

Francis Lincoln Lick (1880 - Nov 1897), Perry County Democrat, November 17, 1897

This time it is our duty to report the uncalled for fatal accident that befell **Francis Lincoln Lick** age 17 years, eldest son of **Simon Lick**. **Francis** was going to a station to meet a Altoona accommodation due at 5:18 p.m., and instead of waiting for the P. R. R. Stock train (which was shifting cars off), to clear the crossing, he attempted to cross the moving train, and one in the act of getting off the one the other side, the engineer suddenly applied his air brakes, causing the cars to give the sudden jar, which caused **Francis** to lose his hold and he was thrown on the track between the cars, the first truck passing over his right thigh and left leg; after which he raised himself endeavoring to pull his crushed limbs from the track and succeeded in getting the right leg out of the way. But the left was again run over at the ankle. By this time the train was stopped and a brakeman of the train pulled him away from further danger and he was carried to Richards boardinghouse, where the company surgeon, Dr. A. D. Van Dyke, was called. He was made as comfortable as possible and at six o'clock taken to Harrisburg Hospital, a company by the doctor and his father. **Mr. Lick** is a conductor on the Northern Central Railroad and had just arrived in time to catch the train bearing his unfortunate son. After arriving at the hospital the crushed limbs were amputated and as the second operation was about completed the vital spark took its departure. Through all his sufferings he bore up a remarkable courage, being conscious nearly all the time. In this dreadful condition he had pleasant words for those who were around him before taken away, though at times pain was agonizing.

The accident had cast a gloom over our town. **Francis** was an exemplary young man, and beloved by all his associates. His disposition was kind and his ways genial. He was quiet, unassuming and made friends to whom he came in contact. He was a member of the graduating class in the high school; also a member of Ms. Nelly Morley's class in Trinity Reform Sunday school. The funeral services were held in the Reformed Church, this afternoon. It was the largest funeral held here in many years. The public schools were closed, the high and grammar schools attending the service in a body. The floral offerings were costly and beautiful, the Sunday schools, giving the setting sun; each of the scholars from the public schools a bunch of roses; from his Sunday school class, a large bouquet of beautiful cut flowers, and W. H. Harrison, a beautiful emblem of flowers. **Mr.** and **Mrs. Lick** have a sincere sympathy of the entire community, in this very sad affliction.

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