

[Wood, Elwin Wellington]

Death of E. W. Wood

Elwin Wellington Wood of Fort Plain died Thursday afternoon in the Homeopathic Hospital in Utica at the age of 86 years. Mr. Wood, who has been in feeble health for a number of years past, went to the institution several days since for the relief from kidney difficulty from which he had suffered for months past. An operation was performed.

The deceased was a native of Middlefield, Otsego County, being born there March 25, 1820. He was the youngest of four children. His father was a farmer and his early life was spent in agricultural pursuits. He received his education during the winter months in the district school. Later he attended the Clinton Liberal Institute at Clinton. In the year of 1840 he went to Fort Plain and engaged in the grocery business as clerk. In 1842 he became a member of the firm of Davis & Wood of Cooperstown. In 1844 he disposed of his business interests there and went to Fort Plain where he was interested in the wholesale and retail grocery business until 1881 in the store now occupied by Will J. Diefendorf. During this time he had several partners. He retired in 1881. The deceased was one of the organizers of the Fort Plain Bank. When the institution became the Fort Plain National Bank he was elected president, a position he held for many years. Mr. Wood was an active factor in bringing the Spring & Axle Works from Springfield Center to Fort Plain. He was one of the principal factors in bringing Clinton Liberal Institute at [to] Fort Plain. The institution burned to the ground in 1897, and was never rebuilt. He was an officer and stockholder in the Fort Plain Gas and Electric Light Company for many years, and later president and heavy stockholder in the Fort Plain Knitting Company, now owned and operated by Charles Bailey & Sons. He was a member of the Church of the Messiah (Universalist) and for many years a trustee of the society.

In politics Mr. Wood was a Republican but never sought after political honors. He married for his first wife Emily, daughter of Herbert Coburn. The surviving children are Herbert C. of Fort Plain, Albert S. of Chicago Heights, and Emma, wife of E. E. Elwood of South Bethlehem, Pa. His second wife was Alice, daughter of Chandler D. Faulkner of Utica, and one son survives, Chandler of Boston.

The funeral was largely attended from his late home Sunday afternoon, Rev. L. [Louis] J. Richards officiating. The remains were placed in the Fort Plain Cemetery.

*St. Johnsville News*, St. Johnsville NY, Wed. 8 Nov 1905