

[McGibeny, James F.]

FRIENDSHIP

Special to the Bolivar Breeze.

On Wednesday, January 6, James McGibeny, after quite a long illness, passed away at his home on West Main street. Deceased was a man not only dear to his own family, but had the respect and esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. He had a genial, kindly nature, generous to a fault, abounding in hospitality, and even in his last years, though stricken by illness and feeble with age, seemingly could not turn even a tramp from his door without giving them assistance. James F. McGibeny was born in Hebron, Washington county, N.Y., July 3, 1833. His parents, David and Lovina McGibeny, removed to Allegany county when he was about two years of age, where he has since resided. He served his country during the war of the Rebellion nearly three years, seven months of which were passed in Andersonville prison. He was wounded while in the battle of Plymouth, N.C., the scars of which, as well as the results of the hardships of prison life, he carried to his last days. He was married to Martha J. Messenger, April 3, 1856, so had lived in loving companionship nearly 58 years. He was quiet and unassuming in manner but was very efficient in any duties which devolved upon him, as was evidenced by his re-election for different terms for assessor and supervisor of the town of Wirt, as well as filling other positions of trust. Besides his wife, left to mourn the loss of a kind, indulgent husband, are five children: Bert McGibeny of Angelica, Mrs. Elva Graham of Friendship, Henderson McGibeny of Bolivar, Claud of Wirt Center and Roy of Herkimer. Also two sisters and one brother, Mrs. Sarah Stickney and Mrs. Mary McDowell of Friendship, and Lamont McGibeny of Phillips Creek. He was a member of the Universalist church and of Hatch Post, G.A.R., of Friendship, and was a loyal and devoted member of both organizations. The funeral services were held at his late home Friday morning and he was laid to rest in Mt. Hope cemetery. Besides friends and neighbors of his home town, many came from West Almond, Phillips Creek, East Otto, Angelica, Belmont, Bolivar, Wirt Center and Nile, to pay their respects to the dead and sympathy for the living.

*Bolivar Breeze*, Bolivar NY, Thu. 21 Jan 1915

Transcribed on 1 Nov 2014 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY