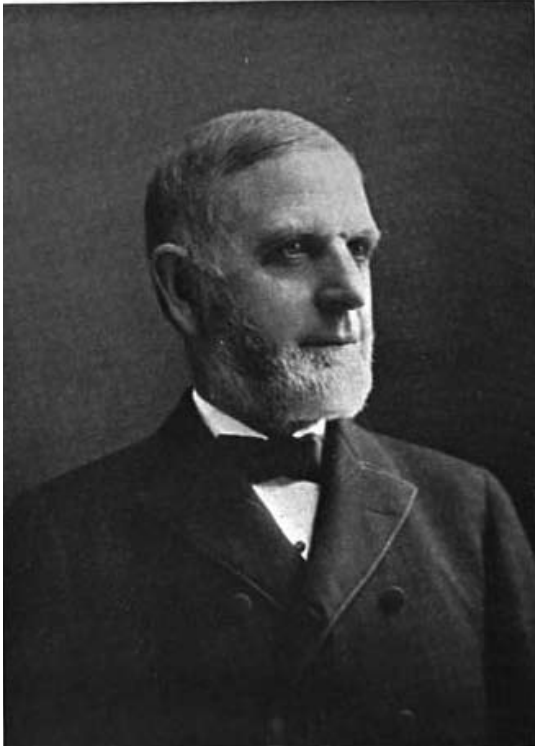


# Andrew Comstock<sup>1</sup>

March 6, 1823 - November 30, 1898



Andrew Comstock, third son of James and Catharine (Farnum) Comstock, was born March 6, 1823,

*Andrew Comstock*

*Juliette P. Comstock*

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<sup>1</sup> New England Families, Genealogical and Memorial By William Richard Cutter, A Record of the Achievements of Her People in the Making of Commonwealths and the Founding of a Nation, Published by Lewis historical publishing company, 1915

in Blackstone, and died November 30, 1898, in Providence. He was educated at the Friends School in Providence, and early in life entered in business with his brother, Jonathan Farnum Comstock, in Blackstone. They engaged in the wholesale handling of beef and pork, under the title of J. F. & A. Comstock, beginning in a small way, and in 1857 removing to Providence, where they conducted a very extensive business. In addition to this firm, Andrew Comstock was interested in another, conducting business under the style of Comstock & Company, from which he withdrew, but continued with the firm of J. F. Comstock & Sons to the time of his death. He was also president of the G. H. Hammond Company, a very large beef house in Hammond, Indiana, with plants in Chicago and Omaha. He became president of the National Bank of Providence, a trustee of the People's Savings Bank, and a

trustee of Brown University. While interested in a very extensive way in business enterprises, Mr. Comstock did not neglect his duties as a citizen and a Christian, was very active in church work, and one of the deacons of the Cranston Street Baptist Church of Providence, in whose welfare he was greatly interested. He had many friends and acquaintances, and was esteemed in the business circles of Providence. He took no active part in political movements, although he served at one time as a member of the Rhode Island legislature. He married, May 24, 1856, Juliette Paine, born December 25, 1825, died February 3, 1911, and is buried in Swan Point Cemetery, beside her husband. She was the daughter of John Jay and Olive (Hall) Paine, of Smithfield (see Paine VII). Children: Frederick Dana, born May 7, 1858, died October 11, same year; Frank Paine, February 26, 1864, residing in Providence; Clara

Elizabeth, November 6, 1866. She graduated from Brown University in the class of 1895, with the degree of Ph. B., and two years later received an A. M. She has traveled extensively in Europe, and now makes her home at the paternal homestead on Broad street, Providence.

At the funeral of Mrs. Juliette Paine Comstock, February 6, 1911, her pastor, Rev. L. L. Henson, D. D., said of her:

Mrs. Comstock was a remarkable woman. She belonged to what might be called the "old school" of beautiful womanhood. She was a strong and vigorous and active woman of strong will and great courage, and she was ever ready to do her duty, whatever that might mean for her. Always quick to perceive and wise to decide and ready to act, she was a forceful, commanding, beautiful character. Ever frugal and careful and watchful, she must have been through all the years a real helpmate to her beloved husband. Not afraid of work, and not unused to hardship, perhaps, in the early days, she and he together laid deep and strong the foundations for a life of unusual beauty and usefulness. Much of his wonderful success, I can imagine, was due to her influence and her power. She was likewise a faithful woman. She was faithful to duty, faithful to friends, faithful to church, and faithful to God. She was a woman of rare wisdom. Her wisdom was so great that her friends constantly sought her advice. This was true because her wisdom was of such a kind that she was likewise a woman of sound judgment; and when in addition to that we remember that she was an intensely practical woman and exceedingly discreet as well, we can understand why such was the case. There is hardly a philanthropic or charitable or educational institution in this city that was not richer by far because of her wisdom and interest, and on the Boards of many of these institutions she has served with faithfulness and ability. She was, too, a great worker. In the early days, her work was largely given to the children of the Sunday-school, and hundreds of men and women in this city and other cities would gladly testify to this hour of the influence this woman has had upon their lives. Over and over again she has said to me when speaking of this business man or that, "He, you know, was one of my boys." Once more, she was always ready to give. She gave lavishly of her time. The fact is, she was always on hand when, when there was anything that she could do. She gave of her strength. She gave of her means. God honored her and her husband with large ability to give, and they honored Him by giving of that which He had given to them. She gave in a quiet and humble and beautiful way, but she gave. The Cranston Church, of

which she was a constituent member, could never have been what it is today, and could never have reached the place, which it occupied in the world but for her and her husband. But their giving was not confined by any means to the church, for every institution that stood for the right and for the uplift of humanity has been made richer, in so far as it was possible, by their consecrated gifts. And the Gospel is being preached round the globe at this hour because they were glad to make it possible for men and women to go. Many of the poor of this city, moreover, will miss her more than you and I can imagine, for gifts, which have gone to countless homes bearing the message, "From a friend," and unknown to the world, have come from her generous hand. And, lastly, she was a Christian. And by that I mean a Christian in the fullest sense of the word. She was a woman whose faith was made manifest in her works; and she was such a Christian as is interested in every form of Christian activity. She worked in the Sunday-school from the beginning of her church's existence until her declining years made it impossible to do so longer.