

# FRED OSCAR STILES

DIED JUNE 20, 1923

Fred Oscar Stiles, a prominent citizen and well-known orchardist, died suddenly Wednesday afternoon from heart failure and excessive heat. The incredible news spread rapidly throughout the community and not less quickly were the expressions of sympathy conveyed to the widow, the young daughter, and the mother in their bereavement. Mr. Stiles had been apparently in usual health when without a moment's warning and evidently without pain the transition came.

The funeral will be held from his late home at the Common Saturday afternoon, June 23, and Rev. Herbert L. Caulkins of Hopkinton, N. H., a former pastor and neighbor of the family will officiate at the service.

Mr. Stiles, son of William O. and Katherine (McCarthy) Stiles, was born in Westford January 24, 1868. He attended the Westford schools and as a young man entered the employ of Hartwell & Hosmer for whom he worked thirty-two years—a long period that needs no comment. His interest in orcharding and his extensive investments in orchards in Littleton and neighboring towns finally required all his time and for several years of late he has devoted his time largely to the care and the harvesting and marketing of fruit.

In 1900 Mr. Stiles married Miss Maggie Langille. For a few years previous to his marriage and ever since he made his home at the Common, where he replaced his first house after its destruction by fire by the present attractive residence built on the same site. Two children have blessed the home—Allan, a promising youth who died in February, 1920, and Thelma Elizabeth. He leaves a brother, Elmer Stiles, of Acton.

In former years Mr. Stiles had been identified with a few orders, but had taken out his membership. He spent much time with his family to whom he was affectionately devoted and for a term of years he held the offices of selectman and overseer of the poor. Through qualifications that make for progress Mr. Stiles developed into a prosperous business man and worthy citizen, and he is known throughout all the towns in this section of the state where his reputation has established for him the friendship of a large circle of acquaintances.