

[Nye, Victor J.]

UNTIMELY DEATH OF VICTOR J. NYE  
OCCURRED YESTERDAY AFTERNOON IN HIS STORE  
HAD BEEN IN ILL HEALTH

Temporary Aberration Causes a Well-Known Clothing Merchant to Take  
His Own Life—Business Career of Twenty-five Years in This City.

While suffering from a temporary aberration of mind, occasioned by ill health, Victor J. Nye, a well known and popular business man of this city, took his life late yesterday afternoon, while in his store, at 123 Genesee street. He was a member of the retail clothing firm of Nye & Trosset, which has been a prosperous concern for years and evidently it was not business matters that troubled his mind.

Mr. Nye left his store for lunch about 12:40 p.m. yesterday and returned at 2:30 o'clock. He did not seem to be well and retired to a room in the rear of the store, apparently to rest. This was the last seen of him alive. About 10 minutes to 3 a sharp sound was heard coming from the rear room. His partner, Mr. Trosset, and a clerk, Arthur Lasher, were waiting upon a customer, E. J. Monaghan of Ilion, in the front part of the store. Mr. Trosset thought something had fallen through the skylight, but Mr. Monaghan said the noise sounded like a shot. They hurried to the rear room and found Mr. Nye lying on the floor dead. There was a bullet wound over the right ear and a revolver lay close by. Drs. F. J. Douglas and Herbert J. Jones were immediately summoned and pronounced that Mr. Nye was quite dead. Coroner Dodd, who was promptly notified, came to the scene and directed the remains to be removed to the undertaking rooms of the F. A. Cassidy Company.

The news of Mr. Nye's death rapidly spread and caused a great shock to his numerous friends, for Mr. Nye was extremely popular on account of his genial disposition and he had been a successful business man of the city for a quarter of a century, making his way upward by industrious application of undoubted business talents. The grief caused to his family by the tragedy was intense.

Mr. Nye had lived in Utica for 30 years, having come here when a young man from Madison, where he was a clerk in a general store. He was born in Galesburg, Ill., May 23, 1859. His parents brought him when a child to Oriskany Falls, where he was educated and brought up. He was a boy of 12 when he went to work at Madison for Lucas & Co. as a store clerk. From that time he prospered. At the age of 20 he came to this city and began as a clerk in the clothing store of Martin & Miller. This gave him the necessary experience and in (1883?) he went into business with G. Bailey Payne. The retail clothing firm of Payne & Nye was one of the best known clothing concerns of this part of the State for a period of 17 years. Mr. Payne retiring

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in 1900, Mr. Nye took into partnership Clarence Trosset, and the firm of Nye & Trosset continued the successful career of the old concern, first in a store where the Utica City National Bank stands now and, when the bank building was erected, at 123 Genesee street.

Mr. Nye was an active man, both in his business and in other ways. He was of a sociable, companionable nature and was intensely loyal in his friendships. His character was straightforward and honorable and he held the warm regard of every man who came to know him well. He was prominent in the old Business Men's Association and was always ready to promote everything that tended to boom the city. He was fond of the pastime of curling and belonged to the Utica club. He was a member of the Arcanum Club and of Imperial Council, No. 70, Royal Arcanum, and of the Arcanum Relief Association. He was one of the earliest members of the Commercial Travelers' Mutual Accident Association of America. He was also a member of Faxton Lodge, No. [???], F. & A.M., and of Oneida Chapter No. 67, Royal Arch Masons. He attended the Church of the Reconciliation [Universalist].

In 1886 Mr. Nye married Mabel J. White, daughter of David P. White. She survives, with one daughter, Miss Esther (?) Nye. He also leaves his aged mother, Mrs. Sarah Nye, a brother, William Nye, and an aunt, Mrs. Caroline Peebles, all of Oriskany Falls.

Coroner Dodd completed his investigation of Mr. Nye's death this morning and rendered his decision in accordance with the facts given above.

The funeral will be held from the house at 2:30 o'clock Friday afternoon.

*Herald-Dispatch*, Utica NY, Wed. 7 Apr 1909

Transcribed on 17 Sep 2013 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY