

Balsar Bistline, (8 Jul 1835 – 9 Jan 1897), Perry County Democrat, February 10, 1897

Bistline. - **Comrade Balsar Bistline**, whose death occurred on January 9, 1897, was born in Perry County, Penn., July 8, 1835.

In February 1862, he came to Illinois, and August 14th of the same year he enlisted in the army, taking part in the siege of Vicksburg and in Sherman's March to The Sea, and served till June 23rd, 1863, as private in Company D. 93rd, Ills. Vol. Inf., when he received an honorable discharge. **Comrade Bistline** was a charter member of Holden Putnam Post No. 646 G. A. R. which charter was issued from department headquarters at Bloomington, Ill., Nov. 17th, 1887.

Comrade Bistline's battle of life was fought as bravely and conscientiously as he battled for his country in her hour of peril and although gone from family, comrades and friends his influence as a man of earnest purposes, honest and upright in every walk of life will be warmly cherished by a wide circle of friends.

Comrade Bistline was married twice, his first wife who was **Miss Martha Brown** preceded him to the spirit world several years ago. In 1874 he was married to **Miss Sophia Bear**, of Perry County, Penn., who still survives him. Besides his bereaved wife he leaves two sons, **Joseph** and **Wm.** and one daughter, **Mrs. H. K. Barkley**.

The funeral occurred at the home northeast of Shannon, Tuesday morning, Jan. 12, Rev. Wm. Hartman of Forreston Lutheran Church conducting the services at the house. At the cemetery the beautiful burial ceremony of the Grand Army was conducted by Holden Post and the Forreston Post and the body of the comrade was laid to rest in a grave which was lined with the colors he helped to save from dishonor. After the Grand Army burial service Rev. Hartman closed with a prayer and benediction and all that was mortal of a true soldier, kind husband, loving father and a man loved and respected by all who knew him was consigned to his last resting place. A beautiful pillow from the G. A. R. and anchor from the W. R. C. of Shannon were among the floral offerings. The bereaved family have the sympathy of all in their bereavement.

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