

Elijah Guion	November 30, 1844
John B. Urmy	April 16, 1850
Elisha Horton	January 10, 1852
Emory Palmer	May 11, 1853
William S. Cameron	May 12, 1864
Henry Boyd	March 3, 1869
Samuel C. Miller	January 30, 1878
R. Chauncey Fisher	April 16, 1886
William P. Maynard	February 12, 1890
Peter Paulding	February 28, 1894
John P. Moran	March 22, 1898
James H. Moran	September 16, 1902
Freeman H. Merritt	January 16, 1907
James L. Cowan	April 24, 1911
Henry S. Sutherland	March 10, 1914
LeRoy Smith	January 8, 1924
Patrick A. Murphy	January 20, 1936
Thomas E. Brady	July 1, 1943
John M. Paul	November 15, 1944
Walter W. Rostenberg	April 13, 1965
John J. Amatulli	October 1, 1983

The Ledger

The ledger is old and tired. The grey cloth binding is stained with age. The once-red leather corner triangle protectors are worn, the body pulled from the spine. But the 198 yellowed lined pages are intact, filled with notes of sums collected for rents on properties owned, and expenses incurred in the running of a farm.

The record was begun in 1903 by James Gibson, owner of the farmhouse at 880 North Street, and continued after his death by family members. A final entry appears in 1918. Even with the assistance of Thomas Bachmann, Gibson's great-grandson, the different keepers of the record after James Gibson's death have not been sorted out.

Gibson died in 1908 and was buried in the family

plot in the Rural Cemetery on North Broadway on January 8th. The following week this entry appeared in the ledger:

"Mr. Henry P. Griffin, attorney, met our household by appointment at 10½ a.m. to hear the reading of Father's will. James G., Jr., from the city [New York], and Maggie and myself, Tommie, Lizzie, Ellen, Katherine, Alice [mother of Thomas Bachmann], Fannie [who became Mrs. J. Harvey Turnure], Donald, John and Jessie James, Tom, Son, and Frank H. Gibson, all present in our sitting room and made no objection to the will but said after all that they were all pleased. It was nearly 11:30 when Mr. G. left. J. Jr. left at the same time."

James Gibson left four children: James Jr., Thomas, Margaret and Mary Ann and several grandchildren. His wife, Ella Jackson, had died in the 1880s and he had lost his son John in 1896.

Entries continue during the remainder of the year. Many related to trips to Griffin's office to deal with the complexities of the estate:

"Friday, January 31st: Mr. Griffin and Jemmie called this a.m. 11 o/c. Jemmie and Mr. G. transacted business before coming here, hired a drawer in the safety deposit vaults, and Mr. G., Jemmie and myself looked over the mortgages and all personal estate and took all the personal property away to deposit in the safety vault. Left at 1 o/c., Jemmie, Mr. Griffin, and Tommie were present all the time. Maggie absent, did not feel well.

"February 28th: Mr. H. P. Griffin called this a.m. 11.25 o/c. to have me sign a paper to release Mr. Hyatt of his mortgage, I think of \$700. Maggie had to sign a paper in reference to the Rodney incident. Mr. Griffin here 15 minutes. Hack brought him down.

"June 29th: Mr. Griffin called to see me this a.m. to sign a check to pay the income tax, \$2,605.30, \$135 rebate. Also to sign an assignment of mortgage of August Russe to Kate A. Van Rensselaer of \$1,008.67. He saw Tom and Lizzie and talked business with them one hour.

"July 10th: Went up on milk wagon with Tommie and called on Mr. Griffin at his office and signed several checks and assignment papers. Left his office at 9 o'clock a.m., and took trolley home. Walked the