

Charles S. Downs.

Shortly before noon last Friday Charles S. Downs was seized with a heart attack at his home on Washington street and death resulted instantly. The announcement of his death was received by the community with startling suddenness and seemed almost unbelievable, as he had been about various places of town only a few hours before the report came of the fatal attack. Returning home from a walk down town to make some purchases he went upstairs where a short time later his lifeless body was found at the entrance to the bathroom by his daughter, Mrs. Woodruff. It was apparent that death had come instantly.

Mr. Downs was the oldest native male resident of Hackettstown. He celebrated his ninetieth birthday September 12 last and a family gathering marked the event. Despite his advanced age his health was remarkable, although of recent years the infirmities of old age had somewhat undermined his health. The long life of Mr. Downs in Hackettstown had made him one of the most familiar and best known men of the town. He enjoyed a long life and the end came as he would have had it without a lingering and painful illness incident to the dissolution of the immortal from a body physically incapacitated through years of service.

His wife, whose name was Price, died about eighteen years ago. He is survived by the following children: Assemblyman George W. Downs of Madison, Sylvan B. Downs of Freehold, A. P. Downs of Long Valley and Mrs. William H. Woodruff of this place.

Funeral services were held Monday morning from his late home and were conducted by Rev. Warren R. Neff, pastor of Trinity M. E. Church, of which Mr. Downs had been a member many years. Interment was in the family plot in Union Cemetery.

The Hackettstown Gazette: December 9, 1921

NAME: Charles S. Downs

DATE OF DEATH: December 2, 1921