

[Austin, William E.]

SCIPIO

The death of Wm. E. Austin, of Ledyard, was so sudden that friends could scarcely believe it. Friday he was on the road selling phosphate and Friday evening he had a stroke of apoplexy and died Monday morning, aged about sixty-nine years. Mr. Austin commenced life a poor boy, clerking for Roswell Beardsley, of North Lansing, N.Y., but at the time of his death was the oldest postmaster in the United States... Mr. Austin always paid cash, but still would loan money to the poorest vagabond there was. He was collector of taxes in this town for years, and was considered the best collector there was in the county. He united with the Universalist church about five years ago. The funeral was held at the house where he resided, with his brother and family as housekeepers. The Rev. Harry M. Wright preached the funeral sermon. Mr. Austin clerked for J. Snyder at Scipio and had charge of his store at Merrifield for several years until the J. A. & W. Railroad was discontinued.

*Gazette and Farmers' Journal*, Baldwinsville NY, Thu. 23 Mar 1899

Transcribed on 19 Mar 2008 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY