

## [Munson, Edmund Lee]

### DEATH OF EDMUND L. MUNSON

#### ONE OF UTICA'S BEST CITIZENS

Long Illness With Typhoid Fever Resulted Fatally Yesterday Morning—  
His Career in Utica Business and Social Circles Made Him  
Prominent and Popular—An Attractive Personality.

Many hearts in Utica were saddened by the death of Edmund Lee Munson, which occurred at (?) o'clock yesterday morning at his apartments in the residence of Dr. F. D. Crim, 241 Genesee street. For several weeks he had been ill with typhoid fever, but strong hopes were entertained for his recovery, until Wednesday night, when his condition became very serious. He had made such a good fight against the disease that it was even then believed he might recover. His heart became weak, however, his strength was sapped and the end was inevitable. The circumstances of Mr. Munson's death are such as make it particularly sad. [On] March 16, last, he was married at Binghamton to Mrs. Acelia F. (Arms?) of that city. They went on a wedding trip to New York, Washington, Atlantic City and other Eastern points.

Returning to Utica they planned to occupy an apartment at the (Olbreton?), but while waiting its readiness were at Dr. Crim's residence, where Mr. Munson had long made his home. Soon after Mr. Munson was taken with a severe chill, and this was followed by typhoid fever, which, it is thought, he contracted while on his wedding trip. From this attack he was apparently convalescing when he was re-infected by the fever and the long strain upon his vitality was more than he could endure. During his illness he had every attention and comfort that could be provided, and hosts of friends made anxious inquiries regarding his condition from day to day. There were fervent prayers that he might be spared to fully enjoy the new happiness into which he had entered with his recent marriage, but fate has otherwise decreed.

Mr. Munson was one of the best-known and best-loved citizens of Utica. His career was a useful and honorable one. He developed a personality that was magnetic in its attractiveness. His predominating qualities were of an admirable type. He was kindly, courteous and generous. In all relations he was loyal. He had countless friends and won that genuine popularity which comes unsought. He was a prominent figure in many circles, and was welcome wherever he appeared. Mr. Munson was noble in every aspect of his make-up. He was free from all vainglory, and was essentially modest. He was always willing and prompt to do his part in any enterprise with which he was associated. He was an industrious worker and a cheerful companion. He devoted himself assiduously to business, but found time for wholesome outdoor recreation, and was an active spirit in many social organizations. His interests were various, and all with whom he was associated came to have for him a feeling that there was more than ordinary friendship. Hundreds of Uticans experience in his death a heavy personal loss.

## [Munson, Edmund Lee]

It was in Brownville, Jefferson County, that Mr. Munson was born December 24, 1844. When he was a young lad his father, Edmund Munson, removed to Utica to become identified with his uncle, Alfred Munson, who was engaged here in a pioneer industry, the manufacture of burr millstones and mill furnishings. Subsequently he formed a partnership in the business with Alexander C. Hart, under the firm name of Hart & Munson. In 1869 the firm was dissolved and a new one was established consisting of Mr. Munson and his three sons, Edmund L., Alfred H. and Countcil Munson. His father died in 1872. The sons continued the business, and in 1899 the Munson Brothers Company was incorporated. Edmund L. Munson was chosen president and held that position until his death. He went to work in he establishment when he was (?—in his teens) years old and thoroughly learned the machinists' trade. After the death of his father, he took charge of the millstone department, which was at that time the most important part of their business, and sustained the reputation of the old concern. The millstones made at their establishment were known throughout the country as the best of the kind manufactured. The company also built up an extensive trade in portable mills and various manufactures of a mechanical nature and has been very successful.

While Mr. Munson devoted himself chiefly to the business of the Munson company he was interested in various other concerns. He was a large stockholder in Roberts-Wicks Company, the Willowvale Bleachery and the Citizens' Trust Company. He was for years a director of the Chamber of Commerce and had served on its most important committees. He was decidedly public-spirited and was ever ready to aid any movement for the public good. Socially, he had many very happy relations. He was a member of the Fort Schuyler Club, the Tahnundasis Golf Club, the Maple Lake Club, the Utica Curling Club and the Oneida County Historical Society. For (15?) years he was a member of the old Utica citizens Corps and served for some time as its captain. He belonged to the Church of the Reconciliation [Universalist] and was active in its affairs. In politics Mr. Munson was a Democrat, but voted for the Republican candidates when the free silver craze afflicted his party. He never sought nor held any political office. He will be greatly missed by all with whom he had been in any manner connected, and he leaves a memory that is fragrant with pleasant associations and kindly deeds.

Besides his widow, he leaves one brother, Alfred H. Munson of Utica, and a half-sister, Mrs. Edward W. Crosby of Albany.

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