

[Babcock, Chester]

Pioneer Resident of the County Passes Away

Chester Babcock, one of the oldest and most respected citizens of Cortland county, died at fifteen minutes past 6 o'clock yesterday morning at his home, 55 Elm st. Mr. Babcock was born in the town of Solon 78 years ago and has always been a resident of the county. He afterwards lived in McGrawville and in 1866 removed to Cortland where he has since resided. He was educated in the public schools of his native town and at Mexico academy. In 1839 he was married to Miss Laverne Merrill and their golden wedding was celebrated six years ago. While a resident of McGrawville Mr. Babcock interested himself in the manufacture of stone pumps and was also instrumental in securing pensions for many survivors of the Revolution and the war of 1812. Of late years his health has been feeble and four months ago to-day he suffered a shock [stroke] from which he never fully recovered. He was a man respected and honored by all who knew him and his death removes one of the few men of his age who have been instrumental in and have watched the development of the county almost from its beginning.

Mrs. Babcock survives him. He leaves one brother, George Babcock of Syracuse, a daughter, Mrs. John D. Benton of Fargo, N.D., and a son, John A. Babcock of Minneapolis, Minn. Mrs. Benton and Mr. Babcock arrived this morning from the West to attend the funeral which will be held from the family residence at 1:30 o'clock P.M. to-morrow. The funeral services will be in charge of Rev. H. [Herbert] W. Carr, pastor of the Universalist church, and interment will be made in Cortland Rural cemetery.

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