

## [Pratt, Chloe Walker]

### CHLOE WALKER PRATT

#### Death of One of Clarendon's Oldest and Most Highly Esteemed Women

Mrs. Chloe Pratt died at her home in the town of Clarendon southeast of this village last Saturday, January 20. Her final illness was of short duration, though she has been in declining health for some time, and was so seriously ill a few months ago that her recovery was for a time considered doubtful.

Mrs. Pratt was a daughter of Joseph Walker, one of the earliest pioneers of the town of Byron, Genesee county, and was born in that town May 12, 1847. Her father died when she was quite young, leaving her mother with four small children. In September, 1823, her mother married Chauncey Robinson, one of Clarendon's earliest settlers and for many years one of the town's most prominent citizens. Mr. Robinson was then himself a widower with six children, and uniting the two families gave them a flock of ten, all under ten years of age. In due time ten more children were added to the family, making twenty in all, seventeen of whom grew to maturity, three dying in childhood.

[On] October 24, 1859, Chloe Walker married Horace Hill, of Sweden. For a number of years previous to her marriage she had spent a large portion of her time in the family of Daniel Martin, of Clarendon, which had become a second home to her. About seven years after her marriage to Mr. Hill she was left a widow, and a few years later married Squire Joseph Pratt, a leading citizen of Clarendon. Since this marriage, a period of 48 years, she has lived upon the farm where she died. Mr. Pratt died about 18 years ago. He was a man of ample means and most of his property went to Mrs. Pratt at his death. But she was of a quiet, retiring, domestic nature, and the simple, frugal habits and ways of living of the pioneer days had become a second nature to her, from which she had no desire to depart. But they did not degenerate into penuriousness, and her home was always a place of old-fashioned comfort and plenty, and of open-hearted hospitality, while worthy objects of charity and benevolence ever had her ready sympathy and generous aid.

Of the large family of which Mrs. Pratt was a member there survive her but one sister, Mrs. Ruth McCoy, of Paw Paw, Mich.; two half-sisters, Mrs. Harriet Randall, of New Sharon, Ia., and Mrs. Jane Harwood, of Clinton, Ill.; one half-brother, Tracy Robinson, of Jamaica, West Indies; and one step-brother, Nathan Robinson, of Brockport.

As in recent years the family and descendants have become more and more widely scattered, Mrs. Pratt has often spoken with regret of the probability that there would not be one of her blood present to close her eyes in death. However, a nephew and a niece, W. T. Pettengill, of this

[Pratt, Chloe Walker]

village, and Mrs. D. N. Salisbury, of Rochester, were with her in her last illness.

But Mrs. Pratt would not have lacked for loving and devoted care in her last hours had it happened that none of her kin could have been with her. She was one who won the deep and grateful affection of those with whom she came into intimate relations. The nearest ties of blood could scarcely have increased the mutual esteem and regard existing between Mrs. Pratt and Mr. Calvin J. Tupper, who for 35 years has worked the Pratt farms, and since Squire Pratt's death has had almost entire charge of Mrs. Pratt's business affairs. Equally intimate and affectionate relations existed between Mrs. Pratt and Mrs. Silence Davis, who for eighteen years has been her companion and housekeeper, and who has cared for her declining years with a daughter's tenderness and solicitude.

Mrs. Pratt's funeral was held from her late residence Tuesday, and the remains were interred in Hillside cemetery. A large attendance testified to the esteem and affection with which she was regarded. The funeral was conducted by Rev. H. K. Reigel of the Clarendon Universalist church, of which church Mrs. Pratt had been for many years a member and liberal supporter. Rev. E. L. Conklin, of LeRoy, a former pastor of the Clarendon church, also assisted in conducting the funeral service.

*Holley Standard*, Holley NY, Thu. 25 Jan 1900

Transcribed on 30 Jul 2012 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY