

[Devendorf, Frederick Bassett]

DEATH REMOVES FRED B. DEVENDORF

Well Known Real Estate Man of City

PROMINENT IN CHURCH WORK

Taken Ill with Liver Trouble Nearly a Month Ago, Since Which Time He Had Lain Unconscious Much of the Time, Death Occurring at 9 Thursday Evening

Fred Bassett Devendorf, aged 69 years, a well known real estate man, died Thursday evening at 9 at his home, 266 Mullin street, after an illness of nearly a month due to acute liver trouble. Mr. Devendorf came home one afternoon nearly a month ago, complaining of a severe headache, and of feeling tired, and had laid down on the bed from which he never arose. His condition passed through the conscious, semi-conscious and totally unconscious stages, and he had been unable to recognize anyone for over a week. Prior to this time he would revive for a few days, only to relapse into unconsciousness again. His death was not unexpected, as it had been known for some time that he would not recover.

Mr. Devendorf was born at Cedarville, Herkimer county, near Ilion, the son of Solomon and Mary Devendorf, Feb. 15, 1846. He spent his early life in that county, and was educated at Mexico Academy, near Oswego. In 1880 he became associated with the H. H. Babcock firm of this city as traveling agent, and in 1884 conducted a retail plumbing business with the late Merritt DeLong, later with the late William Howard and still later with Stanley E. Hunting, now of Rochester. This latter connection was of one year's duration. He was connected with the retail plumbing for over ten years.

Mr. Devendorf had been a resident of Watertown nearly 50 years, 25 of which he spent as a real estate man. He was not a public real estate dealer, but attended only to his private interests, and had his office at his home in Mullin street. Among the structures that he was connected with is the present Fuess block, Court street. He built this block in 1890 as co-partner with the late Fred Fuess. This was formerly the old Trinity church property. Among the other real estate ventures of Mr. Devendorf was the purchase of a lot and the building of a structure at the corner of State and Mechanic streets, in 1907. This property is still in the possession of the Devendorf family. Mr. Devendorf also built many dwellings and buildings for private individuals.

He married on Oct. 24, 1871, Anna C.[Clarissa] Bassett of Watertown, Connecticut, his first cousin. The marriage was performed in Watertown, Connecticut, and almost immediately afterward the couple moved to this city to make their home.

Mr. Devendorf was a member of the Universalist church of Watertown ever since coming here, nearly 50 years ago. He had held some office in the

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church nearly all of this time, and had been deacon of the church for over 30 years. He was also a trustee of Canton University the past ten years.

He was also a member of the local Order of Good Templars and one of the leading members. When the Good Templars of New York state held their convention at Watertown in 1899, Mr. Devendorf acted as chairman of the committee on arrangements. This organization was formed in 1851, and Mr. Devendorf was prominent in the work from the time of its institution in this city. He was most active as a Prohibition worker in the St. John campaign in 1884. He was chairman, and later treasurer of the Prohibition county committee for seven or eight years, no later than five years ago. He was also an honorary member of the W.T.C.U. of which his widow is president of the city and county committee. He had been a delegate to state convention of the I.O.G.T. on several occasions. He might well be termed one of the builders of the temperance organizations in this county, and his liberal contributions from his own private funds aided greatly in making the organizations the power that they are today.

He leaves besides his wife, Anna, a son, William F. Devendorf, of Rochester, and two daughters, Miss Christine Devendorf of this city and Mrs. Stanley E. [Grace L.] Hunting of Rochester, formerly of this city. Mrs. Hunting has been attending her father during the past week. He also leaves a brother, H. M. Devendorf of this city, and one sister, Mrs. C. F. Dryer, of Lacona.

The funeral services will be held from the family home, 266 Mullin street, Saturday afternoon at 2, with Rev. S. A. Hayt, D.D., librarian of the Flower Memorial Library, officiating. Interment will be made at the Adams Centre cemetery.

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