

[Oswell, George B.]

GEORGE B. OSWELL

George B. Oswell died in Ogdensburg Friday afternoon about 3 at his home, 55 Caroline street, after an illness of several months. Mr. Oswell was one of the oldest and best known business men of Ogdensburg and his death removes a figure known to hundreds of people in every day life of the city. Mr. Oswell was born in Ogdensburg, May 18, 1836, and after receiving a good education in the schools of the city, entered the office of the St. Lawrence Republican where he served between eight and ten years as a typesetter. He then gave up the printing trade and went south to enter the shoe business at Memphis, Tenn., where he was when Fort Sumter was fired upon. The breaking out of the war caused him to return to the north and he came back to Ogdensburg and entered the employ of the Ogdensburg Steamboat Company. About the year 1862 he joined the Grand Trunk railway, being employed in the passenger department, first as clerk, and being gradually promoted for faithful and efficient work until he attained to the responsible post of district passenger agent, with jurisdiction extending through Vermont and the northern part of the state of New York. Mr. Oswell continued with the Grand Trunk until about 15 years ago, when he resigned, but later he became associated with Q. S. Meagher, who succeeded to the Grand Trunk agency, and assisted in the office work at different times, up to a few years ago. Mr. Oswell's long service in the business made him an authority in this line of work and he was known by travelers without number who patronized the Grand Trunk system.

Mr. Oswell's father was an Englishman who located in Ogdensburg in 1816 and his mother was a native of St. Lawrence county. Mr. Oswell was married in 1860 to Mary H. Childs, of Westborough, Mass., who died eleven years ago, and he is survived by an only daughter, Mrs. Mary O. Porter, who kindly cared for her father in his last illness.

Mr. Oswell was a man of strong likes and dislikes and his opinion once formed was hard to shake. In politics he was a militant Democrat, whose party fealty dated back to antebellum days. Mr. Oswell was a member of the Universalist church and one of the organizers of the society in Ogdensburg. He was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, being affiliated with Ogdensburg lodge No. 128, F. & A. M., the chapter commandery and the Mystic Shrine. Mr. Oswell was a man of the strictest integrity and a worthy citizen, who was at all times willing to meet the duties and responsibilities that fell to him. His death will be mourned by many friends.

The funeral was held Monday and interment was had in the Ogdensburg cemetery.

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