

[Sayer, Edward]

Edward Sayer

The death of Edward Sayer, which occurred at the family home, No. 31 Varick street, early yesterday morning, removes one of the oldest residents and business men of Oswego. Mr. Sayer was 91 years old, April 10 last. He was born on a Good Friday, this year being the first time that his birthday had come on Good Friday. Mr. Sayer contracted a cold several days ago and on Tuesday last was forced to take to his bed. He retained his faculties until the last and was able to converse with those about him almost to the last. Members of the family were at his bedside when the end came.

Mr. Sayer was a native of Norwich, Eng., but when eight years old his parents emigrated to the United States. Landing at Boston, the family traveled thence to Dekalb Junction in St. Lawrence county. There they settled, Mr. Sayer securing his early education in the district school during the winters when opportunity offered. At 21 years Mr. Sayer came to Oswego and secured employment in the Oswego Starch factory, then a new enterprise in Oswego. He remained with the company fifty-two years, holding positions of the highest responsibility during that time.

Mr. Sayer established the grocery firm of E. Sayer & Son at Murray and West First streets in 1876 and retained his interest in the business until the end. Mr. Sayer was not active in the business for several years, it being conducted by his son, Frank E. Sayer, as proprietor.

Mr. Sayer was a Universalist in religious profession and about thirty years ago organized the Church of Our Father, a Universalist body. There were few of that faith in Oswego but through the untiring efforts and generous aid of Mr. Sayer a church was built in West Second street, near the postoffice [sic]. It is now used by the First Church of Christ, Scientist.

Mr. Sayer was a Republican in politics but declined to engage in political controversy. He was a man of strong determination and force of character, honorable in all his dealings and honored and respected by those who knew him in his long life.

Surviving Mr. Sayer are two daughters, Miss Ella Sayer of Oswego and Mrs. Charles Tiffit of Syracuse; five sons, William Sayer of Indianapolis, James A. Sayer of Haverhill, Mass., Frank E., George and Charles E. Sayer of Oswego; one sister, Mrs. James McBride of Rensselaer Falls, and a brother, Ira Sayer of Dekalb.

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