

[Steen, Nellie Spalding]

MIDDLEPORT WOMAN, DESPONDENT SUICIDE, TO BE BURIED FRIDAY
Mrs. Steen To Be Laid At Rest In Mountain Ridge Cemetery

Funeral services will be conducted at three o'clock tomorrow afternoon at the late home and a half hour later at the First Universalist Church, Middleport, for Mrs. Nellie Steen, wife of Thomas H. Steen, prominent Middleport grocer, who yesterday committed suicide by hanging herself by a rope in the attic of the Steen home in South Main street, that village.

All Middleport and vicinity was genuinely shocked when news of the result of the woman's long time despondency became known, for she had taken a prominent part for many years in the church, fraternal and social life of her home town.

Her lifeless body was found by her mother, Mrs. Harriet Spalding, 92 years old, who resided with her, not more than fifteen minutes after Mrs. Steen had bade her husband goodbye as he was leaving for his store.

Dr. T. A. Addy was called, and pronouncing Mrs. Steen dead, summoned Coroner Ferdinand A. Kittinger of this city, who issued a certificate of death by suicide.

Mrs. Steen suffered a nervous breakdown about a year ago, and since then had been confined to the house, most of the time under the care of a trained nurse. [On] Tuesday, she was taken to the General Hospital in Buffalo, for a medical examination as to her condition, and she was to have returned there yesterday for a period of observation.

Born at Ridgeway, Orleans county, sixty-one years ago, Mrs. Steen had resided in Middleport and vicinity all of her lifetime. She was a member of the First Universalist church of Middleport, in which she took an active part, serving as treasurer of the missionary society for several years and as superintendent of the cradle roll department. She was also an active member of Purity Rebekah lodge and of Princess Chapter, O.E.S., and held the affection and esteem of a wide circle of friends.

Besides her husband, she is survived by her mother, a sister, Mrs. Harriet Harrington of Middleport, and a daughter, Mrs. Daniel Tickner of Buffalo.

The funeral will be conducted by the Rev. Clarence J. Cowing of Middleport and burial will be in Mountain Ridge cemetery.

Lockport Union-Sun & Journal, Lockport NY, Thu. 18 Jul 1929