

[Gilchrist, Florence C. Smith]

MRS. FLORENCE C. GILCHRIST

Mrs. Florence C. Gilchrist, for many years an esteemed resident of Oneonta, died about 6:30 o'clock Thursday evening of last week at the Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital in Cooperstown, where she had been a patient since March 1st, following a general breakdown, she being in her 87th year.

Florence C. Smith was born September 2, 1845 at Hartwick, the daughter of Chauncey and Polly (Green) Smith. She spent her girlhood there and more than sixty years ago became the bride of Peter C. Gilchrist of Springfield. Following their marriage they spent a number of years in the west, later returning to Oneonta, where for many years, Mr. Gilchrist conducted a grocery store. Mr. Gilchrist was also for a number of years chief of the Oneonta police department.

Mr. Gilchrist died about fifteen years ago and Mrs. Gilchrist went to New York City to live with her son. Later she spent two years with her adopted daughter at Cortland, but following her death she entered a home at Homer, where she lived for about four years. When the Clara Welch Thanksgiving Home opened at Cooperstown five years ago, Mrs. Gilchrist was the first to join that family. Everybody in the Home loved Mrs. Gilchrist who was known by the affectionate term "grandma." A friendly and helpful neighbor, Mrs. Gilchrist made wide circles of friends in Oneonta who will regret her passing. During her residence at Oneonta she was an active member of the Chapin Memorial Universalist church.

Surviving are a son, the Rev. Harry E. Gilchrist of Woodside, L. I., a son-in-law, Clarence D. Sewell of Cortland, four grandchildren, Mrs. Edmund Murphy of Woodside, L. I., Mrs. John M. Crapser of Staatsburg-on-the-Hudson, Robert G Sewell of Watertown, and Miss Ruth M. Sewell of Cortland, and two great grandchildren. To them the sympathy of many friends here will be extended.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the home of her cousin, Mrs. Burton G. Robinson, at Hartwick. The Rev. F. G. Leonard, pastor of the Morris Universalist church, officiated and burial was made in the Robinson burying ground near Hartwick.

*Otsego Farmer*, Cooperstown NY, Fri. 1 Apr 1932