

[Russell, Edwin Francis]

## DEATH OF ED. F. RUSSELL

Prominent Business Man of Winthrop Dies Suddenly at Rutland, Vt.

Winthrop, Oct. 9, 1908

Our community was startled and saddened early last Friday morning, by the news which had come over the wire the evening previous that Mr. E. F. Russell was dead. When he joined the New York bound excursionists last Thursday morning, October 1st, accompanied by his wife and son, Douglass, he was apparently in his usual health. The day was warm and sunshiny and he seemed merry and happy in the anticipation of the pleasure of meeting with relatives and old-time friends, and of the large amount of business which he expected to transact while in the city, little dreaming that he was so soon to respond to the Master's call, "Come up higher." He left the train at Rutland at about noon to spend the remainder of the day at the home of Mr. D. E. Martin, 57 Crescent street, purposing to take a late train for New York city, while Mrs. Russell and son were to remain in Rutland, until his return. A large part of the afternoon he spent down town at the store with Mr. Martin who is one of Rutland's leading merchants, going with him to dinner at half past six, eating with the relish of one hungry. He refused desert, at the same time calling for a light to visit the toilet rooms where he was stricken. First a noise like as if some one had fallen, then groans were the sounds which alarmed those in the dining room, who hastening to his assistance found him lying in a semi-conscious state upon the floor of the toilet room. Dr. Thompson was hastily summoned who pronounced him beyond help. Heart failure was soon the result, and he passed into the higher life at seven forty-five, after an hour of intense suffering. He regained consciousness and was able to converse until nearly the last.

Edwin Francis Russell was the youngest of the family of the late Henry and Elizabeth Russell. He was born in the town of Stockholm, November 19, 1857, receiving his education from the district and select schools of his native town. When quite a young man he entered as clerk the general store of his brother, the late Geo. H. Russell. After a time he represented a western firm as traveling salesman, returning again to work in the store until about 1896 he went across the street and established the business which now bears his name. In 1899, a destructive fire burned his store causing him for a period to suspend trade, but his ambitious nature was not to be baffled and in 1900 he erected one of the largest and most imposing business structures in Northern New York, and at the time of his death his efforts were being rewarded with a large trade. In 1892 he was married to Miss Effie A. Douglass, of Chateaugay, and she, with his son, Douglass, survive him. He is also survived by two sisters, Mrs. Mary Whipple, of

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Redwood Falls, Wis., and Mrs. Celia Walker, of Bangor, N.Y. Mrs. Whipple was at the house of the Martins when he was stricken.

The funeral was largely attended last Monday afternoon from his late home on South Main street, Rev. Frank A. Angel assisted by Rev. T. Saunders officiating. Rev. Angel took for his topic or text the 12th division of the 90th Psalm. Mr. Russell was [a] member of the Universalist Society of this place, and was a liberal contributor to its support. He was an honorable and reliable man and built a successful business by an energetic and painstaking effort. In politics he was a firm, unswerving Republican. He was a member of Winthrop and Brasher Lodge, No. 541, F. & A. M., having attained the Knight Templar and Mystic Shrine degree. Members of Franklin Commandry No. 60, Nicholville Elk Lodge No. 57, also representatives from Norwood and Chateaugay were present and assisted at the burial service in Winthrop cemetery. The large assemblage at the funeral and the abundant contribution of rare and beautiful flowers gave evidence of the respect and esteem with which he was held in the community in which he lived. Pleasant affable and obliging to all as friend, neighbor and business associate he will be mourned and missed.

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Transcribed on 15 Apr 2009 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY