

[Goodell, William Sanford]

Rev. William Sanford Goodell

At the advanced age of ninety-three years, William Sanford Goodell died at the home of his grand daughter, Mrs. M. H. Stone, Mexico, N.Y., Monday, November 19.

Rev. Mr. Goodell was born in Madison, N.Y., August 2, 1824. After spending his boyhood days there he came with his family to Mexico, which became his home, except for the years of his active ministry. He received his education in the Mexico and Rome Academies. Upon his graduation he taught school for about thirty years. It was while he was teaching that Rev. Luther Rice, Watertown, N.Y., called him to the ministry, saying "Ellisburg needs a minister and you are just the man." Mr. Goodell had previously studied with Rev. Pitt Morse and was interested in Universalism, though he had not contemplated entering the ministry at that time. However he responded to the invitation and was the minister at Ellisburg for seven years, from 1870 to 1877. He was ordained at Ellisburg in 1873, Doctor Ebenezer Fisher preaching the ordination sermon.

Mr. Goodell left Ellisburg and preached several years in Ontario, Canada, serving our churches at Smithville, Port Dover, Olinda and Blenheim. From here he went to Portland and Eagle, Michigan. He then was settled over our churches at Clarendon and Oswego, N.Y. After his pastorate he returned to Port dover, Ontario. After this pastorate he retired and has spent the last fourteen years in his old home in Mexico, living with his daughter, Mrs. George P. Johnson and for the last few months with his grand daughter, Mrs. Stone.

Mr. Goodell was a man of strong convictions and never hesitated to speak or act according to them. He lived a noble, clean life and stood for the right even though he stood alone. Being a descendant of Rev. John Lathrop he was true to his puritanic blood. He was a scholar and a strong and effective speaker. He loved the Universalist church and faith and was a much beloved and valued minister.

He was married May 11, 1854, to Miss Martha A. Hamilton, who died September 8, 1897, during his pastorate in Clarendon. Aside from a host of friends who mourn his loss he leaves two daughters, Mrs. George P. Jackson [Ella Goodell Johnson] and Mrs. Mary Hartwell, of Mexico, N.Y., one son, Dr. George Goodell, East Chatham, N.Y., two grand children, Mrs. M. H. Stone and William Goodell Hartwell, and one grand daughter, Mary Louise Stone, all of Mexico, N.Y.

The funeral services were held at the home of the grand daughter, Mrs. Stone Wednesday, November 21, at 2 o'clock. Rev. Harry Westbrook Read [Reed], D.D., Watertown, N.Y., officiated. He was assisted by Rev. David L.

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Roberts, minister of the local Presbyterian church. Interment was made in the Primitive Cemetery, which is the oldest cemetery in that part of the state.

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