Edward Morty was born January 29, 1838, in North Attleboro, a town near Westerly, Rhode Island. He attended Brown University, where he met his future wife, Emma, and graduated in 1862. Morty served in the Union Army during the Civil War and returned to complete his studies, earning a Ph.D. in chemistry in 1864. He then taught at a private school in Massachusetts, where he became a colleague of Albert Mitchell, a chemist and educator. Morty's research in spectroscopy and the theory of the periodic table of elements was widely recognized. He later became a professor at Williams College, where he served as the college's observatory director. In 1871, he was appointed to the Harvard College Observatory, where he remained until his death in 1924. Morty's contributions to the field of chemistry and spectroscopy were significant, and his work laid the foundation for future research in these areas. He is remembered as a dedicated scientist and educator, whose legacy continues to inspire students and researchers today.