestryman of St. Paul's Church. He was an active and honorary member of the Lawson Hose Company No. 5, making him quite possibly the first dentist fireman!

In 1906, he was elected Chairman of the American Medical Association's (AMA) section on Stomatology. This section of the AMA was created in 1881 and called the Section on Dentistry, holding its first meeting in 1882. At this meeting, the name was changed to the Section on Dental and Oral Surgery, and in 1897, again changed its name to the Section on Stomatology. The founding members wanted dentistry (especially those performing oral surgery) to be a specialty of medicine and all members would be required to have an MD degree. This section was eliminated from the AMA

On January 4, 1906 Charles F. Allen died suddenly of cerebral apoplexy at the age

Until his passing, he played an active role in dental leadership, serving as the AMA Chairman of the Section on Stomatology and also the incumbent Vice-President of the New York Institute of Stomatology, of which he was a charter member

Stuart L. Segelnick, D.D.S, M.S. 131st President of the SDDS



# SECOND DISTRICT

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