

[Sherwin, John]

FORMER CANTON MAN SUICIDE NEAR M'GRAW

John Sherwin, 47, Hangs Himself in Barn After Long Period of Despondency
LOST ALL HIS MONEY

Also Brooded Over Death of His Mother Three Years Ago
—Went to McGraw in August as Parker's Employee

CORTLAND, Dec.12.—The body of John Sherwin, 47, electrical worker employed in McGraw, was found Tuesday noon hanging from a beam in a barn on the Rowell-Goodell farm a mile southeast of Gorton city. Sherwin had gone to the farm to wire the barn in preparation for further lighting the farm buildings. His body was found in the haymow when Mr. Goodell went to call the man for dinner. It was hanging by a rope from one of the rafters and Sherwin had been dead some time.

Despondency over loss of a considerable sum of money and the death of his mother three years ago had preyed on Sherwin's mind since that time, his acquaintances said. For the past few days he had been acting strangely and several doctors had made preparations to conduct a mental and physical examination of his condition.

Whether this may have been a contributing factor to the man's act is not known. Coroner W. A. Smith of Newfield, Tompkins county, gave a verdict of suicide and the body was taken down by Dr. John Van Marter, health officer of Groton and released to the undertaking rooms of Alvin Booth of Groton.

Surviving Sherwin are his father, H. C. Sherwin; a sister, Mrs. Ida Rice of Canton; a brother, Floyd Sherwin of Syracuse. Sherwin formerly lived in Pine street, Canton, his home. He was for a number of years manager of the Service Appliance electrical establishment in Canton, and worked under Roy Parker, now of McGraw, his district superintendent.

In August, Sherwin came to McGraw to enter the employ of Parper [Parker], now conducting an electrical store in that village. Parker told the coroner that Sherwin's mother had died and he had lost his money the same week three years ago, causing despondency from which he never recovered.

Sherwin had been in excellent health since coming to McGraw, but his queer conduct during the past week led to friends' decision to have physicians examine him. Less than a year ago William Goodell, father of the present farm proprietor, was found a suicide on the same farm.

Sherwin was a member of Potsdam Lodge of the Masonic order and of the Universalist church at McGraw.

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