

[Helmer, George Monroe]

Forty Years in Business

G. M. Helmer, proprietor of the Herkimer Grist Mill celebrated the completion of forty years in business with a dinner to his employees at the Milet restaurant last Tuesday. [The list of names of those present is not included here]. Following the after-dinner cigars, the assemblage adjourned to the mill in the coolness of which a pleasant afternoon was spent discussing old times.

Mr. Helmer began his business career in Herkimer in 1873 in the grist mill of Elisha Washburn and was soon in charge. After 13 years of faithful service he was taken into partnership and the firm of Washburn & Helmer continued until Mr. Washburn's death, when Mr. Helmer became the sole owner of the business. Besides establishing a retail feed store on Main street, Mr. Helmer also built a store in Poland several years ago which has been so successful that he recently enlarged the building. Mr. Helmer for several years ran a branch store at Newport. Mr. Helmer's shrewd business abilities and his skill as a collector was [sic] shown when he sold the Newport business. At that time he had outstanding on his books due from customers \$15,000. Of that amount he collected all but \$150.00.

Mr. Helmer has one man, William Wright, in his employ who worked for the same business 48 years ago. Another, Joseph Smith, has been connected with the mill for 30 years and George Cristman [his nephew] has been Mr. Helmer's bookkeeper and helper in the office for 25 years, beginning work under the old partnership of Washburn & Helmer. Several other employees have been with the business for a number of years past.

Mr. Helmer is a director of the Herkimer National Bank and is one of the most prosperous and substantial citizens of Herkimer. He is a member of the Universalist church and very active in its support.

Ilion Citizen, Ilion NY, Thu. 17 Jun 1913

[Helmer, George Monroe]

FUNERAL OF G. M. HELMER

Herkimer, March 27.—The remains of the late G. Monroe Helmer, accompanied by Mrs. Helmer [Nellie Moon Helmer] and her daughter, Mrs. George [Blanche] Hessler, jr., arrived from St. Petersburg, Fla., at (?) Saturday night. The trip was made without mishap, even the flowers on the casket retaining their original freshness.

Before leaving the South, a brief service was held, which was well attended by the townspeople and the Herkimer colony, and Rev. Stannard Dow Butler [Universalist], formerly of Gravesville, officiated.

The funeral of Mr. Helmer will be held at the home of his son-in-law George Hessler, jr., 326 Henry Street, at 2 Monday afternoon. Rev. Wi. H. [Wines Harris] Skeels of the Universalist Church will officiate and the interment will be in Oak Hill Cemetery. Mrs. Helmer plans to return to Florida [the rest of this sentence is obliterated in transcriber's copy].

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Transcribed on 13 Dec 2018 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY