

JOSEPH LURVEY

Waukesha Freeman, Thursday, February 18, 1909 | Page 1

CALL CAME SUDDENLY

Postmaster Lurvey Dies at Eagle without warning

Was well half hour earlier

So Esteemed and Beloved in Village that Death causes great and general grief.

Eagle, Feb. 16- At his village home on Thursday afternoon, Feb. 11, occurred the death of Postmaster Joseph J. Lurvey. The summons came so suddenly that the friends and neighbors listened with unbelieving ears to the message that was passed along that Mr. Lurvey was dead. many had seen him less than a half hour before pass down the road on his way home fro the post office. His jovial greeting to those he met gave no warning of the stilled heart beat so soon to come. He passed into the living room, lay down on the couch and life went out. Without a struggle, without suffering, he went to his final sleep.

Joseph J. Lurvey was born in Avon, Livingston county, N. Y., April 22, 1837, and came with his parents to Wisconsin in the fall of 1844, settling the next spring on section 15, town of Ottawa, where he grew to manhood. He enlisted in Company A, 1st Wisconsin cavalry, August, 1861, and after being in several engagements, was discharged for disability in September, 1862. He was married to Mary J. Reed, New Year's Eve, 1863, and continued to reside in the town of Ottawa up to the time of their moving to this village in 1895. He was appointed postmaster of Eagle in 1897, continuing in office until his death. He held positions of trust in Ottawa and has been a most excellent postmaster here.

Four children, Mrs. Fred Jacobson of Delafeld, Misses Christine and Mabel at home, and Charles of Milwaukee, survive him; also one sister, Mrs. William Probert, and one brother, John C. Lurvey, both of Ottawa.

Funeral services were held at the residence Sunday afternoon. "Nearer My God to Thee", and "Abide with Me" were given by the beautiful young voice of Roy Aplin, one of the boy friends of Ottawa.

Fitting and impressive remarks were made by Rev. E. B. Boggess of Palmyra. He took for his theme, "The Greatness of Gentleness," likening that characteristic in the deceased to that of Abraham Lincoln to whose greatness America has so recently paused to pay its tribute.

All of the home G. A. R. comrades who could brave the weather were there, and followed their soldier friend to his last resting place. The storm prevented many from coming for a last mark of respect to one they highly esteemed, but they were there in thought and sympathy. The bearers were neighbors from the Ottawa home and with

the keenest sorrow they laid their friend in Oak Ridge cemetery beside his wife, who was taken, from him a little over a year ago.

The writer has no words to adequately express the greatness, the success of Mr. Lurvey's life. To leave accumulated a large fortune does not mean success. To have one's name pushed before the public does not alone make a success, but to have lived the life that throws its tenderness, its fine mental qualities, its rare judgment, its broad, earnest truth into the hearts of all so fortunate as to know him, is a success surpassing all others.

It is a beautiful life that rounds out seventy-two years so filled with the noble and fine attributes of humanity that those who come within the radius of its influence are made the better for it. His was the standard of an honest man and from it he never wavered. As counselor, friend, neighbor and citizen, as well as father and brother, he will be long remembered and greatly missed.