

[Knowlton, Daniel Stewart]

DANIEL STEWART KNOWLTON

News of the sudden death of Daniel S. Knowlton last Friday afternoon [27 Feb] came as a shock to the community. Altho known to be in failing health during several months past, notwithstanding this the fact that his industry and courage kept him more or less active led to the hope that added years were in store for him.

For a period of 10 years he had been afflicted with heart disease, and realizing its treacherous nature he guarded against over-exertion. However, the end came with lightning-like swiftness soon after he left his home on Covington Street by the rear to his apartment house on North Center Street. He had gone to see that the water and gas were turned on in preparation for a new tenant expecting to move in on March 1st. He had entered the cellar of the apartment after walking up the icy grade from his home and was found sitting on the stairs a few moments afterward, by W.M. Aikin of the gas company. Death apparently had been instantaneous.

Daniel Stewart Knowlton was a son of Thaddeus and Phoebe Stewart Knowlton, the second son of their family of three children—two sons and a daughter—and was born in Pavilion on September 30th, 1853. He grew to manhood there, attending the district school near the homestead farm and later Middlebury Academy at Wyoming.

On January 27, 1876, he was united in marriage to Miss Nellie M. Vernoy of LaGrange and after two years residence on the homestead farm they removed to LaGrange, where he purchased property and was engaged in fruit growing. He also learned carpentry and did considerable work in that line, particularly in making ladders. After a residence of 13 years in LaGrange they celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary, after which the family removed to this village, where he purchased a lot on Watkins Avenue and erected a home, residing here almost continuously since that time.

Disposing of his property on Watkins Avenue he erected his attractive home on Covington Street, later erected a two-family apartment house on property purchased on North Center Street and also erected a house on property purchased at Perry Center. His genius prompted him to invent an elastic lock wire fence which he manufactured and found a good sale for until the time that the larger companies with abundant capital placed [a] similar fence on the market and made his business unprofitable.

Mr. Knowlton was interested in the affairs of the town and village and was a good citizen in all that the term implies. He was a member of the First Universalist Church of Perry, in which he took an active interest, being a member of the choir for several years, superintendent of the Sunday School for a time and trustee for a number of years.

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Mr. and Mrs. Knowlton were the parents of three daughters: Edna, Maude (Mrs. Porter Davis) and Mable. The first named died at the age of 9 years. Besides his wife he is survived by the daughters mentioned, all of this village; also by his sister, Miss Eva F. Knowlton of Eagle Rock, Cal.

Funeral services were largely attended at the residence last Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock, conducted by his pastor, Rev. William P. Farnsworth. Interment was made in the family lot at LaGrange Cemetery.

Perry Record, Perry NY, Thu. 5 Mar 1931

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