

[Knox, Henry Mason]

HARRY M. KNOX

Death on Friday a Sorrow to His Host of Friends

Was a Pioneer in This County in Modern Farming Methods and Cattle Breeding

Harry Mason Knox, widely known for his interest in the Grange and the breeding of Holstein cattle, died Friday evening at the Hepburn Hospital where he had been a patient for three weeks suffering from a long standing heart trouble. His funeral was held from the Universalist church in this village yesterday afternoon at three, President-Emeritus R. E. [Richard Eddy] Sykes of St. Lawrence University, officiating. A prayer service was held at the Knox farm home on the Ogdensburg road at 1:45. Rev. Allan Bowering, of Heuvelton, being in charge. The bearers were: Charles and Glenn Wight, Canton; Walter Cook, Potsdam; Glenn Sheldon. Lisbon; Newell Hutchinson, Heuvelton; and J. Albert Fisher, Lisbon.

To write of Harry Knox is to go back not only to his parents, but his parents' parents. The county history shows that John and Anna Gunn Knox moved to the town of Russell in 1804, John being the great grandfather of Harry. John Knox had assisted in surveying the town the previous year and had purchased six hundred acres of land, which became his future home. He was a sturdy New Englander of Scotch-Irish origin, the family being of noble ancestry through the Earl of Knox. It is interesting to note that the Knox family was the third family to settle in Russell, and it was from this ancestry that Seymour Knox and family came, for whom the Knox Memorial High School is named and whose benefactions to Russell are so well known.

John and Anna Knox brought with them to Russell their six sons and three daughters, all of whom had been born at Blanford, Mass. Of these sons Harvey Knox was the youngest and it was he who moved from Russell to Canton in 1846 to purchase the farm on the Canton-Pierrepont road where Harvey Knox Pike, Harry's nephew, now lives, and where Harry was born and reared.

Harvey Knox married Harriet King as his first wife, and later Lucinda S. Hosley. Of this marriage was a daughter, Mary C, who became the wife of Ebenezer Sanderson, whose home stood neighboring to that of the Knox's. A son of this union was Harvey Winfield Scott Knox, who married Horal L. Hlckok, of Parishville, and they were the parents of Harry Mason Knox.

Harry was born on the homestead farm near this village July 3, 1878. His father was an ardent Granger and Mason. Amid delightful surroundings Harry grew up as a boy, and entered St. Lawrence University in the class of 1901. However, the call of the farm had been bred in his blood and at the end of his sophomore year he transferred to Cornell University where he completed his agricultural course in 1901. He was a member of the Alpha Zeta fraternity at Cornell.

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Returning home he joined his father in operating the home farm. It was there they pioneered in modern farming in this section, erecting a barn which was the finest structure of its kind in this county, and began the breeding of pure bred black and whites.

After his father's death Harry retired from farming and for seventeen years was associated with the Quaker Oats and Clover Leaf Milling companies. He then returned to Canton, and with his nephew, Harvey Pike, operated a real estate company here for a short time. Following this he purchased a farm on the Ogdensburg road where he had since resided.

Harry Knox will be missed by many. Always cheerful and optimistic, a true friend and entertaining companion, he found in his Grange work an outlet for his talents and greatest service. His enthusiasm in this field is best shown by the fact that he had progressed through membership in the order from his local Grange, Silas Wright, which he had served as Master, on up through Pomona to the State and National Granges, being a Seventh Degree Granger. He had been Instrumental in securing the meeting of the State Grange to be held in Ogdensburg Dec. 14-18 and was editor of the Grange page of the Republican Journal.

Of equal interest to his Grange work was his activity in advancing the Holstein-Fresian Association organization in this county. As one of the first to breed these cattle he became the founder and first secretary of the St. Lawrence County Holstein-Freslan Association, and was also a member of the Ayrshire Club, and had been active in the County 4-H Club organization.

A writer on agricultural subjects, and possessed of a vast fund of knowledge, his articles were widely sought. His presence at Grange meetings was always welcome for he was ever able to make a real contribution to any program.

On June 10, 1925, he married Anna Lawrence. She survives him as does an adopted daughter, Miss Cecilia Knox, of Bay Shore, Long Island, and a sister, Mrs. Albert M. Pike, of this village.

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