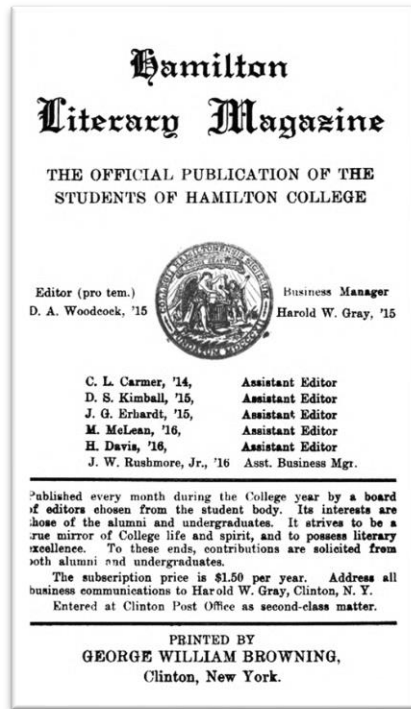


Frank Dwight Westcott (1858 to 1914)

Hamilton Alumnus

Following is a transcription of the necrology in the [Hamilton \(College\) Literary Magazine, June 1914](#) profiling Frank D. Westcott, Class of 1881.



Necrology, Class of 1881

Frank D. Westcott was born in Oneonta, Otsego Co., September 7, 1858, the son of Stephen S. and Philinda A. Brown Westcott, and died in Utica, N.Y., May 26, 1914. In 1867 he moved to Clinton with his parents and graduated from the Clinton Grammar School in June, 1877. The following autumn he entered Hamilton College as a member of the class of 1881, but two years later went to Utica and entered the employ of Hugh Glenn & Co. as a clerk in the mail order department, where he remained one year. During the next two years he was bookkeeper for Miller & Fincke, and later held a similar position in the wholesale clothing house of Tucker, Calder & Co. for about six years.

January 24, 1890, he formed a partnership with Henry F. Miller, as Miller & Westcott, and engaged in the coal business. This firm was dissolved the following year when, with Elmer E. Parker he formed the firm of Westcott & Parker, which continued until July, 1894, after which he conducted the business alone, dealing in coal, wood, flour, feed, etc., until 1896. Then he established the Westcott Laundry, in which enterprise he put his best efforts until the end. Mr. Westcott took an active interest in various fraternal organizations. He was a member of Faxton Lodge, No. 687, F.& A. M., and Oneida Lodge, No. 70, I.O.O.F., and was one of the leading figures in Royal Arcanum circles. He became a member of Imperial Council, No. 70, Utica, in December, 1882, and the same evening was elected secretary of the council, serving until 1885, when he was made regent for three years. Later he was designated as representative of Imperial Council to the annual convention of the grand council held in Ithaca, and at that meeting he was elected grand guide. He passed through all the chairs of the grand council, being finally elected as grand regent of the state. This office to hold for two terms. Afterward he was elected a New York State delegate to

the supreme council, which included representatives from all parts of the United States and Canada. Then came his election as grand treasurer of the state body, a position which he held for sixteen years. He was a member of the committee appointed to entertain the grand council at its annual convention in Utica April 28.

While living in Minton Mr. Westcott was for years a correspondent of the Utica Morning Herald. He was alert and energetic, and could be depended upon to cover any occurrence within a radius of miles of that village. No man in the Arcanum order was better known than he all over the United States, and no man had done more to promote its welfare, especially during its early years than he. He had instituted most of the councils in Oneida and adjoining counties, and he was thoughtful enough to keep the newspapers informed regarding any occurrence of importance in Arcanum circles. He not only looked after the welfare of the order as a whole, but he visited the sick among the members of local councils. The work which he did for the Arcanum order was prodigious, but with him it was a labor of love.

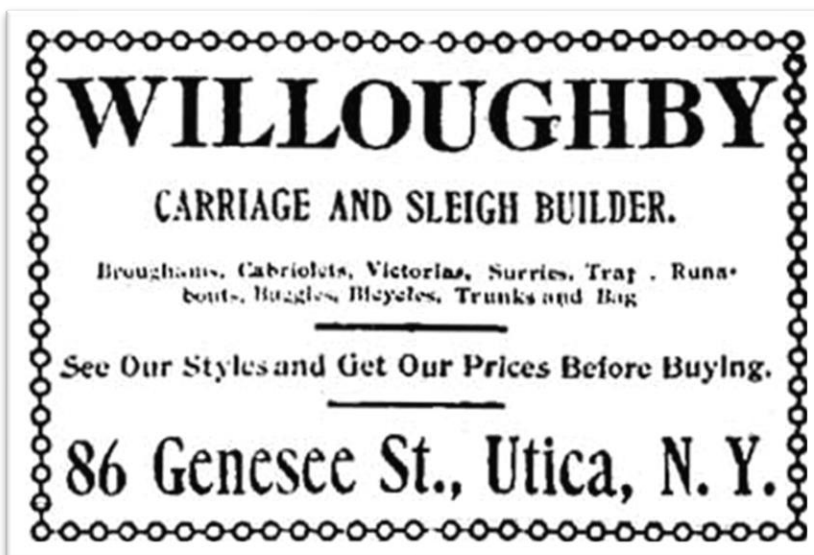
He had a fine summer home at the Thousand Island Park on the St. Lawrence, where his family spent each summer, and where he spent the week ends. Mr. Westcott was one of the organizers of the Corn Hill Building & Loan Association, and had also served as secretary and director of the Utica Carriage Company. He was also a member of the Arcanum Club, of which he was the first president. A cordial disposition and attractive social qualities won him many friends, and the secret of his success in business was his energy, determination and honesty. Mr. Westcott married Miss Libbie Cronkhite, of Little Falls, February 21, 1882, and their only child, William Carlton Westcott, was graduated from Hamilton College in 1911. Since then he has been associated with his father in business.

Frank Dwight Westcott (1858 to 1914) **Utica Business Man**

Following is an excerpt from a profile of [E.A. Willoughby Carriage & Sleigh Works](#) and successor companies describing Frank Westcott's various business interests including the Utica Carriage Company.

Although Utica had a number of well-established vehicle builders, including Charles J. Childs, whose firm is covered elsewhere in this encyclopedia, Irvin's eldest son wished to establish his own carriage works and a stock company named the Utica Carriage Company was organized. Charles I. Williams served as president; **Frank D. Westcott**, secretary; and Myron W. Van Auken, treasurer and attorney.

Frank D. Westcott was a clerk/accountant by trade who dabbled in various other Utica businesses including Westcott & Killian, publishers; Miller & Westcott (later Westcott & Parker) coal dealers; and the Westcott Laundry Co. Myron W. Van Auken was a well-known Utica attorney who specialized in corporate law and served on the boards of numerous Utica businesses.



The sale of stock provided for the construction of a modern 75 ft. by 150 ft. factory at the northwest corner of Dwyer Avenue and Turner Street, Utica, a hundred yards west of the city line and adjacent to the New York Central rail lines and Erie Canal. The four-story brick building

had a capacity for turning out 800 to 1000 carriages/bodies a year and could easily furnish employment for fifty to one hundred craftsmen, many of whom lived in the German community of Frankfort which was located along the canal just to the east.

An 1894 inspection by the State of New York revealed that the firm employed 30 males, who worked a standard 60 hour week. The March 1896 issue of The Hub listed the firm's directors:

"At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Utica Carriage Co., held February 1st, the following directors were elected: C. I. Williams, W. T. Atwood, M. W. Van Auken, R. Richards, F. D. Westcott, John B. Wild and C. W. Hackett. The Directors elected the following officers: President, C. I. Williams; Vice-President, John B. Wild; Secretary, F. D. Westcott; Treasurer. M. W. Van Auken."

The director's main line of work follows: John B. Wild. pres., Oneida Knitting Mills, Utica; W.T. Atwood, pres. Utica Knitting Co., Oriskany Falls, N.Y.; C.W. Hackett was a partner with Atwood in Hackett & Atwood, another knitting mill located in Stittville, N.Y., and also owned a half-share in R. Marcy & Co., a railroad coal supplier based in Utica, N.Y.; R. Richards was pres. of R. Richards and Son, builders, Utica, N.Y.

The factory commenced operations in mid-1894, with its first advertisement appearing in the Utica papers June 30, 1894.

FRANK D. WESTCOTT

(Following is a biographical sketch of Frank Dwight Westcott (1858-1914) excerpted from: Ancestry.com. *History of Oneida County, New York: from 1700 to the present time* [database on-line]. Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2005. Original data: Henry J. Cookinham. *History of Oneida County, New York: from 1700 to the present time*. Chicago: S.J. Clarke, 1912; Volume II, page 24)

Frank D. Westcott, meeting with success in the management of the Westcott Laundry, and well known as a representative of some of the leading fraternal organizations of Utica, was born in Oneonta, Otsego County, New York, September 7, 1858. His parents were Stephen S. and Philinda (Brown) Westcott, who removed to Clinton, Oneida County, in 1867, so that the subject of this review has spent the greater part of his life in the county which is still his home. At the usual age he entered the public schools and passed through consecutive grades until qualified to enter Hamilton College. He was a member of the class of 1881. After leaving college he came to Utica in the same year, engaging in the coal business. A considerable period was devoted to that line of activity, but in 1896 he established the Westcott Laundry which he has conducted with profit to the present time. He has a well-equipped plant and a competent corps of employees and in his work demands a high standard of excellence, ever recognizing the fact that satisfied customers are the best advertisements. His trade has grown along legitimate lines and his success is well deserved.

On the 21st of February 1882, Mr. Westcott was married to Miss Libbie Cronkhite, a daughter of James W. and Elizabeth Appleton (York) Cronkhite, of Little Falls, New York. Their only child, a son, William Carlton Westcott, was graduated from Hamilton College with the class of 1911. Mr. Westcott has taken an active interest in various fraternities. He belongs to Faxton Lodge, No. 697, F. & A. M., and Oneida Lodge, No. 70, 1. O. O. F. He is very prominent in the Royal Arcanum, which he has represented as grand treasurer of the state organization for the past fourteen years. He is also a member of the Arcanum Club of Utica, of which he was the first president. A cordial disposition and attractive social qualities have won him many friends and the secret of his success in business is found in his energy, determination, and straightforward dealing.