

[Houghton, Byron K.]

Obituary.

Byron K. Houghton died at his residence on Gansevoort street last night at forty minutes past nine o'clock. His death was a great shock, for though his condition had been very critical for several weeks, he had rallied and the symptoms were so favorable that his physician, Dr. S. A. Ingham, felt hopeful at one time for his recovery; but it was not to be, and yesterday morning it was apparent that the hand of death was upon him. Dr. Willis E. Ford was summoned from Utica, but when he saw Mr. Houghton's condition he could hold out no hope to the family, who were almost distracted with grief that a father and a husband, whose constant care was their happiness, should be called away almost in the prime of life. As stated in yesterday's TIMES Mr. Houghton had a sinking spell in the morning, about five o'clock, and appeared to be dying, but he was given stimulants and rallied. However, no mortal aid could restore the vital forces which had been exhausted by weeks of suffering, and during the day he sank gradually until his eyes were closed in death. His illness dates back nearly two months. In company with Rev. and Mrs. R. [Richard] E. Sykes and other members of his family he went to the Thousand Islands last summer, and was taken sick there. His illness was attributed to the fatigue caused by rowing until he had overtaxed his physical strength. He was too prostrated to be removed at once to his home in Little Falls, and he remained at the Thousand Islands a week after he was stricken down. By that time his condition seemed so much improved that it was thought safe for him to return home. At midnight on the last day of August he arrived in Little Falls. The journey, no doubt, was exhausting and for several days his condition seemed worse. Then there was a slight improvement, but symptoms of typhoid fever were developed and [?] the fever seemed to have nearly spent his course pneumonia appeared. These complications were followed by a large abscess at the angle of the right jaw. His constitution which had been so much enfeebled by his previous sickness was unable to withstand this additional strain upon it, and he weakened visibly from day to day until the end came...

Mr. Houghton was born in Little Falls in 1835. He was the son of W. B. Houghton, who died about five years ago. For many years they were united in business under the firm name of W.B. Houghton & Son, dealing in window blinds, sashes, plaster and lumber. Their trade was extensive and profitable and they accumulated a handsome property. After the death of his father Mr. Houghton's health became impaired and about three years ago he sold out the business to Newell & Little. M. Houghton was a trustee of St. Paul's Church and one of its most active supporters. In his death the Universalist society suffers an irreparable loss. He was a Christian in the best sense of

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the word, for he endeavored to embody the teachings and principles of his faith in daily life. As a citizen he was universally respected, and in saying that the community will deeply mourn his death we give expression only to the general sentiment.

Mr. Houghton married Emma, daughter of L. O. Gay, of this village, an accomplished lady who was his loving and devoted companion. Beside the bereaved wife he leaves three daughters, Mrs. R. E. [Mabel M.] Sykes, Miss Blanche and Miss Bessie Houghton.

The sad intelligence that Mr. Houghton was dying cast a gloom over the community yesterday and many and anxious were the inquiries as to his condition, coupled with the fervent wish that he might rally and recover. Death, it is said, loves a shining mark, and though it has removed from our midst many whose loss was lamented as a public calamity, it has taken no one from family and friends who occupied a higher place in the public esteem. Friends he had on every side, but he lived a life of such rectitude and was so fair and conscientious in his dealings and intercourse with his fellow men that he leaves not a single enemy to cast a shadow upon his good record as a Christian and a citizen.

Mr. Houghton belonged to the Masonic fraternity, but was not an active member. He was one of the charter members of Gen Herkimer Lodge No. 92, A.O.U.W., of this village, and was its first master workman. In fact, the success of the lodge has been largely due to the interest he manifested in it at the period of its organization and for several years afterward when, it may be said, it was in its infancy. He was also a member of the E.O.M.A. lodge in this village.

The funeral will be held on Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the family residence on Gansevoort street.

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