

[Nellis, Jacob C.]

JACOB C. NELLIS

Jacob C. Nellis died Tuesday morning at his home in this village, aged 95 years. He was Fort Plain's oldest resident. He lived with his daughter, Mrs. Frank Lipe, on Spring Street. Mrs. Lipe cared for her aged father about midnight. When she went to his room in the morning she found that he had passed away during the night. Mr. Nellis' death was due to old age and he had been in failing health for several months, and about a week ago, weakness and illness compelled him to take to his bed.

About three years ago, Mr. Nellis' daughter, Mrs. Frank Lipe of Schenectady, came to Fort Plain to care for him. She has given him the most tender care and made his last years as comfortable and happy as possible.

Jacob C. Nellis was born in the town of St. Johnsville in 1831. He was the son of Col. Jeremiah Nellis and Margaret Fox. The Nellis family members were among the earliest pioneer settlers on the north side of the Mohawk river in this section, locating here about 1723. Mr. Nellis later removed to Canastota and about 60 years ago came to Fort Plain locating at the eastern end of the village on what had been known as the Verplanck farm. An island in the river connected with the farm and first known as Verplanck's island and later as Nellis island, was at one time a favorite place for firemen's picnics, outings, baseball games, etc. The farmhouse on the place is one of the oldest in this section.

Mr. Nellis conducted a dairy farm and ran a milk route for many years. In 1906, he removed to the brick Lipe home at the foot of Sand hill, where he lived a year, and in 1907, he bought his late home on Spring street. Mr. Nellis was a lifelong Republican in politics and filled the office of overseer of the poor at one time. He was a genial gentleman who was well liked by a wide-circle of friends who regret his death.

Mr. Nellis was twice married. His first wife was Harriet Chawgo and his second Jemima Van Patten Alsdorf [Alsdorph]. He leaves the following children by his first wife: Mrs. Frank Lipe of Schenectady, Mrs. William Flannery of Rutherford, N.J., Walter Nellis and Jeremiah Nellis of Schenectady; and by his second marriage, one daughter, Mrs. Emma Moyer of Brooksville, Fla. He is also survived by nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. from the home, the Rev. Dr. Henry B. Taylor, pastor of the Universalist church, officiating. The remains will be placed in the Catharine Nellis Memorial vault until spring, when interment will be made in the Fort Plain cemetery.

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