

[Finch, William R.]

WM. R. FINCH DIES AT DAYTONA BEACH, FLA.

Ill Upon His Arrival There

Widely Known Resident of North Salem Succumbs to Pneumonia on Tuesday, Aged 69

The well known citizen of North Salem, William R. Finch, died at Daytona Beach, Florida, Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 21, 1933, after a short illness of pneumonia.

The news came as a great shock to his many friends throughout this section of the state and Connecticut, where he was a familiar figure at almost every public occasion and where he had a wide acquaintance. His friendly, genial manner won him friendships that were extensive and a warm welcome wherever he went.

Mr. Finch was in Carmel on Monday of last week before leaving for Florida on Tuesday on his annual visit to spend the winter, a custom he has had for several years. He went in company with Mrs. Marie Preston, of Unadilla, N.Y., and some friends of Mrs. Preston from Passaic, N. J. The party arrived at Daytona Beach last Saturday, and Mr. Finch, who had a cold when he began the journey, was so ill that he immediately went to the hospital for treatment and care. Pneumonia developed soon afterwards.

Mr. Finch was 69 years of age. He was born in the homestead in the Peach Lake section of North Salem, which had always been his home until he sold it to Duncan Bulkley, of New York city, a few years ago, and which had been in the possession of his family for more than one hundred years. He continued his home upon the same property after its sale. He engaged in farming until his retirement at the time of the sale of his farm.

Mr. Finch was a son of the late James and Maria (Vail) Finch and the last of six children. The death of a sister, with whom he long resided in the family homestead, occurred a few years ago.

He was a member of Croton lodge, F. & A.M., of Brewster, and the Universalist church in North Salem, and for years was a moving spirit in the famous Farmers' club of Westchester county. Few gatherings of Masons or neighborhood or political assemblies in his section of the state were considered complete without his presence and he often traveled to Albany during the session of the New York state assembly, where he had a wide acquaintance.

The body of Mr. Finch will not leave Daytona until next Tuesday according to telegrams received last night and plans have been made to hold the funeral service in the Universalist Church at North Salem next Friday afternoon, Dec. 1, at two o'clock. A Masonic service will be held and the oration will be delivered by William H. Weeks.

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