

[Finehout, Louise Norton]

OBITUARY  
Mrs. John Finehout

Another of the old and best types of womanhood with which Canajoharie has been blest and honored in its past, women who helped to lay foundations of character and instill principles of right to a greater extent perhaps than they knew, has passed to her reward and joined the innumerable throng just beyond our sight. We refer to Mrs. John Finehout, whose death was foreshadowed in the last Courier by the notice that she had suffered a stroke of paralysis the day before. Although the stroke was severe, rendering one side useless and entirely cutting off the power of speech, the strong constitution which she possessed did not finally give way until 1:15 o'clock on Saturday morning when she closed her eyes in endless sleep. During the week she made many signs of recognition to her daughters and sons and on occasions threw the arm not affected most affectionately about her youngest grandson, Harry Sommerville, at her bedside, expressive of her deep love for him, and for them all. The constant enquiries from far and near all the week as to the condition of Mrs. Finehout showed the esteem in which she was held, as all recognised the loss the community would sustain in her death. When finally the dissolution came messages of condolence began to come to the sons and daughters and these and floral tributes eloquently speak the sincere sympathy of all. Mrs. Finehout had resided in Canajoharie for 51 years and during the upward career of her husband she was the faithful adviser and true helpmeet, and in every good and worthy cause in the village in her silent way was a potent force. A long life of usefulness and fruitfulness is thus ended, a modest, retiring and noble soul departs, but the fragrance of her sweet nature will remain long after the body has been laid away in its silent tomb.

Mrs. Finehout was a native of Fort Plain, and was born Dec. 18, 1829. She was a daughter of Solomon Norton and when a young woman married John Finehout of Minden. In 1860 they took up their residence in Canajoharie and this place has since been the family home. Mr. Finehout died Dec. 3, 1897.

For many years he was one of the most prominent merchants of this village and one of the leading public men of the county. He was very active in politics and several times honored by his party. He became widely known, and was one of the most popular and influential democrats in this locality. Mr. Finehout's success in business and public life was no greater than the part his wife graciously filled in the social and refined activities of the community. She, however, at all times bore a great and tender love for the home and family and there centered a motherly devotion and affection,

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she was held in highest regard by innumerable friends because of her many womanly virtues and inherent charm, and her memory will long be cherished.

Mr. and Mrs. Finehout were Universalists, Mr. Finehout being a trustee of Clinton Liberal Institute, and for many years both were identified with the Universalist church in Fort Plain. The deceased is survived by two sons, William H. Finehout of Fort Plain and Elmer J. Finehout of this village; three daughters, Mrs. Charles F Wheelock of Albany, Mrs. Garrett V. Rapp of Brooklyn, and Mrs. Jessie F. Sommerville of this village, and seven grand children. The funeral was held Monday at 2 p.m. from the house. Burial at Fort Plain. Rev. George Gay, the Universalist preacher at Fort Plain, officiated.

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