

[Elwood, Reuben D.]

REUBEN D. ELWOOD

The sudden death Saturday evening of Reuben D. Elwood at his home in Fort Plain removes one of the old and lifelong citizens of the town of Minden. Mr. Elwood had been about his duties as usual of late, and shortly before his death was at his office, closing up his week's affairs. Later he did some trading, and at 4:30 p.m. was out on the street on his way home. Upon arriving home he did a few necessary chores, and complained to Mrs. Elwood, who is an almost helpless invalid, that he was feeling pressure about his lungs, and passing into another room he fell to the floor. Mrs. Elwood called for help and neighborly assistance was soon on hand. Dr. C. E. Congdon was called, but to no avail. Death came as stated. The news was a shock to the citizens and business men of Fort Plain, among whom he was highly esteemed. The Elwood family are among the first settlers in the Mohawk valley. Peter Elwood, an Englishman, settled in what is known as the town of Minden. Peter Elwood, the father, was born at the old homestead in 1800, and died in 1875. Reuben, the son, was born in Minden in 1827. His early life was spent with his parents on the farm, and the family were among the most prosperous of the town of Minden. In 1871 the deceased came to Fort Plain and entered the coal and insurance business. After many years of successful work in the coal trade he retired and devoted his entire attention to the insurance business. Politically he was a staunch Republican, but was never an aspirant for political favors. During the years of the Clinton Liberal Institute he acted as trustee, and for three years was the treasurer of the organization. He was an active member of the Universalist church, and for many years acted in the capacity of trustee. He married Catherine, daughter of John Dillenbeck of Danube, who survives. He is also survived by two sons, Byron of Auburn and Ellsworth E., who resides in South Bethlehem, Pa., and by three grandchildren: Florence, daughter of Byron H., [and] Edwin R. and Stanley, sons of Ellsworth E.

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