

RICHARD O. SMITH

Last Friday, April 3d, 1891 at about 10 o'clock am Mr. Richard O. Smith, owner of the Sidney House, feeling usually well, was engaged in sweeping out the barn connected with the house, when he was seen to throw up his hands and immediately dropped to the floor. Help was immediately summoned and he was carried to his residence a few rods distant. Dr. Dwell was called, but when he arrived the unfortunate man was dead, probably dying on the way to his house. Dr. J. E. Wilson was also called, but he was beyond the reach of aid when the doctor arrived. Apoplexy was the probable cause of death.

Deceased was born at Greenfield, Wayne Co., Mich., November 4, 1827, and was consequently in his 64th year. He removed with his father to this county, locating on the farm 3 ¼ miles southwest of Rochester, now owned by J. M. Norton. He afterward, on the partition of the farm, removed to the corner, one-quarter mile east. In 1850 he married Miss Esther J. Anderson of Avon, who survives him. He was by this union, the father of three children – one son and two daughters – the latter dying at the age of 4 years, the other at 18, is the son, Henry, surviving.

About four years ago Mr. Smith, by the death of a brother, came into the possession of about \$80,000. The citizens raising 81,000 to purchase the site formerly occupied by the old Pavilion House, he erected the present fine brick hotel, which he named in honor of his deceased brother, calling it the Sidney House. At the time of Mr. R. O. Smith's death, the hotel was, and now is, in possession of A. A. Briggs, Mr. Smith and wife occupying a house owned by him on the hotel premises, the two boarding at the hotel.

The funeral services were held at the Cong'l Church last Monday at 2 o'clock pm, Rev. P. Schermerhorn officiating, and the remains interred in Rochester Cemetery.

Newspaper Clipping 1891
Mt. Avon Cemetery Records