

## Nathan Milliken

The **Ontario County** Times was established by Nathan J. Milliken, in January, 1852, as the organ of the anti-slavery wing of the Whig party. It took an active part in the events leading up to the organization of the Republican party, and under the management of its founder and his sons has continued an exponent of that party's principles. Mr. Milliken took his oldest son, Charles F. Milliken, into partnership on January 1, 1891, and upon the former's death in December, 1902, the paper passed to the management of his two sons, C. F. & R. B. Milliken, by whom its publication was continued until the death of the junior member of the firm on January 2, 1911. Charles F. Milliken is now the editor and manager.

A History of Ontario County, New York and Its People, Volume 1  
By Charles F. Milliken

Find a Grave:

### **Nathan James Milliken**

Birth: Sep. 27, 1821

Keene

Cheshire County

New Hampshire, USA

Death: Nov. 26, 1902

Canandaigua

Ontario County

New York, USA

Family links:

Parents:

Julia Bixby Milliken (1781 - 1874)

Spouse:

Orline Sutton Milliken (1830 - 1894)

Children:

Charles Frances Milliken (1854 - 1933)\*

Gertrude Milliken Hubbell (1856 - 1925)\*

Josephine Milliken (1866 - 1952)\*

Royal Bixby Milliken (1870 - 1911)\*

Burial:

Woodlawn Cemetery

Canandaigua

Ontario County  
New York, USA  
Plot: Section 5 Lot 237



**NATHAN J. MILLIKEN.**

Nathan J. Milliken, founder of the Anti-Slavery organ at Canandaigua, was born at Keene, N. H., September 27, 1821. Worked at his trade of printing at Burlington, Vt., and Keesville, N. Y.; editor and proprietor of the Seneca Falls Courier, 1845-48; established The Times at Canandaigua in January, 1852; Ontario County Clerk, 1865-67; postmaster at Canandaigua, 1890-94. Died in Canandaigua, November 26, 1902.

### NATHAN J. MILLIKEN.

Nathan J. Milliken was born in Keene, Cheshire county, N. H., September 27, 1821. In 1836, being then in his fifteenth year, he entered the office of the *Cheshire Republican* in Keene as an apprentice, and there he learned the "art preservative of all arts," serving the stipulated term of three years. After that the limited education he had received in the common schools of the village was supplemented by a few months' attendance at Hancock and Keene Academies. In 1840 he became a resident of Burlington, Vt., finding employment temporarily in the printing offices there, and, although not a voter, took an active interest in the exciting presidential campaign of that year. Subsequently he was employed for a time on the *Essex County Republican* at Keesville, N. Y., and during the summer of 1842 was entrusted with the editorial and business management of the paper, while the proprietor absented himself on account of ill health. This gave Mr. Milliken his first experience as the conductor of a political journal. Two years later, in 1844, he purchased a half interest in the *Republican*, of which he had the management during the Clay campaign. Disappointed and chagrined by the defeat of the great American orator and statesman, he sold out to his partner and resolved to seek his fortune elsewhere. In 1845 he purchased and assumed the management of the *Seneca County Courier* at Seneca Falls, which continued under his control until 1848, when he refused to support General Taylor, the Whig nominee for the presidency, and again sold out. Joining in the "Free Soil" movement under the leadership of Van Buren and Adams, he started a new paper, entitled *The Free Soil Union*, which was discontinued after the election. Three years later he removed to Canandaigua and established *The Onta-*

*rio County Times*, the first number of which was issued January 10, 1852. The *Times* at the outset took an advanced position as an organ of the Seward, or anti-slavery wing of the old Whig party, and thus became a pioneer in the Republican movement. The first Republican county convention in Ontario county was held in the fall of 1855. Mr. Milliken was then nominated for sheriff, which nomination he declined. The convention then nominated him for county clerk, which he also declined after a careful study of the situation. His associates on the ticket did likewise. The way was thus opened for the calling of a "People's Convention," which was held a few weeks later, and by which Mr. Milliken was again placed in nomination for sheriff. This nomination he finally accepted, but was defeated at the polls, as were the other candidates on the People's ticket. In 1861 he was nominated by the Republican convention for county clerk and defeated, and in 1864 was nominated and elected to that office. He was an ardent supporter of James G. Blaine, and in the campaign of 1884 was placed upon the Republican ticket as a candidate for Presidential elector. In August, 1890, he was appointed postmaster at Canandaigua by President Harrison, which office he still holds. The *Times* is now published by the firm of N. J. Milliken & Son, and is a strong factor in the interests of the Republican party of this county. Mr. Milliken married in 1853 Miss Orline O. Sutton, of Seneca county, and they have four children, two sons and two daughters. The oldest son, Charles F. Milliken, is the present working editor of the paper which his father founded over forty years ago. Mr. Milliken was present at the first log-cabin mass meeting that was held in Massachusetts, in the famous campaign of 1840. It was held at Northampton.

History of Ontario County, New York : with illustrations and family sketches of some of the prominent men and families  
Chapter XXXI. Biographical