

[Piper, William Isaac]

W. I. PIPER DEAD

VILLAGE LOSES RESPECTED CITIZEN

Held Offices of Justice of the Peace and County Superintendent of the Poor—  
Appointed Postmaster by Former President U. S. Grant—Also Served as  
Town Clerk—Was Good Citizen, and His Death Is Sincerely Mourned.

The death angel has again recorded another soul in the person of William I. Piper, who answered the summons calling him to the last home where he will meet his loved ones gone on before and where the strife and troubles of this world will be turned into the happy realization of what is anticipated by all who believe our stay here is only transient. The one thing necessary to secure our membership in that heavenly home is being a Christian and our desire and aim to be with Him who giveth and taketh away. We believe all is well with W. I. Piper, a man of character always interested in home, community and church. While he had been gradually failing for a long time he had been about the house as usual until last Wednesday, when in the evening he appeared to suffer a general collapse and since then had been confined to the bed. He retained consciousness to the last, knowing the members of his family until a short time before the end. Although nearly 80 years of age he had kept his mental vigor and interest in the affairs of the day, having always been a great reader.

William Isaac Piper was born December 3, 1838, in the town of Frankfort, three quarters of a mile from the village. His parents were Isaac and Margaret Meyers Piper, who had nine children. William was the youngest of the boys. The father was a farmer and an old settler. He held the office of justice of the peace in the town and was county superintendent of the poor. William was brought up on the farm and attended the district school, completing his education at Fort Plain. He came to the village of Frankfort from the farm in 1855. His business in the village was that of clerk, working in the store where the postoffice was located. In 1869 he was appointed post master at Frankfort and held the office until 1885. When he had charge of the postoffice he was telegraph operator and express agent in the village. After the postoffice was taken from him he was employed as clerk in the car department of the West Shore shops for nine years and after relinquishing that position had no active occupation. In 1900 he was given charge of the local office of the Herkimer Telephone Company, where he rendered service which was entirely satisfactory to the whole community. He held the office of justice of the peace in the town for several terms and was town clerk one term. He also took a deep interest in the school and was one of its trustees for nine years. He had at one time held the office of school collector. He was Republican in politics and an earnest supporter of the party. In 1871 he joined Olive Branch Lodge No. 40, F. & A.M., of this place and was one of its

[Piper, William Isaac]

oldest members and a past master of the lodge. In religion he was a Universalist, serving several years as superintendent of the Sunday school and for many years was one of the trustees of the church here. Up to five years ago, when he had the misfortune to fall and break his hip, he had been enjoying good health and was down to the office daily, but he never fully recovered from the shock and weakness which followed that accident. He was a splendid neighbor and loyal friend and had a large circle of friends who will extend much sympathy to the family in their bereavement.

[On] September 7, 1817, Mr. Piper married Miss Fannie Adams, who died in 1892. He leaves surviving five children, a son Frank L. Piper of Fall River, Mass., and four daughters, Anna B. Piper and Sarah M. Piper of this village, Mrs. John Soup of Weehawken, N.J., and Mrs. B. E. Richardson of Mohawk, and six grandchildren.

*Ilion Citizen*, Ilion NY, Thu. 27 Dec 1917

Transcribed on 30 Dec 2014 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY