

[Wickens, William]

William Wickens

Surely death has been reaping a rich harvest of late, for it seems but a short time since that our business men consisted entirely of those who had spent almost their entire lives in and about Frankfort. But they are nearly all gone—passed through the gate which only opens inward.

And now we are called on to announce the departure of another who for fifty years, has been identified with this village: its growth, prosperity and welfare.

At his home on East Main street on Tuesday morning of this week, the spirit of William Wickens passed from its tenement of clay here to its giver on high. William Wickens was born in Kent, England, 78 years ago and came to this country when a young man of 18. He came to Frankfort where he became acquainted with Miss Anna Evans of Frankfort Hill, whom he married in his early manhood, and who survives him after over half a century of happy wedded life. Mr. and Mrs. Wickens went to Chicago, where they resided for a few years, later returning to this village, where they have since made their home. Mr. Wickens opened a carriage and wagon factory here, and his wagons had a large sale throughout his section. He had a wide acquaintance and was esteemed by all, and the family will have the sympathy of a large circle of friends in their bereavement.

Three years ago Mr. Wickens suffered a stroke of paralysis and since that time had been in feeble health, although able to be about most of the time and had been seen on our streets almost daily. At that time he gave up the carriage industry and also the livery business which he conducted in connection with it. Monday he had been around as usual and Tuesday evening went out into the yard, where he fell. His call for help was heard and he was assisted to the house, but he gradually failed until the end came at 1 o'clock Tuesday morning. Besides his widow, there survive five children, Charles Wickens of Syracuse, Clarence Wickens of New York, Harry Wickens, Gertrude Wickens and Mrs. William Dennis of this village.

The funeral services were largely attended from his late residence on Thursday afternoon, the Rev. George Cross Baner of the Universalist church officiating. The floral offerings were beautiful and numerous. Charles T. Gloo of Herkimer sang, in a most pleasing manner, "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere," and "One Sweetly Solemn Thought." The bearers were C. W. Nipe, James Patterson, Wm. Birch, Chas. M. Rich, A. G. Getman and H. H. Ingham. The members of the Masonic order had charge, Mr. Wickens having been a member of Olive Branch Lodge many years.

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