

[Chadwick, Jane Botts]

MRS. JANE CHADWICK DIES IN 96TH YEAR

Was the Widow of Henry Chadwick, the "Father of Baseball"

ANCESTORS WERE PROMINENT

Old Member of Church of Our Father and a Resident of Brooklyn for Sixty-seven Years

Mrs. Jane Botts Chadwick, widow of Henry Chadwick, known as "The Father of Baseball," died last night at the home of her daughter, Mrs. William C. [Helen] Edwards, 881 Park place, in her ninety-sixth year. Mrs. Chadwick was one of the oldest members of the Universalist Church of Our Father, Grand avenue and Lefferts place, and her pastor, the Rev. T.[Thomas] E. Potterton, will conduct the funeral services at Mrs. Edwards' home tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. The interment will be in the Chadwick family plot in Greenwood Cemetery.

Mrs. Chadwick was a descendant of the distinguished Botts family, which for several generations before the Civil War played a leading part in the affairs of Virginia. Her grandfather, Benjamin Botts, was one of Aaron Burr's counsel when he was tried for treason and it is a rather peculiar coincident that when Miss Bott's father, Alexander L. Botts, came North to live in 1833 he bought the Cozine Farm, near Jamaica, from Mr. Burr. This property adjoined what was subsequently the Union Race Course, and it was through the initiative of Mr. Botts that a racing organization was formed and contests held on this track. One stipulation which the State exacted was that racing should be conducted in a "gentlemanly fashion."

Miss Jane Botts was the eldest of nine children. She was born in Richmond, Va., on July 24, 1819. Two brothers survive her. From her twentieth to her twenty-sixth year she was an invalid, and her parents stoutly opposed her contemplated marriage to Henry Chadwick because of her ill-health and his poverty. But in the end it was the same old story. Mr. Chadwick and Miss Botts went secretly to Trinity Church, Manhattan, August 15, 1848 and were married. From then until the time of his death, on April 28, 1908, a short time before their sixtieth wedding anniversary, they lived almost continuously in Brooklyn.

Four children were born to them, two of whom died when young. A third, Mrs. Thomas S. Eldridge, of Noyack, [sic] L. I., succumbed to apoplexy a few years ago, and Mrs. William C. Edwards is the only one surviving her.

Mrs. Chadwick was in many respects a remarkable woman. Her range of knowledge, her vigor of mind, the number of friends and the extreme warm regard they had for her, marked her as a citizen out of the ordinary. Perhaps of all her qualities, gentleness and unselfishness were the most distinguished. No act of friendship was too small or too burdensome for her to do with the utmost cheerfulness, and no privation was too great or trial too severe for her to bear with calm resignation.

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