

CHRISTMAS JAG ENDS IN DEATH

Henry Kraft, a Farm Hand, Dies While Sleeping Off Drunken Stupor.

The lifeless form of Henry Kraft was found in his room at the home of Ed Rhodes, last Saturday evening at about 10 o'clock. He had imbibed too freely of the stuff that sometimes cheers and oftentimes inebriates.

About ten o'clock Saturday morning he went to his room to sleep off his jag, and at one o'clock he told one of the other hired men that he would get up and assist with the chores, but on being told that he need not, he again went to sleep. No more attention was paid to him until 4 o'clock when Mrs. Art Lelonde, who is the housekeeper, told her husband to arouse him. He went up stairs and Kraft, at that time, was kneeling beside the bed, with his head buried in the bed. He left him in that position, as he had seen him that way several times, when drunk. After supper the household went to the John Ebentier home to spend the evening. Upon their return, Mr. Lelonde went to awaken Kraft, and receiving no response to his calls, he picked him up and was horrified to find him cold in death. He was still in the kneeling position and had his right hand clutched over his mouth. Evidently he had been dead when Lelonde went to awaken him the first time as the finger prints in the face were plainly visible.

He had been boozing quite heavily for several days previous to his death. On Wednesday he received a gallon of alcohol and some other liquor. The alcohol had all been consumed and had then commenced on brandy. A glass of brandy was on the floor beside the bed.

The coroner being absent, Justice Rearick and States Attorney Tufte went out from Coopers-town and held the inquest. The body was shipped to the home at St. Paul, Tuesday.

Mr. Rhodes, for whom the man worked, is terribly shaken up over the affair, as several other accidents of a serious nature have happened at or near his place in the past few years.