

# ISCHUA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## HUDSON FISH, THE FIRST PERSON KNOWN TO HAVE DROWNED IN LIME LAKE

Sunday night last, a young man named Hudson Fish, aged about 23 years, was drowned with his team, in Lime Lake, under circumstances which must have been very peculiar, but which must be forever unknown. The deceased resided near the eastern shore of the lake. He started home a little before 12:00, after which he was never seen alive.

On Monday morning, the man in charge of the mill at the outlet of the lake, discovered the team in the water, headed toward the shore, unhitched from the buggy, which was also in the lake, facing from the shore. The man's hat and pocket-book were floating on the water. By dragging near where the horses were found, the drowned man was brought up.

The bank where the buggy went off is very steep, and it was conjectured by some that the deceased must have mistaken the place for one nearby where the water is quite shallow, and where he had many times before watered his team. But it seems more probable that the team became frightened at something and shied suddenly off the bank. It seems the man unhitched the tugs and loosened one horse from the neck yoke and was trying to get the horses out; but the bank being very steep they were unable to scale it and the floundering man and the horses were drowned.

The pocket-book, floating on the water, is accounted for as follows: one of the man's gloves was turned back over his hand, as it would be naturally by being drawn from the pocket, and he might have reached for his knife to cut the harness and unknowingly drawn out the pocket-book also; or, seeking to keep the pocket-book dry, he may have taken it out and put it in his hat, which when he sank, of course came off. The exact circumstances must forever remain a mystery.

A jury summoned by Coroner Parker rendered a verdict of accidental drowning. [Hudson Fish](#) is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery and on his tombstone is engraved: Hudson Fish, Drowned in Lime Lake.

Submitted by: William Watkins, Machias Deputy Town Historian

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