

[Brown, Josiah L.]

J. L. BROWN PASSES AWAY  
Contributor to the Courier Many Years  
Aged Resident Was Authority on Local History

Josiah L. Brown, one of the oldest residents of this village, an authority on local history, and for many years a contributor to the Courier and Freeman, died at his home in Waverly street, May 16th. He had been in failing health for some time and for the past few days before his death his condition had been critical.

Mr. Brown was born October 3, 1831, in Parishville Center, the eldest son of Lincoln and Harriet Selleck Brown. He was educated in St. Lawrence Academy and taught school seven terms. He began business in Potsdam in 1855 or 56. He married in 1854 Miss Lorama Champney, whose death occurred in Dec, 1916.

Mr. Brown was in business here for nearly fifty years and held various town offices. He was Town Clerk for 14 years. He was a contributor to the columns of the Courier almost since it was founded over half a century ago. Among his writings were The History of Potsdam, Reminiscences, and Happenings of a Week. Mr. Brown kept a diary for years, and it was from this that he secured material for his History of Potsdam.

He was widely known and had a large circle of acquaintances and many friends throughout the county. He was a member of the Universalist Church, the local Masonic lodges, and a trustee of Bayside Cemetery.

Funeral services were held Saturday at his home in Waverly street, Rev. D. L. Fisher officiating. Interment was made in the family plot at Bayside. The only remaining member of his family is one daughter, Miss Hattie Brown of Potsdam.

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