

[Tomlinson, J. Frank]

TRAGIC DEATH OF J.F. TOMLINSON
Drowned in Mill Race Last Monday Afternoon
PROBABLY LOST HIS BALANCE
Engaged in Working on His Lawn on Bank of Race Beside His Home

Another of the shocking tragedies which evidence the uncertainty of life occurred early last Monday afternoon when Frank Tomlinson was drowned in the shallow mill race which runs from the Middle Pond along the north side of his residence property on South Center street.

Since his daughter Agnes left for a visit with her sister at Cleveland, O., about ten days ago, Mr. Tomlinson has been taking his meals with his sister, Mrs. W.A. [Nellie] Gillett, who lives next door on the south. After dinner he took his sickle and weed digger to work on the bank of the mill race. As near as can be judged, he either became dizzy or lost his balance and fell into the race, striking his head upon a stone or some other object.

His body was discovered in the water by two small boys, apparently only a short time after the accident. They gave the alarm at once and a crowd of people soon gathered, the first on the scene being men from Cole & Houghton's Perry Garage, a short distance away, and they took the body from the water. Medical assistance was immediately summoned, but to no avail.

The deceased was the eldest of two children of the late George and Marion Tomlinson, and was born in Pavilion on Dec. 20th, 1852. In the fall of 1870 the family removed to Perry and made their home here. Soon afterward, Mr. Tomlinson became engaged in the milling business in the large flour mill on the corner of Mill and South Center streets.

Frank was educated at Perry Academy, and after leaving school he entered into business with his father under the firm name of Tomlinson & Son. After his father's death, the business was incorporated, and owing to his failing health, active management has been in charge of H.P. Jenks for several years.

On June 4, 1879, he was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Root of Concord, Mich. Three children were born to them, all of whom survive, viz: Mrs. Irene Jackson of Cleveland, O.; Miss Agnes Tomlinson of Perry; and Sprague, of Parsons, Kas. Mrs. Tomlinson died in March, 1910. Besides his children he is survived by his sister, Mrs. Nellie Gillett of Perry.

Mr. Tomlinson was a member of the First Universalist Church of Perry since young manhood. Never in good health, he did not take an active part in civic affairs, but he was public-spirited and a supporter of community enterprises. He will be missed by many friends who sympathize with the bereaved family in their sudden affliction.

[Tomlinson, J. Frank]

Funeral services will be held at the family residence at 3 o'clock this afternoon, conducted by Rev. Clara Morgan of Hornell, his pastor for 15 years, assisted by Rev. W. [William] J. Metz of Perry. Interment will be made in Hope Cemetery.

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Transcribed on 16 Sep 2011 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY