

Citizens – A. F. Casselman  
By Barbara Bedau Brow  
White Lake Area Historical Society



*A. F. Casselman taken by A. H. Towne of Whitehall c1887-1894*

Allen Farewell Casselman was well-known in the vicinity as well as the county, in the early days of the area.

He held the office of Supervisor of Montague township for 15 consecutive years. Before that he held the office of Justice of the Peace for several terms. He was Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for two terms. In fraternal circles he was an honored member of the Masonic Lodge and the N. H. Ferry Post, G.A.R.

Casselmann was born in Vernon, Oneida, New York, 3 April 1849. He entered the 117<sup>th</sup> New York Infantry when he was just 15 years old, being the youngest member of the company. He served until the end of the Civil War. After the war he located to Pentwater.

It was in Pentwater that he met and married Miss Anna Herren, 25 July 1896. She was born in Calumet, Illinois, 28 December 1852. Three children were born to them: Julia Amanda (1872-1964), William Fredrick (1874-1952) and Caroline Louise (1878-1962). From Pentwater they moved to Canandaigua in Lenawee County where the family was listed in the 1880 census.

By 1890 they had made their way to Montague where they remained and where Allen set up his paint and wallpaper business, eventually going into business with his son.

A. F. Casselman and Son were in business together until around 1909. They operated a shop on Ferry Street just west of the original Bank building. Their house was just next door to the shop. By 1910, they had moved to a house on Water Street. His son then moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin where he conducted his own painting business.

Allen passed away at his home on 12 October 1927. Anna died in Montague 27 January 1931. They are buried in Oak Grove Cemetery along with their three children.