

[Farley, Jonathan Sherman]

J. Sherman Farley

Jonathan Sherman Farley died on Sunday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. William H. Young, in Starkville, aged 88 years. Mr. Farley was one of the last of the old-time merchants of Fort Plain. He had, however, been retired from business here for many years prior to his death. For many years he had made his home with his daughter.

Although christened Jonathan Sherman, Mr. Farley was generally known as J. Sherman Farley. He was the son of Theodore B. and Mary Sherman Farley and was born in Fort Plain on Oct. 14, 1838. His father, Theodore B. Farley, was a prominent citizen and a president of the village. He built the present brick residence occupied by Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Diefendorf about 1860.

Mr. Farley was a hardware merchant in Fort Plain for over a quarter of a century. In 1853, W. S. Farley established the hardware business, which has continued in the same location ever since and which is now known as the store of Stewart & Bergen Co. He had as partners Lewis Rowland, William Griffiths, George Failing and J. Sherman Farley. On August 5, 1855, a fire started in the second floor of the Farley store which proved to be the most disastrous conflagration ever known in the town's business section.

In 1889, W. S. Farley & Bro. sold the business to Stewart, Shults & Bergen. J. Sherman Farley continued with the new firm for several years and later moved to Starkville.

Mr. Farley was a genial, likeable man who made many friends in his long life, who will greatly regret to learn of his death. He was a member of Fort Plain lodge, No. 433, F. and A. M., and also of Little Falls Commandery, Knights Templar. The Fort Plain lodge gave him a banquet on the occasion of the celebration of his 50th anniversary as a Mason several years ago.

Besides his daughter, Mrs. W. H. Young, Mr. Farley is survived by several nieces and nephews. A prayer service was held at the home at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Funeral services were held at the Catharine Nellis Memorial chapel at 3 o'clock, Rev. H. B. Taylor, D. D. [Universalist] officiating.

Interment will be made in the family plot in the Fort Plain cemetery in the spring.

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