

[Metz, William]

WILLIAM METZ

Salisbury Center—William Metz, 90, former justice of the peace of this village until he retired in 1954, died today in his home after a long illness.

Mr. Metz also served as deputy sheriff under five sheriffs. At the time of the famous Chester Gillette murder trial, he guarded Gillette in Herkimer County Jail. Mr. Metz took Gillette to Auburn Prison, where he was executed in 1908 for the murder of Grace Brown.

He was born in Salisbury Center, Sept. 22, 1870, son of Henry and Susan Smith Metz. He married Elsa Coffin, of the Town of Russia, Dec. 25, 1890. She died in 1946.

A former constable of this village, Mr. Metz carried mail and drove a passenger stage between Stratford and Dolgeville from 1910 to 1912.

He was a Universalist.

He leaves three daughters, Mrs. Glennie Donahue, with whom he lived; Mrs. Clarence Lowell, East Herkimer and Mrs. Gertrude Leonard, Batavia; two sons, William and Howard, both of Little Falls; a brother, Frank Metz, Utica; a sister, Mrs. Sadie Springer, Miami, Fla.; several nieces and nephews, 17 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be at 2 Wednesday from the Nielson Funeral Home, Dolgeville, with the Rev. Maurice Cobb, pastor of the Universalist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Dibble-Tuttle Cemetery.

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Transcribed on 18 Feb 2009 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY