

[Sibley, Fred Lyman]

## Fred L. Sibley

Fred L. Sibley, one of the most esteemed and influential citizens of Cuba, died at his home on West Main street on Jan. 7. He had been in ill health for a long time, but seriously sick only for about a fortnight. He will be greatly missed, not only in business circles but among a host of friends, where his urbane and affable manner and kindly temperament made him popular. His devotion to family ties was very deep, and his death was undoubtedly hastened by anxiety of the illness of his only son.

Fred Lyman Sibley was born near Albany, Jul 14, 1854, the second child of Freeman and Lucy Ann Sibley. He was educated in district schools and in the Cuba high school. When a young man he entered the employ of E. M. Bond in the cheese manufacturing business, later becoming the local representative of A. W. and F. W. Leggett, who were exporters of cheese. In 1892, in partnership with Herbert J. Demcey, he began operating a cheese cold storage plant in Cuba. This partnership continued until 1907, when an interest was sold to Swift & Co., of Chicago, Ill. The business was then incorporated and Mr. Sibley acted as manager. He continued in this capacity until 1920, when poor health necessitated his retirement.

Mr. Sibley was also a stockholder in the Phelps & Sibley Co., the Cuba Knife Co., and other local concerns. He had been for some time a director in the First National Bank and served as vice president for a number of years, holding this position at the time of his death.

Mr. Sibley was a Mason, belonging to the Blue Lodge and the Valley Point Chapter in Cuba, the Olean commandery of Knights Templar, and the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

Mr. Sibley was connected with the Universalist church, but became affiliated with the Presbyterian church after the former congregation had sold its building in Cuba [around 1918]. In politics Mr. Sibley was a staunch Republican.

The deceased had served as village trustee for several terms and twice as village president. As a result of his interest in the fire department, the hook and ladder company had called itself by his name and is still known as the F. L. Sibley Hook and Ladder company. He was also president of the Cuba cemetery association at the time of his death.

On Dec. 15, 1886 Mr. Sibley was united in marriage to Miss Estelle M. Snow, daughter of James Nelson and Rebecca Jane Beeby Snow, of Cambridge Springs, Pa., who survives him. He also leaves one son, Gerald Sibley of Olean, and one grandchild.

The funeral took place Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock, and was attended by a very large number of Cuba friends of the deceased, as well as many from elsewhere. It was in charge of the Masons, and the religious service was conducted by the Rev. Robert Findlay.

*Cuba Patriot*, Cuba NY, Fri. 11 Jan 1924