

[Lewis, Alva W.]

ALVA W. LEWIS

Alva W. Lewis, who for more than thirty years was connected with the newspaper life of Batavia, died at his home on Summit street on Sunday evening. He was 61 years of age, and for about 17 years was an editorial writer on the Daily News. He had been a compositor on that paper for several years when a brief illness of A.J. McWain, the editor in chief, caused an emergency, and Mr. Lewis was asked if he could help out by furnishing a short editorial and some editorial notes. He said he would see what he could do, and he was found to possess unusual talent as a writer of bright and humorous short paragraphs dealing with current topics. When Mr. McWain returned to his work he was surprised to learn that the clear, epigrammatic, sparkling editorial pages of the paper had been the work of Mr. Lewis, and so it happened that Mr. Lewis was permanently transferred from the type cases to an editorial desk. Mr. Lewis, quiet and retiring in manner, was ardently devoted to his newspaper work, which he followed with sturdy and faithful industry.

Broad-minded and liberal in his views, Mr. Lewis found a congenial environment in the Universalist church. He was one of its trustees and a faithful supporter of the society in every way. He was liberal in his social and political creed. His sympathies were always on the side of the masses who are doing the world's work and making civilization possible.

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