## [Weller, Lester M.]

## LESTER M. WELLER, PROMINENT FORT PLAIN LAWYER, FOUND DEAD IN BATHROOM OF HOME

Discovered by His Daughter, Alice F. Weller Three Hours After He Had Succumbed to a Heart Attack; Was Member of Masonic Lodge, Montgomery County Bar Association, Fort Plain Club and Universalist Church

FORT PLAIN, Nov 15—Succumbing to a heart attack, Lester M. Weller, 75, widely known Fort Plain attorney, was found dead in the bathroom of his home on West street at 8 A.M. by his daughter, Alice F. Weller. His death, which occurred wholly unexpectedly, brings deep sorrow to the community where he spent most of his useful life.

Miss Weller heard her father enter the bathroom about 5 A.M. She thought he had returned to his bedroom, until she opened the bathroom door and found him lying dead on the floor. Mr. Weller had been in apparently good health and had retired in the finest of spirits.

Born May 12, 1856, at Salt Springville, Town of Minden, Montgomery county, Attorney Weller was the son of the late Jordan and Anna Marie Diefendorf Weller. He had resided in Fort Plain since he was 10 years of age.

Attorney Weller was educated in the Fort Plain schools, later being admitted to the bar while still a young man. Most of his practice has been in the Surrogate Court.

About 30 years ago, Mr. Weller entered into a law partnership with Judge Joseph L. Moore of this village under the name, Weller & Moore. The partnership was later dissolved, each partner then establishing his own law office.

Attorney Weller was a member of the Fort Plain Masonic lodge, the Montgomery County Bar association, the Fort Plain club and the Universalist church.

When the old Clinton Liberal Institute was in existence 31 years ago, Mr. Weller served the school as treasurer. He was also a former trustee of the Universalist church and a former member of the Board of Directors of the Fort Plain National bank.

Surviving are one daughter, Alice F. Weller; one sister, Mrs. Lucy Miller of Fort Plain, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 P.M. Wednesday at the home. The Rev. Rufus H. Dix, pastor of the Fort Plain Universalist church will officiate. Interment will be made in the Fort Plain cemetery.

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Transcribed on 25 Aug 2011 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY