

John W. Seymour

Born Sands Creek, Cannonsville, Delaware Co., NY
25 Jul 1863 – 14 Mar 1945

From "A History of the Seymour Family" by Oakley A. Seymour, 1933:

"John W. Seymour, fourth and youngest son of Alonzo and Josephine Seymour, was born in the old log house on Sands Creek, July 25th 1868. he was rather a puny baby and during his early childhood was sick a large part of the time, but grew up to be quite a healthy man, although never quite as rugged as his brothers. He attended the Christianville district school and part of one year he attended Hancock High School, when his eyes got so poor that he had to quit school altogether. Although he was not what would be called a brilliant scholar, he excelled in mathematics, an accomplishment that came in good play later in life in his business affairs. He lived with his parents until a few months before he was 20 years old, when he married Effie C. Shackelton on March 29th, 1888, and lived with his parents until sometime the next summer or fall, when they moved to Sands Creek on his brother Ziba's farm. They lived there until the spring of 1902, when they quit the farm, never to live on a farm again. Some time in the summer of 1902, he hired out to Edward Inderlied of Rock Rift, to work in a store there. After working for some time, he bought the store business and continued to run it until the panic of '95 forced him to quit and let the store go back to Inderlied. For awhile he was un-settled and did not know hardly what to do, but finally moved to Hancock and worked for his brother Irvin, going from there to Starlight, Pa. to work for the Starlight Dairy Co. They ran a store and a large farm, besides dealing in prop timber, stone, and anything the surrounding farmers had to sell. He was the successful manager of all the business, and after awhile he began to do some business on the side for himself, dealing mostly in prop timber and bark and added a little to his income in this way. After some time he went into the business of handling lumber and props, moving to Scranton, Pa. where they lived for some time. He moved from there to Ho-Ho-Kus, N. J. where he went into the real estate business on quite a large scale, in partnership with a man by the name of Sherwood. Eventually the business collapsed in some way and left him practically down and out again. While living in Ho-Ho-Kus, his wife Effie, had a very serious surgical operation, which she survived and lived a number of years afterward. They left Ho-Ho-Kus and moved back to Scranton, where he got a position as salesman for the Lutz & Schramm Co. for whom he worked for two or three years, getting a sales territory in Southern Pa. and moving to Lancaster. After some time there, he got a selling territory around Wilks-Barre to which place he moved and rented a house in Kingston, a suburb just across the Susquehanna River from Wilks-Barre. Here he lived for several years, living in three different places in that village. In May, 1929, he and his wife took a trip up into Delaware Co., N.Y. visiting relatives there. They were gone about a week or two and returned to their home in Kingston on Sunday evening. She was taken with a bad spell the next evening and died almost immediately. After her funeral, his daughter Lillian and her

husband (Giles Ludwig), who were living in Scranton at that time, moved down to Kingston, and lived with him there until April 1, 1931 when they all moved back to Scranton. While still living in Kingston, he quit the Lutz & Schramm Co. and got a position as salesman for the Schooley Lumber Co. of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. which he filled for two or more years, when he went into the business of buying and selling lumber in connection with his cousin Sanford W. Seymour of Sidney, N.Y. He was still in that business when, on Sept. 22, 1932 he had a serious auto accident, completely demolishing his car and nearly killing him. He was taken to a hospital in Kingston and was there for several weeks, until he was able to be moved to his home in Scranton, where he is now slowly recovering his health. He is an Odd Fellow and a Mason, but I do not know whether he is in good standing with both the orders or not. He has always been well liked wherever he has lived, helpful and kind to all, and will be missed when he passes into the great beyond."