

[Bellinger, Frank E.]

MAN ENDS LIFE BY JUMP INTO WELL ON FARM
Frank E. Bellinger, Town of Danube, Despondent Over Ill Health

ST. JOHNSVILLE—Frank E. Bellinger, 66, who resided on the Bellinger homestead, Bellinger road, Town of Danube, took his life Friday by jumping into the well on his farm.

For some time, Mr. Bellinger had been suffering from a heart condition, and had been obliged to curtail his activities on his farm. He and his son, Gerald, 31, conducted the farm. Another son, Kenneth, of Newington, Conn., arrived home Thursday evening.

Mr. Bellinger arose as usual Friday, and aided his sons in the chores around the farm. When the sons returned to the house for breakfast, they missed their father. A search was conducted, which ended with discovery by Gerald of his father's body in the well. The plank covering had been removed from the well, and Coroner Dr. Fred C. Sabin of Little Falls rendered a verdict of death by suicide, due to despondency, caused by ill health.

Dr. Bernard Feldstein of this village was summoned when the body was found, but the victim was beyond aid.

Mr. Bellinger was born on the homestead farm on March 18, 1876, a son of Washington and Maria Eldridge Bellinger. The homestead has been in the family for 150 years, and Mr. Bellinger was of the fourth generation to occupy it.

He was a member of St. Johnsville lodge, 611, F. & A.M., and of the Minden Universalist church.

He was married on October 9, 1907, to Miss Edith Reese, who survives, with two sons, Gerald, at home, and Kenneth, of Newington, Conn.; two sisters, Mrs. George [Gertrude] Cronkhite, Fords Bush, Town of Minden, and Mrs. Julia Sanders of South St. Johnsville.

The funeral will be held this afternoon at 2 o'clock, at the home. The Rev. Howard B. Gilman, pastor of St. Paul's Universalist church of Little Falls, will officiate, and burial will be made in Fort Plain cemetery.

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