

Benjamin H. Fickes, (2 Oct 1841 – 22 Sep 1901), Newport News, Thursday, September 26, 1901

Benjamin H. Fickes, a well known and highly respected citizen, died Sunday evening about 8 o'clock, of a complication of diseases, consisting principally of nervous and heart troubles, at the home of his son-in-law, **W. H. Kepner**. Although his illness covered a period of three years, his health had not been such as to cause his friends unusual alarm until Friday morning, when he was found in a semi-conscious condition in bed with symptoms of paralysis. He subsequently revived to some extent and could talk, when he expressed a desire "to go home and rest," He bore all his afflictions with Christian patience and fortitude, lying motionless from 3 p.m. Saturday until his death. He was a son of **Henry** and **Rebecca Leah Fickes**, both of whom are dead and was born on the **Fickes** homestead, in Juniata township, October 2, 1841.

He and **Miss Mary E. Smith** were united in marriage November 23, 1865. The fruit of this union was four children, one of whom is dead. Those surviving are **Mrs. Kepner**, **Councilman J. Frank Fickes** and **Miss Carrie Fickes**. His wife, who is a daughter of **Henry Smith** of this place, also survives. His surviving brothers are **A. J. Fickes** of Harrisburg, **Gibson Fickes** of this place, **Mrs. John Horting** of Middle Ridge, **Mrs. Baltzer Lesh** of Juniata Township, **Mrs. T. C. Sanderson** of Harrisburg, and **Mrs. Theodore Leas** of Camden, N.J.

He had been engaged in the grain business for thirty-five years, four years of which period were spent in Harrisburg, where he and his brother **Andrew** were partners for a period of eight years. His health failing he returned to Newport three years ago, going out of business on account of ill health.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. yesterday, at the house, which was crowded with relatives and friends. Rev. Dixon H. Geiser, pastor of the Augsburg Lutheran church of Harrisburg, of which **Mr. Fickes** was a member; officiated, assisted by Rev. J. Henry Harms. The choir of the Newport Lutheran Church sang three of **Mr. Fickes** favorite hymns during the services; namely, "It is Well With My Soul." "Peace, Sweet Peace." and "Nearer My God To Thee." The pallbearers were **James B. Leiby**, **M. B. Eby**, **W. H. Toomey**, **W. N. Kahler**, **George W. Taylor**, and **J. M. Flickinger**." The interment was in Newport Cemetery.

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