

[Broeffle, William]

LIVED WELL INTO HIS NINTIETH YEAR
Death Claims William Broeffle, Veteran Builder

William Broeffle, one of the oldest residents of this section, whose rugged health, until his recent illness, was in keeping with the clean life and honesty of purpose which marked his business activities, died Tuesday night at 10:40 o'clock at the home of his son, Charles B. Broeffle, No. 236 Guy Park avenue, in his 90th year. A general breaking down of the system, due to advanced years, was the cause of his death. From the time he suffered an attack of typhoid fever, in early manhood, Mr. Broeffle had not experienced a single day of illness until last Thanksgiving. After partaking of a particularly hearty meal he became somewhat distressed, and while frequently able to be about for a time, he fell into a general decline, and for the past two months has been confined to his bed.

He was born in the village of Schoharie, March 27, 1821, and with the exception of a few years during his boyhood passed in St. Lawrence county, spent all his life in this section. In early manhood he learned the carpenter's trade at Quaker Street, and until about a dozen years ago had been continuously engaged as a contracting builder. In 1850 he moved from Quaker Street to Scotch Bush, in the town of Florida, where he carried on his business with great success. A majority of the most substantial dwellings and other farm buildings in the eastern and southern portions of the town of Florida, as well as in adjoining towns constructed during his activity, were erected under his supervision, and many of the houses stand as evidence of his honest workmanship.

In politics Mr. Broeffle was originally a Free Soil Democrat, but when the Republican party was organized he allied himself with it and has ever since been one of its staunchest supporters. He cast his vote for John C. Fremont, the first Republican candidate for the presidency, and no Republican nominee for any important office since that time has lacked his suffrage. He served for several terms as justice of the peace and justice of the court of sessions in the town of Florida, and during the incumbency of the late Hiram Schuyler of Minaville, as superintendent of section three of the Erie canal for the first time, was engaged as state carpenter. Whatever position he occupied he gave to it the best in him.

In religion Mr. Broeffle possessed liberal ideas and always adhered to the faith of the Universalist church, having become a [founding] member of the church at Bramans Corners in early manhood. For many years he was also a member of the Masonic fraternity.

Although he had not yet retired from active work, Mr. Broeffle moved to Amsterdam in 1887 and had since made this city his home, residing for most

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of the time with his sons here, although spending a portion of his later years with his daughters in the country. His wife, who was Miss Suzanne White of Quaker Street, died in 1890, after more than half a century of wedded happiness, during which eleven children were born to them, of whom nine survive: Charles B., former Alderman, Daniel T. and Abraham Lincoln Broeffle of this city, James W. Broeffle of LaPorte, Ind., Mrs. James [Emeline] Haver of Minaville, Mrs. Daniel Clute and Mrs. E. D. Sanders of Scotch Bush, Mrs. N. J. Perkins of Syracuse, and Mrs. John Van Antwerp of this city. He also leaves fifteen grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be held at the home of Charles B. Broeffle on Guy Park avnue Friday morning at 11 o'clock, the Rev. R. A. Pearse of the reformed church of Minaville officiating. Interment will be in the Minaville cemeter.

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Transcribed on 16 Apr 2024 by Karen E. Dau of East Rochester, NY