

[Rouse, William E.]

CROSSING ACCIDENT PROVED FATAL

William A. Rouse, Sr., of Iliion Died at Hospital—Train Struck Automobile

Herkimer, Oct. 21.—William E. Rouse, sr., of Iliion, who was injured in a collision between a Mohawk & Malone train and the automobile that he was driving about 5:15 p.m. Saturday, died late last night at the Emergency Hospital. Mr. Rouse was driving his machine northward on the Herkimer Middleville turnpike, when he came to the German street crossing in this village. Just as the auto was in the middle of the track a southbound train came along and struck it to one side of the track. Mr. Rouse was hurled from the machine and sustained a bad compound fracture of the right leg between the knee and ankle. His right arm was fractured between the elbow and the wrist and he was otherwise injured.

The injured man was rushed to the Emergency Hospital, where he was attended to by Drs. John Canfield, Howard C. Murray, George and James W. Graves. It was impossible permanently to relieve him.

The locomotive drawing the Mohawk & Malone train was in charge of Engineer Daniel O'Donnell, with Conductor Frank Martlock in charge of the train. It was said that Mr. Rouse slackened or stopped his machine just before he reached the railroad crossing to enable him to see if any train was coming. It is said that there is an unobstructed view of the railroad tracks for some 600 or 700 feet in either direction from the point where the accident happened. The automobile was badly damaged.

Mr. Rouse was born in Otsego County February 25, 1841, and lived in various parts of that county and also in Massachusetts, but when the War of the Rebellion broke out he enlisted with the Sixth New York Cavalry regiment and served throughout the war. After being mustered out he came to Herkimer County and established a harness business at Middleville and was successful therein. About 20 years ago he took up his residence in Eastern avenue in this village and two years later he established, upon giving up his business in Middleville, a harness shop in Iliion, being interested in his later years in the automobile business. About 40 years ago he was united in marriage to Kate G. Morris of Middleville, by whom he is survived, as also by one son, William E. Rouse, of this village. There survive also two daughters of a former marriage, Mrs. T. M. Lamon of Buffalo and Mrs. Dora Meade of Moravia, who were summoned to Herkimer yesterday, arriving before the death of their father. The funeral will be held at 1 o'clock Wednesday afternoon from the house, the Rev. Charles E. Bingham [Universalist] officiating, and the remains will be taken to Middleville for interment.

Mr. Rouse was a highly respected and well known citizen and an upright business man and his death under the unfortunate circumstances which attend will be regretted and the sympathy of all will be extended to the bereaved relatives.

*Herald-Dispatch*, Utica NY, Mon. 21 Oct 1912