

RICHARD H. KERR Civil War Veteran

Richard H. Kerr, an esteemed citizen and Civil War veteran, died at his home on South Main Street on Monday morning, Jan. 10, 1918, in the 77th year of his age. Death resulted from cancer of the face from which he had suffered for several years past.

The deceased was born near Dublin, Ireland, on Dec. 5th, 1841, the son of Richard Kerr. The family came to this country in 1851 and settled on a farm in the western part of the town of Franklinville, where the family home was located for some years.

Mr. Kerr enlisted in the United States service for the Civil War on July 30th, 1862, and served during the remainder of the struggle as a member of Co. D, 154th Regiment, N. Y. Vol. Infantry, his record being a very honorable one. Among the battles in which he took part were Chancellorville, Gettysburg, Rocky Face Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain Lookout Mountain and Peach Tree Creek. He was wounded at Gettysburg and also at Peach Tree Creek and received an honorable discharge on July 10th, 1865.

Mr. Kerr was married on July 10th, 1866, to Miss Frank Hopkins of Franklinville. In 1870 he removed to Virginia. During his residence there, his wife died and in 1876, at Bowling Green, Va., he was married to Miss Rena Fuller, who survives him. They returned north in 1879 and since that time have made Machias their home.

Mr. Kerr was an accommodating neighbor and an honorable, patriotic and public spirited citizen. He has served the town acceptably in the important offices of Highway Superintendent and Assessor and was for years a member of the village Board of Education. He was a member of Phillips Post, G. A. R. and the Machias Maccabee Tent and had filled the highest offices in each organization.

Besides his widow, he is survived by two sons, Guy and Earl, of this village and two daughters, Mrs. Frank F. Jenkins of Falconer and Mrs. L. M. Harris of Philadelphia, Pa. He also leaves a brother, Hugh J. Kerr, of this village and a sister, Mrs. Susan Pitcher of Franklinville.

The funeral services took place from his late home on Wednesday afternoon, Rev. W. J. Harrington of Hirsdale officiating. Burial in Maple Grove Cemetery.

*Courtesy Cattaraugus County Historical Museum,
Little Valley, N.Y.*